

### SANCTUARY CARE

## Fostering a *Loving* HOME

### Lost and alone

Lilian\* was 35 weeks pregnant, homeless and alone. The father of her baby had abandoned them both, and her parents had refused to let her return home after she had been released from prison.

With no one to turn to and a baby on the way, a social worker referred Lilian to Sanctuary Care a month after she gave birth to her daughter, Angela\*, to seek short-term care for her baby so that she would be free to work. The goal was for Lilian to find work to clear her debt, save enough money to get a rental flat and afford infant care and necessities for Angela.

### Determined to turn her life around

Lilian is an independent and motivated individual who is committed to work hard and resolve her issues to provide the best for Angela. She is very resourceful and takes initiative in getting help. She started working two weeks after she gave birth, in hopes of clearing her debt quickly and saving for her daughter's future. However, since her imprisonment, Lilian had been struggling occasionally with depression and this would leave her overwhelmed by the weight of the issues she needed to tackle.

### A trusted carer from Sanctuary Care

Baby Angela was placed with our short-term respite carer

Charlene\*. This helped to reduce Lilian's worries about her baby's well-being and allowed her to focus on her work and accommodation issues. Because Angela was in respite care, Lilian was also able to take on extra shifts at work to earn more money.

Charlene also acted as a mentor to Lilian, lending her a listening ear to her struggles, working through solutions with her, guiding her on financial management and more. Charlene has kept a meticulous journal of Angela's daily routine and records to assist Lilian with monitoring her baby. She has also helped implement techniques to soothe Angela and has taught these to Lilian so that she can follow through in the future.

### A thriving baby and mother



Angela has since grown into a chubby little angel who is generous with her smiles. Under the supportive care of Charlene, she is sleeping and feeding well and has met her developmental milestones.

*\*Not their real names*

**Make a difference – your support to Boys' Town  
will help provide a safe space and loving environment  
for children and youths to grow up in!**

Interested to be a short-term respite carer like Charlene? Find out more at [www.sanctuarycare.org](http://www.sanctuarycare.org)

# Message

from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters of Boys' Town, It has been an exciting time for Boys' Town with many firsts for us. We held our first Family Fiesta where all our clients and their families got together for family bonding, and also the inaugural Sport Climbing Competition where youths who are climbing enthusiasts scaled our Adventure Tower.

We have also been enhancing the Boys' Town brand with new logos for our various services. It represents how Boys' Town has evolved over the past 71 years into a vibrant youth agency to meet the needs of our clients. With the support and encouragement from the members of the community like you, we are able to continue with our work and journey with children and youth in need. Thank you for believing in our cause.

God bless,

**Roland Yeow**

Executive Director

## What's Happening

### BOYS' TOWN CHARITY FUTSAL 2019

#### 5-A-SIDE COMPETITION

Play against teams consisting Boys' Town's youths, staff and other participating corporates!

Each team may register up to 10 players  
Match format details to be advised

Donation requested: \$3,000 per team

**Saturday 23 November 2019** 9am - 2pm

**Kovan Sports Centre**  
(60 Hougang St 21, S538738)

For information,  
please contact Community Partnerships  
at 6690 5420 or e-mail [info@boystown.org.sg](mailto:info@boystown.org.sg)



# Boys' Town FIRST EVER FAMILY FIESTA

On 27 July 2019, we held our first ever Boys' Town Family Fiesta! The children, youths and their families from our direct services – Residential Services, Fostering, YouthReach and Safe and Strong Families – Reunification came together for a day of fun and family bonding. Held within the Boys' Town campus, the event included many exciting activities such as terrarium workshop, felt book making, bubble soccer and more.

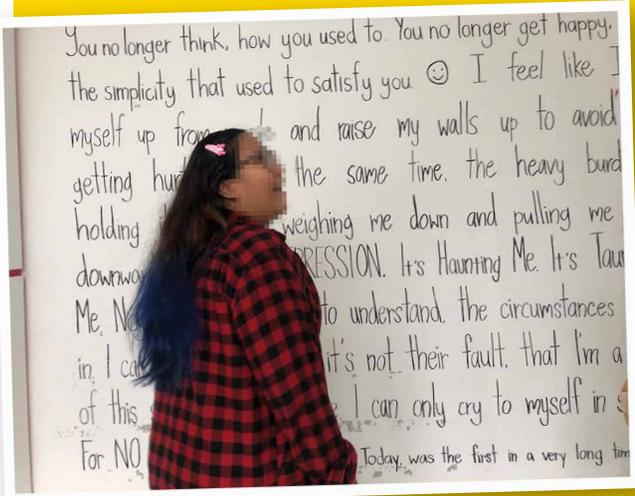


We were honoured to have President Halimah Yacob celebrate this special occasion with us where she installed the final piece of the Boys' Town Family Painting. The artwork depicts a family of elephants, and was formed by 64 puzzle pieces painted by Boys' Town clients, staff and volunteers.

We also took the opportunity to showcase our newly designed logos for all 7 services to strengthen our identity as a Social Service Agency. The new logos is a standardised branding and image across all services to show that Boys' Town has evolved beyond being a residential home and now provides a continuum of services for children and youth in need.



# Exploring Self through Drama



When YouthReach youth workers first met Nadia\*, she had a complex family background that resulted in strained relationships with her family. Coupled with the peer issues she encountered, it led to poor attendance in school. The struggles she faced were presented through a 10-week YouthReach drama project where she learnt to harness the expressive arts to share her story.

*"[The YouthReach drama project] allowed me to make new friends, helped me with my portfolio and let me perform which makes me happy. I like being happy so I'm thankful for that. I love that I can vibe and connect with [my youth worker] and I am grateful that we are still in touch. Overall, I want to say how much she has helped me with my mental state and everything."*

2 years later, Nadia is now meaningfully engaged by working most of the week and contributes to her family expenses monthly. She also has an increased interest in issues of the society and communities around her. Our youth workers will continue supporting Nadia and work with her to further develop her passion in theatre and songwriting.

\*Not her real name

# LEARNING MADE *Fun*

Learning Night is a biweekly learning programme to teach the residential boys various life skills and introduce ways to make learning fun and hands-on for them. We especially welcome volunteers to support the programme with different aspects of expertise and interests that they can impart to our boys.

Some of the learning activities conducted include golf, making ice-cream with liquid nitrogen, Chinese Biangu drumming, SketchUp 3D modelling software, BBC:Microbit robotics programme and more. We expose the residential youths to a variety of programmes across different fields.



*"I enjoyed ice-cream making. It's really interesting to see how the temperatures of Liquid Nitrogen work."*  
- H



*"I really enjoyed making code with the BBC:Microbit. Really fascinating."*  
- F



*"I am proud of the Nutella dumplings I made."*  
- J



*"Working with electrical appliances was useful for me."*  
- J

# Who WE ARE...

Boys' Town is a charity started in 1948 by the Brothers of St. Gabriel. We provide residential care, fostering, adventure therapy, youth outreach and other community and school-based programmes and services for over 1500 children and youths from disadvantaged and disengaged families. We are an Institution of a Public Character (IPC) and a member of the National Council of Social Service.

YOU CAN  
**EMPOWER &  
CHANGE LIVES**

Donate now at  
[www.boystown.org.sg](http://www.boystown.org.sg)



We accept:  

For enquiries: 6690 5420  
or [info@boystown.org.sg](mailto:info@boystown.org.sg)

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

### REPORT SCAMS

Boys' Town is not organising the sale of ice cream and handmade pencils to raise funds. We have put up a notice on our website to notify the public of possible scams. The authorities would like to advise victims to lodge a police report.

If you encounter these peddlers, please check with us before making any donations.

You may reach us at the contact details above during office hours Monday to Friday, 9am-6pm, or call our duty officer at **96234731**.

BOYS' TOWN ADVENTURE CENTRE

## BOYS' TOWN SPORT CLIMBING COMPETITION 2019

On 30 and 31 August 2019, we welcomed 26 teams of youth climbers to participate in the first Boys' Town Sport Climbing Competition, supported by Mapletree and jointly organised by Boys' Town Adventure Centre and The Rock School.



The enthusiastic participants aged 10 to 17 from various schools and private climbing clubs scaled the walls of our Adventure Tower as well as the indoor bouldering room. Everyone displayed great sportsmanship and friendships were forged through their shared interest for the sport.

While Sport Climbing allows people to challenge their physical and mental strength, this event helped to foster good team spirit among youth and children and boosted their personal development. This unprecedented competition in Boys' Town also served as a significant milestone for our Adventure Centre and it was an outstanding success!



**Those whom the world rejects must move you the most.**

— St. Louis Marie de Montfort

*We sincerely seek your support and generosity  
as we continue the Boys' Town mission of helping children and youth in need.  
Together, we will reach out to over 1,500 young lives annually.*

*Please note that donations received through this newsletter will be channelled to general donations.*



BOYS' TOWN  
**Residential  
Services**

BOYS' TOWN  
**Clinical Intervention  
Centre**

BOYS' TOWN  
**YouthReach**

BOYS' TOWN  
**Fostering  
Services**

BOYS' TOWN  
**Sanctuary  
Care**

BOYS' TOWN  
**Adventure  
Centre**

BOYS' TOWN  
**Safe and Strong Families  
— Reunification**