

GLADIOLUS PLACE NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY - JUNE 2025

**EVERY GIRL**  
*Loved,*

**EVERY LIFE**  
*Transformed*

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Bi-Annual Events & Updates

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# CONTENTS



Foreword	3
Executive Director's Note	4
Beyond the Walls of Gladiolus Place: Mae Sot, Thailand	6
Gladiolus Place Family Walk 2025: A Walk That Connects	8
Taking Steps to Make A Difference - Changing Paths: Dr. Adrian	10
Everesting - Pedal. Rise. Bloom: Peter	12
Programmes Our Girls Loved: In Their Own Words	14
Heart Behind the Work: Staff Feature - Judith L. Galang	16
About Us	18
What We Do	20
Support Us!	22

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# FOREWORD

Every season brings its own rhythm, and in the first half of 2025, we have experienced moments of healing, renewal, and restoration. These moments remind us that while seasons change, our vision remains clear: [To have Every Girl Loved and Every Life Transformed.](#)

From our Girls stepping beyond the walls of our Home to serve in Mae Sot, Thailand, to walking alongside their Families to foster reconciliation and restoration, we have seen how hearts are strengthened when the journey is shared. New programmes like Pickleball and Edible Gardening have created space for joy and self-discovery. In this edition, you will read our Girls' reflections, how even small experiences can be profoundly transformative. We would like you to hear from supporters like Dr. Adrian Tan and Peter, on how they championed resilience in their own ways, and lastly, the unwavering heart of our staff, Judith.

## **To our existing supporters:**

Thank you for walking this journey with us. Your continued faith and support enables us to continue caring for vulnerable teenage Girls. You have helped make it possible for our Girls to not only feel safe, but to thrive.

## **And if you are new to Gladiolus Place:**

Welcome, we are so glad you have found us. This newsletter offers a glimpse into our work and our heart. We hope it inspires you to journey with us further, as part of a community committed to giving every Girl the chance to heal and have a renewed sense of purpose.

As we reflect on the first half of the year, we also look ahead with hope. The road forward calls for boldness — new partnerships, deeper engagement, and continued efforts in meaningful care for our Girls. We remain committed to walking further, for and with our Girls, and we invite you to keep journeying alongside us. Together, we can continue building a future where every Girl is safe, seen, and supported.

*Your feedback is important to us! Feel free to share what stories you would like us to cover in future newsletters. Whether you want deeper insights into our programmes, stories from the Girls, upcoming events, or ways to support our cause, your input will help guide our future content creations.*



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE



Dear Friends, Supporters, Partners of Gladiolus Place, warmest greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! Welcome to our first bi-annual newsletter of Gladiolus Place for 2025!



*With my brother, Dr. Adrian, the weekend before his epic trek*

I was 16 when I visited Israel. Amongst my most cherished memories of this trip, aside from the magnificent Dome of the Rock and the cobbled streets of the Old City of Jerusalem, is definitely the extraordinary experience of swimming, or rather, floating in the Dead Sea.

Located 430m below sea level, the Dead Sea is the lowest point on the face of the earth. Also known as the Salt Sea, the Dead Sea is the saltiest body of water on earth, with its waters nearly 10 times saltier than the regular ocean. Which explains why the waters are incredibly buoyant and nearly impossible to sink in. Every day, the River Jordan pours over seven million gallons of water into the Dead Sea. Yet, there is no life in the Dead Sea, save for a tiny crustacean called the brine shrimp, as well as miniscule quantities of bacteria and microbial fungi. And unlike neighbouring bodies of water such as the Sea of Galilee, the Dead Sea waters cannot support life in it AND around it. Which raises the question “why”. The Dead Sea is what is known as a terminal lake. It has no outlet. It is constantly receiving water, but nothing goes out, except by way of evaporation.

## Not the Dead Sea, but the Sea of Galilee

For the past few years, we have been nurturing our Girls to give back. In the earlier days, this came in the form of adhoc community service projects such as food distribution at MacPherson and Jalan Kukoh, and spreading festive cheer to seniors at the Cornerstone @ Cheng San Active Ageing Centre (AAC). During the Covid days when we could not be physically present at the AAC, our Girls recorded song and dance items for the seniors to watch and engaged them over videocalls. 月亮代表我的心 was a perennial favourite sing-along number for the seniors.

Beginning last year, giving back became a regular weekly activity which our Girls could look forward to. We partnered with neighbouring THK Active Ageing Centre @ MacPherson for our Girls to support outreach efforts to the seniors, as well as to co-facilitate activities for the seniors. Our Girls went on house visits together with the staff of the THK AAC and distributed care packs to the seniors. We have been so blessed over the years, and we must in turn, be a blessing to others around us.





This year in March, four of our Girls embarked on an overseas service-learning trip to The Light ASEAN Children's Home (TLACH) in Mae Sot, Thailand. Situated at the border with Myanmar, TLACH provides shelter to children of the Karen tribe who have taken refuge in Thailand. It was a proud mum moment for me as I saw the Girls off at the airport, many of them taking the plane for the very first time in their lives. Entrusting our Girls into the care of three steady members of my Staff team, with trip leader and GP Counsellor Natalie being a trained and experienced Youth Expedition Leader herself, it was a big step of faith, many nights vigil in prayer, and tears of joy when they all returned safely back to Singapore. As they excitedly shared stories of what they did with the children at TLACH, how the Karen children were so resilient and joyful despite their circumstances, and how they had made so many friends there that they wanted to return the following year, I know they had been blessed. I had sent our Girls out to be channels of blessing to the less fortunate. But in return, our Girls were so much more blessed.

As Rabbi Daniel Lapin put it, "It's in giving that we discover true fulfillment. When we give, we not only enrich the lives of others but also experience a unique joy that can't be found in receiving alone."

### Your Ripple Effect

This season, we have been tremendously blessed by the numerous supporters who have given of themselves so selflessly to the work of GP and the Girls living at GP. From Uncle Thomas who so generously sponsored the overseas service-learning trip to TLACH in Mae Sot, to my brother (Dr Adrian Tan) who trekked the 3 Passes and Everest Base Camp in Nepal on foot to raise funds for GP, to Pete who performed the extraordinary feat of scaling the equivalent elevation of Mount Everest in 28 continuous hours on his bicycle at Mount Faber to raise funds for GP, to countless others known and unknown to me who have so unreservedly given of your time, your resources, your love, your prayers.



My heart is full and you have spurred me and my team to keep going, to keep loving and serving every Girl who walks through the doors of GP, no matter what the challenges may be. The work of a 24/7 Home is tremendous, it never sleeps, it never stops, it never ends. The toll of the physical, emotional and mental demands is a daily reality to grapple with. Yet, when we remember the community which is YOU we have around us, when we remember that we are carried, loved and supported by YOU, we are encouraged to press on. Press on in being that channel of blessing to our Girls, and to challenge our Girls and create opportunities for them, in spite of their unfortunate circumstances and personal challenges, to be channels of blessings to others around them.

You have shown us what the Sea of Galilee is like, teeming with life in and around it. And because of you, GP too can be like the Sea of Galilee, having a constant inflow and a constant outflow, to be a channel of blessing to the less fortunate around us, and even to others in the region.

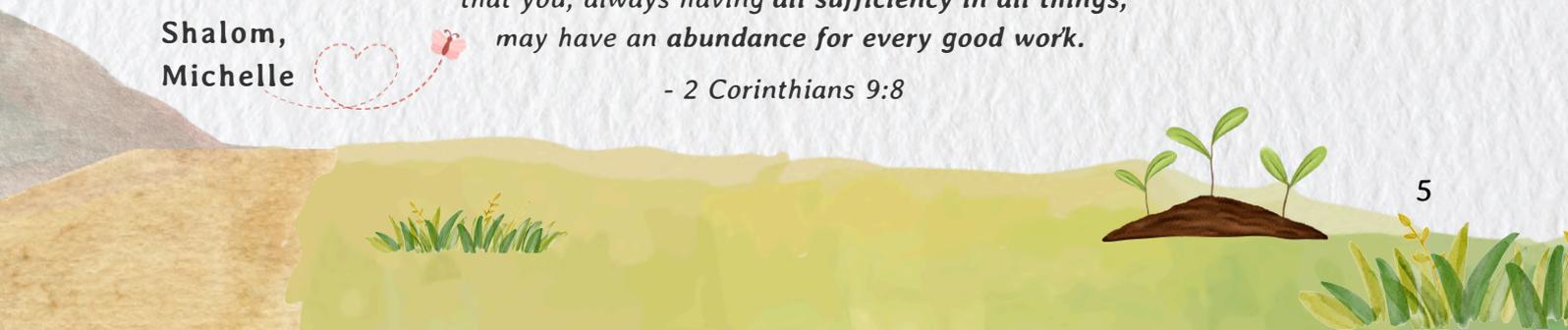
Thank you, my dear friends, and please allow me to share my sincere prayer for each of you.

*'And God is able to make all grace abound toward you,  
that you, always having all sufficiency in all things,  
may have an abundance for every good work.'*

Shalom,  
Michelle



- 2 Corinthians 9:8



# BEYOND THE WALLS OF GLADIOLUS PLACE:

## Mae Sot, Thailand



From 15 - 21 March 2025, some of our Girls embarked on an inaugural Overseas Service-Learning Programme to The Light ASEAN Children's Home in Mae Sot, Thailand — a safe place for displaced and vulnerable children and youths aged 3 - 26, many of whom are of Karen ethnicity. Led by Counsellor Nat and supported by Staff from Gladiolus Place (GP), this journey was a step beyond comfort zones. Beyond being cared for, our Girls had the opportunity to care for others.

### Why we went



This trip was built on 3 goals:

- 1 To build empathy and broaden perspectives**  
From being 'recipients of care' to 'givers of care', our Girls can experience the joy of serving others.
- 2 To build confidence and agency**  
Leading activities and working as a team can give our Girls a chance to take ownership, and realise their ability to make a difference.
- 3 To cultivate a sense of gratitude**  
Serving children with similar struggles can allow our Girls to reflect on their own journeys, reminding them of how far they have come and the potential they have.

### Preparing to Serve!



Before the trip, our Girls spent weeks preparing for this meaningful cross-cultural experience:

- Attended a pre-trip training by Dr Tan Lai Yong, the Director for Outreach & Community Engagement and Senior Lecturer at NUS. This is to help our Girls understand the culture, environment and safety measures in place. They also read up on cross-cultural materials provided by the National Youth Council.
- Organised and packed donated items.
- Planned logistics for lessons and activities.

“



*This trip highlighted the capabilities of our Girls. They demonstrated courage, empathy, and the ability to form meaningful friendships, even in the face of their own challenges.*

*I believe our Girls have not only learnt about service and giving back, they have also discovered more about themselves and the profound depth of human connection.*

- Grace, GP's Casework Lead who was part of the Mae Sot team

## While in Mae Sot

Over six days, our Girls planned and taught English and Math through interactive activities. Outside of the classrooms, our Girls also cooked meals, played games and sports with the children, and put on guitar and dance performances. The GP team brought along fans, toys, clothing, shoes, and medicine to be donated to the Children's Home — these were items lovingly contributed by sponsors who wanted to journey with us through giving.



Teaching and Learning through Games



Connecting through Music and Dance



Heartfelt Encounters



The experience in Mae Sot was beyond just serving. It allowed our Girls to reflect on their journeys through the lens of empathy, resilience and gratitude. Below, we share highlights of their personal reflections on what this trip meant to them.

*"The children were like a family bounded not by blood, but...by love and shared hope, I'm truly touched by their actions. Because of them I would always have a reason to continue living my life to the best."*

- A's Reflection

*"We have so much and yet, sometimes we forget to be thankful. The joy in their faces when they did their traditional dance...regardless of what happened to them, they are still smiling with joy."*

- J's Reflection

*"I learnt that we should be more grateful and thankful that we have a roof and shelter to stay at...The trip was worth it because...I learnt something from them too."*

- N's Reflection

# GLADIOLUS PLACE FAMILY WALK 2025:



## *A Walk That Connects*



Held on 21 June 2025, the Gladiolus Place (GP) Family Walk brought together our Girls and their Families, alongside Staff and Volunteers, for a meaningful afternoon of connection. Organised as part of our reintegration efforts, the walk provided a space for shared experiences and intentional bonding.

This initiative was planned in line with our national milestone, SG60, which calls on all to renew relationships and build stronger foundations for the future. For our community, it was an opportunity to do just that — to restore ties and strengthen bonds between our Girls and their loved ones.

The walking route began at GP and ended at Kallang Riverside Park. Along the way, there were three activity stations where we engaged in traditional local games like Chapteh, Egg Hunt and Scissors, Paper, Stone. These were designed not only for fun, but to create natural moments of interaction between our Girls and their Families.



At GP, we recognise that healing is not solely an individual process. It is often shaped by the presence of safe and consistent relationships. The GP Family Walk is one way we support our Girls as they take steps toward re-establishing trust with their Families.



Our Volunteers also walked alongside our Girls who did not have family present that day. Along the way, they made the walk more interesting by sharing stories about the history of the Singapore River and how it has shaped our nation over time.

As the walk came to a close, we were treated to nostalgic local favourites, the ice cream bread and kacang puteh. All of us enjoyed the treats after sweating it out!



Just as we began to wind down at the end of the walk, a surprise sighting of the National Day Air Formation rehearsal drew our eyes to the sky, rounding off the afternoon with a quiet moment of reflection.

As we look back on this walk, we are reminded of what truly matters — the laughter we shared, the time taken to mend and bond, and our commitment to reintegrating our Girls back to safe Families.

Restoration starts when we take one step forward together.



# TAKING STEPS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE - CHANGING PATHS:

## Dr. Adrian

Back in May 2025, Dr. Adrian Tan returned from a solo trek, conquering three of the highest passes (Renjo La, 5,345m, Cho La 5,420m, and Kongma La, 5,535m) and Everest Base Camp, covering altitudes of about 22,000m in total. Beyond the physical challenge, he carried with him a deeper purpose: To rally support for our Girls.

In the following reflection, Dr. Adrian shares what kept him going, and why this journey mattered far beyond the mountains.

### Why did you choose the challenge of trekking through some of the highest altitudes in the Everest region, for your fundraising campaign?

I have always loved the mountains and the outdoors. When I stand among the rugged, snow-capped peaks, I am both humbled and inspired by these unique experiences. Out on those treks, the austere environment, the biting cold and sheer exhaustion make me realise how easily I overlook life's simple comforts back in Singapore — like clean running water and warmth.

This trek, which crosses three passes enroute to Everest Base Camp, is extremely scenic. Yet, beneath the region's rugged beauty lie some of the toughest conditions for people. Everest Base Camp sits at an altitude of 5,364m. Crossing each pass requires one to trek up more than 5,000m from the valley, before descending into the next valley. In a sense, doing this trek is equivalent to climbing to Everest Base Camp four times.



Dr. Adrian landed at Lukla Airport, the shortest runway in the world

### What inspired you to rally support for Gladiolus Place?

As Christians, we are called to serve those in need; just as the Samaritan was to the person who needed help on the road. This was why, even as I pursued my passion for the outdoors, I did not want to waste the opportunity and instead find a way to put it to good use. The girls of Gladiolus Place have had their share of ups and downs. The challenges they face often feel bigger than any mountain. Day to day, their lives can be tougher and more demanding than anything I faced on my trek.

Gladiolus Place's impact on these girls moves me – all the more because my sister runs the home, and with her team, works every day to ease their burdens and give them a place with warmth and care.

## What is a key moment that stood out to you during your journey?

On a personal level, everyone needs a little motivation. Even though I had a guide for the trip, it was essentially a solo trip for me. There were days when I woke up and did not wish to face the cold. The prospect of another 8-hour walk in the snow and wind was daunting. However, I drew strength and motivation from my faith, with the support of my family and friends back home, and knowing that the fundraiser depended on me getting up to walk. That gave me the strength just to take the first step every day.

## What would you say to someone who wants to support Gladiolus Place, but is not sure where to start?

To anyone who feels compelled to help, I would say this: the world around you needs you. Do not be afraid to take the first step. Find a cause you are passionate about. Find a community that you feel drawn to. Find a neighbour you can lend a hand to. Then reach out to them to discover how you can best support them using your gifts and talents.



Top:  
Dr. Adrian in front of prayer flags at the Cho La Pass



Right:  
Dr. Adrian taking refuge at the Thame monastery during a snow storm



Far Right:  
Map of Dr. Adrian's Everest Region trek

### To the Girls at Gladiolus Place:

Always have HOPE! This hope is not just a feeling: it is the optimism, the strength, the will to always take the next step, to always put one foot in front of the other, and knowing that one day, it will all be worth it.

### To new or long-time supporters of Gladiolus Place:

And to the past, present and future supporters of Gladiolus Place - thank you for your FAITH, for being the hands of the unseen God. With your generosity, whether financial, in-kind, or in time, you enable these girls to have hope. And in doing so, you have shown them that they are LOVED.

# EVERESTING - PEDAL. RISE. BLOOM:

*Peter T.*

Peter, fondly known to friends as Pete, is another dedicated supporter who took on an interesting challenge as part of CycleHome 2025. Ever heard of Everesting?

As part of this challenge, Pete scaled the height of Mt. Everest (8,848m) on Mt. Faber, to raise awareness and funds for our Girls' reintegration efforts back home. Read on to hear in his own words, the heart behind his actions!

**Why did you choose the challenge of Everesting for your fundraising campaign?**

I think it reflects how life is, with all its emotional ups and downs. It is more of a test of mental strength than a physical challenge, although it is still physically challenging.

**What inspired you to rally support for Gladiolus Place?**

I knew Shaun, through Mark his brother, whom I met when I was looking for a cycling group to join. I heard that he was helping out at Gladiolus Place and decided to chip in.



**What were two key moments that stood out to you during your journey?**



I think the main highlight was when a cyclist approached me and asked me on how to raise funds for Gladiolus Place. He said he was asking his friends to support Gladiolus Place instead of giving him gifts for his birthday.

I am a simple cyclist and I am touched that my actions have had a ripple effect for the positive.

The second highlight will probably be all the people that I have met these few years cycling whom have supported in kind and in deed.



*Images on the left: Supporters of Pete who were at Mt. Faber in-person to cheer him on*

*Some rode while others ran alongside Pete during his ascent*

**What would you say to someone who wants to support Gladiolus Place, but is not sure where to start?**

Contact the staff at Gladiolus Place! Tremendous bunch of people with heart. You can look for me as well and I will point you to the right people to talk to.

**Any other advice to rally more people to come alongside our cause of caring for vulnerable teenage Girls?**

Your actions today may not seem much, but I assure you that this tiny seed will spark positive change in the lives of the girls.



**To the Girls at Gladiolus Place:**

Life is not easy, and at times you may think no one cares. Don't fear, there is hope and love at Gladiolus Place.

**To new or long-time supporters of Gladiolus Place:**

Be Human. Do Good. Spark Change.

# PROGRAMMES OUR GIRLS LOVED: In Their Own Words



"...I really enjoyed spending time with my friends and the Staff, especially as we cycled to different stations and completed tasks together. Each stop helped us bond more together. We encouraged each other, laughed a lot, and just had a great time. It wasn't just about riding bikes; it made us grow closer with each other.

Everyone was so warm and supportive, and I felt like I was part of something bigger. This day also means a lot to me because it was my last memory with Sis Mavane before she left GP..." - A's Reflection



Thanks Safe Harbour for exploring new paths with us!



...cycled to different stations and completed tasks together. Each stop helped us bond more together. We encouraged each other, laughed a lot, and just had a great time. It wasn't just about riding bikes; it made us grow closer with each other. What made it even more great was how it brought me closer to the volunteers too. Everyone was so warm and supportive, and I felt like I was part of something bigger. This day also means a lot to me because it was my last memory with Sis Mavane before she left GP. I'm so thankful I got to share that moment with her as we cycle and talked about different memories together. Overall, it was one of those experiences that reminded me how powerful connection and love together can be.



Thanks Coach Thomas and Coach Eliza for teaching us Pickleball!

"...Of all the sports I've ever played so far pickleball is my number one favourite. It helps me bond with the Staff, Volunteers and sometimes the new Girls that came in. It does not only let us bond, we are really like a family when we are together. Whether we win or lose it did not matter. All that mattered to us was the amount of laughter and memories we have made with each other and the coaches of course hehe :)"

- S's Reflection

...today when there is Multigenerational Sports & All of the Sports I've ever played so far Pickleball is my number one favorite. It helps me bond with the Staff, Volunteers and sometimes the new girls that come in. It does not only let us bond, we are really like a family when we are together. Whether we win or lose it did not matter. All that mattered to us was the amount of laughter and memories we have made with each other and the coaches of course hehe! the coaches really help us out with their coaching, but not





...not joined...  
 ...Mrs Chong...  
 ...eye opener, gardening was therapeutic. Playing with the soil was really enjoyable, Mrs Chong also told us many fun facts we didn't know before. For example, I found out that compost was made purely from scraps in the kitchen. I also learned that living micro-organisms contribute in the breaking down of the compost materials. In addition, I also had a lot of fun spending time with my friends while getting to know more about gardening, especially that time when it was raining but we still continued harvesting the fruits. That was truly memorable and exciting! In conclusion...

"When I first joined gardening, I thought it will be boring."



Thanks Rotary Club E3310, for teaching us to build a small edible farm!

"However, it was an eye opener, gardening was therapeutic. Playing with the soil was really enjoyable, Mrs Chong also told us many fun facts we didn't know before. For example, I found out that compost was made purely from scraps in the kitchen. I also learned that living micro-organisms contribute in the breaking down of the compost materials. In addition, I also had a lot of fun spending time with my friends while getting to know more about gardening..."

- F's Reflection



Thanks NBC Universal International for sharing the story of Macbeth with us!

"Initially, I signed up for the programme as I heard the name Shakespeare. I thought, I've heard of Shakespeare before. He is a writer, right? I want to know more about his stories.

His story taught me how to accept whatever situation I am going through and persevere. It is not worth it to break my morals to fulfil my happiness, which I know is temporary..."

After murdering the King, he had succumbed to trauma and the fear of getting exposed. He turned crazy. Not only did he affect himself, he affected his wife as well. His wife succumbed to the same torture and pain, and fell to her death in her slumber. This is another lesson taught, as it tells me that whatever a person commits not only affects him, but also the people he cherishes unintentionally...

In short, I enjoyed the play a lot as it helped me understand my morals better. It made me more interested in learning about and reading Shakespeare's stories." - J's Reflection

...I signed up for the programme as I heard the name Shakespeare. I thought, "I've heard of Shakespeare before. He is a writer, right? I want to know more about his stories". As a result, I decided to sign up for this. It was overall a great experience. It exposed me to one of the major stories written by Shakespeare. The story of Macbeth left a deep impression on me and kept me thinking about it late at night after the show. Macbeth, a person full of jealousy and ambition to rule his kingdom, had troubles of his own. Blinded by his greed, he lost himself in his wrath and Justice was served when Macbeth killed him and took over as King.

His story taught me how to accept whatever situation I am going through and persevere. It is not worth it to break my morals to fulfil my happiness, which I know is temporary. Nothing is intended to do the opposite.

He justified himself by saying that the King used him and his wife for his own unrighteous needs, and murdered the King. After he had succumbed to trauma and the fear of getting exposed, he turned crazy. Not only did he affect himself, he affected his wife as well. His wife succumbed to the same torture and pain, and fell to her death in her slumber.

This is another lesson taught, as it tells me that whatever a person commits not only affects him, but also the people he cherishes unintentionally.

In short, I enjoyed the play a lot as it helped me understand my morals better. Not only that, but it also exposed me to one of the stories by Shakespeare. It made me more interested in learning about and reading Shakespeare's stories. I am keen to learn more about the play, and I would love to attend this play if I have the chance to do so.



# HEART BEHIND THE WORK:

## Judith L. Galang



Judith is one of the two Family and Youth Specialist Leads or FYS Leads in short, at Gladiolus Place (GP).

Known to our Girls affectionately as 'Ate', which is big sister in Tagalog, she has been caring for our Girls in GP for the past 7 years and counting.

Read on to find out from Judith herself, on her heart behind the work she does at GP!

Hi, I am Sister Judith! As a FYS, I care for our Girls and make sure they are well — emotionally and physically. I also help them navigate daily routines. In the past 7 years, I have always strived to be like a big sister to our Girls, and in doing so, hopefully they can feel like they have a Home away from home!

I have always had a heart for mission work. Back in the Philippines, I volunteered with my church to visit hospitals, run medical missions, feed children on the streets, and share the love of Christ. For three years, I worked as a recruitment officer in a manpower agency, supporting candidates through the various stages of job placement.

I connected with a freelance recruiter who encouraged me to apply for the FYS role at Gladiolus Place. I was one of two interviewees and I honestly thought the other candidate would be selected, given her experience. Imagine my surprise when I got the call for the role!

At the time, I was not familiar with what a FYS does, so I did my own research. The more I learned, the more I felt drawn to it. It felt like a continuation of my calling in missions, where I can be part of a Home that provides a safe refuge for vulnerable girls. As a FYS, I still see myself in a support role — not for job seekers but for our Girls, to make sure they feel seen and cared for during their time with us. A different kind of work, but with the same heart. That is how I would describe this transition.

Of course, as fulfilling as the journey has been, it did come with challenges. My start in GP was not easy. Back then, there was no formal orientation and we often had to guide our actions based on “Do what you think is right”. The Home was going through leadership changes, dorms were being reorganised, and on top of that, I found myself roped in to prepare for a licensing audit. I even had to prepare and compile documents from before my time with the organisation! But with the help of kind colleagues, we figured it out — albeit with a few late nights. This experience taught me the value of teamwork and resilience, which I still value in leading my team today.

Managing emotions and behaviours of our Girls can also be tough. Dysregulation is part of their healing journey, and in those moments, I try to stay calm and be present. I choose my words carefully and give them space until they are ready. Trust is important in our relationship with the Girls, but it does not come naturally for the Girls. Rather, it is built by listening and showing up, again and again. This is where I try to be intentional. Whether it is joining them in a programme or simply sharing a meal at the same table, these small moments matter.

You might expect our Girls to be the ones receiving, but over the years, I have found myself learning from the Girls just as much — on having more patience and discovering more about myself. Of course, there are days that feel especially tough. In those moments, I remind myself of my purpose for being placed here in Singapore. I also recharge by running, working out, and fellowshipping with friends from church.

One of the most rewarding parts of my role is seeing Girls, who have left GP to be reunited with their Families, get in touch with us to share how the Home has supported them. Their sharing can be a source of encouragement and strength to others who are still staying with us.

Since joining, I have grown, from being a frontline staff to leading our FYS team and contributing to the core team’s decisions. I feel trusted and supported.

As we look ahead, I hope to be better in the way I lead and be a positive influence in shaping lives — starting with our Girls, and extending to my team.



My GP journey has not always been smooth, but it has always been meaningful. I believe that with heart, intention, and a strong support system, we can help our Girls believe in brighter tomorrows.

With lots of love,

*Judith*





# ABOUT US

*If you're new here, let us share our story!*

Gladiolus Place is a non-profit Children's Home for vulnerable teenage Girls from all walks of life aged 11 - 21 years old who have experienced abuse, neglect and trauma. With our vision to have Every Girl Loved and Every Life Transformed, our mission is to bring about Healing, Renewal, and Restoration to families and communities. A charity with IPC (Institution of a Public Character) status, Gladiolus Place is licensed by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) in the administration and upholding of high standards in the care of our Girls.

Every Girl Loved,  
Every Life Transformed



## Our Mission

For every Girl who walks through our doors - healing for their brokenness, renewal to their minds, and restoration to their families and communities - so that they may contribute to society and fulfil their God-given destinies.



## Our Story

For a quarter of a century since 1998, Gladiolus Place has been a safe, healing space for vulnerable teenage Girls who have come under our wings in their time of need. It was founded as Andrew and Grace Home to provide refuge for troubled teenage Girls and sheltered protection for mothers and mothers-to-be by now-retired Pastor Andrew Choo and Mrs Grace Choo. The Home was renamed in 2018 and took the namesake from the Gladiolus flower which was named after the Latin word for 'sword' and represents strength, honour and dignity. It is our sincere hope that each Girl who passes through Gladiolus Place will bloom with such virtues and values.

Ms Michelle Tan took over the management helm as Executive Director and Head of Home in September 2018 and has been actively working with the Girls and Staff to drive improvements since then. Today, we care for up to 40 Girls from all races and religions, actively creating platforms for them to rise above their unfortunate circumstances and backgrounds, so that they can have equal opportunities in society to fulfill their purpose and God-given destinies when they come of age.

## Our Philosophy

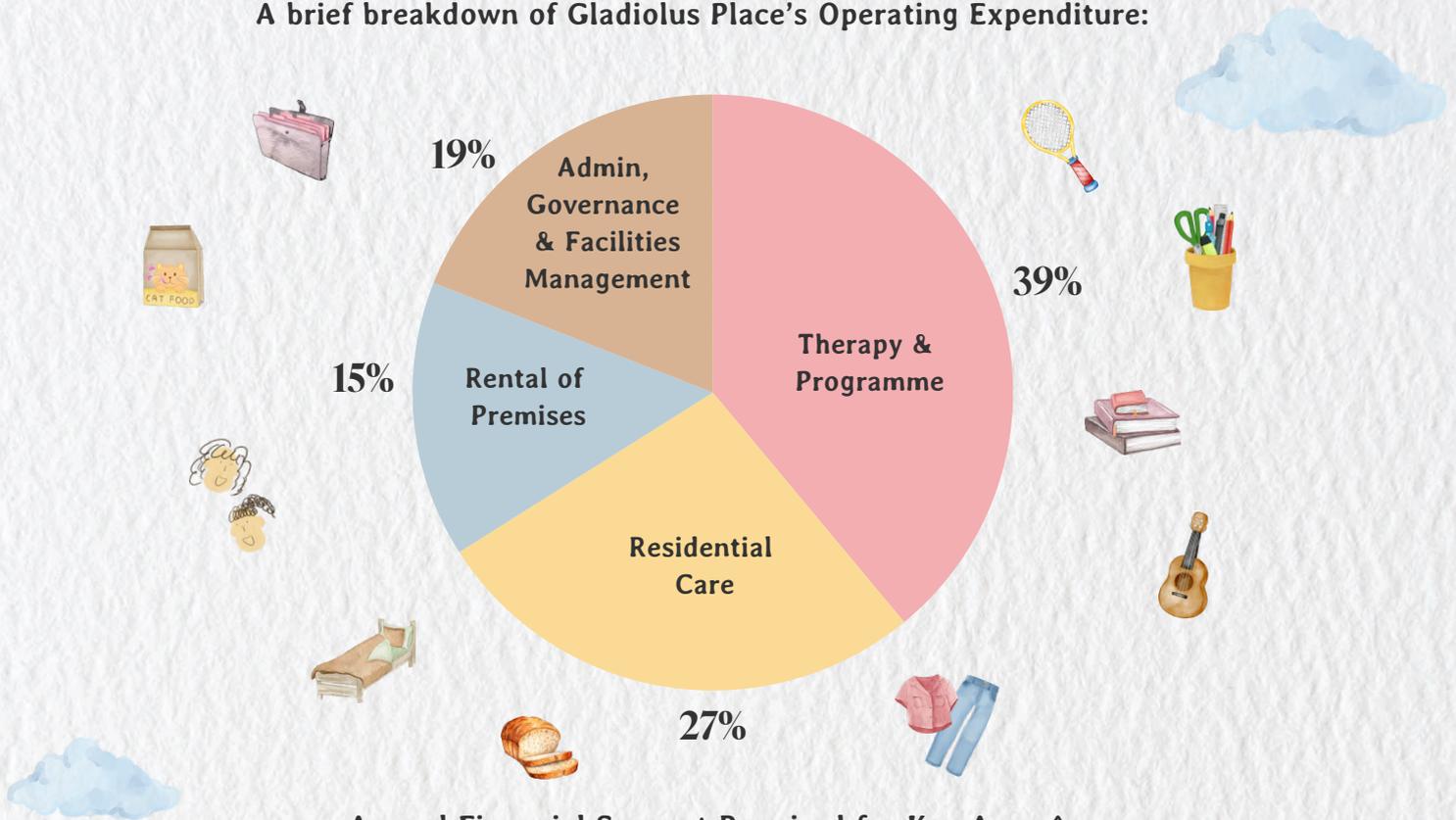


From the very first day a Girl arrives at our door, we view and respect her as a uniquely designed child. Through our rigorous assessment, we create individualised, tailored interventions and programmes for her, which will address her unique rehabilitative needs, as well as interests, abilities and gifts.



# RESOURCE ALLOCATION

A brief breakdown of Gladiolus Place's Operating Expenditure:



Annual Financial Support Required for Key Areas<sup>^</sup>



*\*Our Residential Care ensures holistic support for our Girls. From nutritious meals to daily personal care, school necessities, and healthcare support, we prioritize every aspect of their well-being. This includes but not limited to meals (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Tea time & Supper), daily care essentials (toiletries, laundry, and hygiene care), school-related needs (transportation, books, stationeries and extracurricular fees) and emergency medical assistance.*

<sup>^</sup>Key areas are subject to change, to cater to the ever-evolving needs of our Girls. GP reserves the right to reallocate the donated funds to other key areas of operational works.

# WHAT WE DO: Programmes



## Academics

Academic excellence is the pathway to opportunities and success. Hence, we place importance on helping our Girls by addressing back-to-school bridging issues and provide the required support and education for Girls who struggle in this area.



## Sports & the Arts

We strongly believe that a healthy mind begins with a healthy body. Physical activities help to maintain a healthy physical body while the Arts help to stimulate brain development. Both activities require practice and drive while opening up opportunities to cultivate and display the Girls' talents and interests.



## Life Skills and Socio-Emotional Resilience

We see the importance of equipping our Girls with life skills such as cleaning, cooking, financial literacy, self-care and securing stable jobs, especially for the older Girls working towards independent living. We also believe in the importance of empowering our Girls with socio-emotional resilience to weather future challenges. Through programmes that focus on emotional and mental wellness, our Girls learn to understand their feelings and respond to challenges in healthy, constructive ways.



## Character & Values

Teenage years are a formative period in one's life. During the Girls' time away from their families and communities, we seek to impart sound and wise values to help them build good character.

**Respect, Love & Courtesy, Integrity, Care, Excellence in attitudes and Discipline that is consistent** are the core values that we pass on to our Girls, in hopes that they will live out these principles even when they leave Gladiolus Place one day.



# WHAT WE DO: Therapeutic Interventions



## Psychotherapy

In safe spaces of non-judgement, our Girls have weekly 1-1 sessions to navigate through difficult past experiences and walk towards healing.



## Family Therapy

Reintegration of our Girls back with their families and communities is the mission of Gladiolus Place. To facilitate this, family therapy offers the opportunity for our Girls and their Family members to work through any challenges in communication and expectations.



## Art Therapy

Trauma-related emotions and non-verbal memories are often difficult to put into words. Thus, art therapists work with our Girls to understand their past, and look towards the future. Using Art as a universal language, our Girls are guided to verbalise what words often cannot.



## Animal - Assisted Therapy (AAT)

In partnership with NParks Animal Veterinary Service (AVS), Gladiolus Place fosters cats, as part of our Animal-Assisted Therapy. Our Girls care for these cats daily and through that, learn the discipline of taking care of loved ones and form strong attachments with them. This human-animal bond helps in the healing of psychological and emotional trauma.





# SUPPORT US!



## Donation & Support



As a non-profit residential Home, we are continuously seeking out like-minded individuals or corporations who would support the work of the Home by funding the needs of our Girls which includes meals, daily necessities, academics, therapeutic interventions, or to support us by extending their time and talents. This enables us to carry out our mission to bring about healing for brokenness, renewal of minds and restoration of our Girls to their families and their communities.

## Here are some ways you can help:

### 1. Make a Donation

Recurring monthly donations or once-off donations may be made via 4 channels. Gladiolus Place is a charity with Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status. As such, donations of \$50 and above are entitled to a tax deduction of 2.5 times the amount received. Official tax-deductible receipt will be issued to individuals or corporations who provide their **NRIC/FIN/UEN**.

### 2. Grant a Wish List

The everyday needs of the Girls and the running operations of the Home are relentless. The daily essentials, household appliances and necessities are items which often require replenishing. Gladiolus Place's wish list can be found here: [gladiolusplace.org.sg/donate](http://gladiolusplace.org.sg/donate).

### 3. Volunteer your Time and Talents

Over the years, individual volunteers and corporations have extended their willing hands and their loving support to touch the lives of our Girls and Staff. We are grateful for their support. We continue to seek skills-based volunteers as well as volunteers for programmes and events. Getting started is as simple as registering your interest with us at [info@gladiolusplace.org.sg](mailto:info@gladiolusplace.org.sg) and we will be in touch!





# SPONSOR-A-GIRL



Join many others who are regularly sponsoring our Girls' daily necessities in the amount shown below, or any other amounts you wish to contribute!



## Cost per month per Girl:

- \$100**  
School Necessities
- \$150**  
Utilities & Daily Care
- \$300**  
Counselling & Therapy
- \$450**  
Meals
- \$600**  
Reintegration work for the Girl & Family

You may also visit our website for more information:  
[gladiolusplace.org.sg](http://gladiolusplace.org.sg)



## 4 Donation Channels

Paynow via QR Code



Add your **Name, Contact Number & NRIC/FIN/UEN** under the UEN/ Bill Reference section

Bank Transfer/GIRO

Kindly arrange a standing instruction with your bank to:  
**PCS - Gladiolus Place DBS Autosave Account No. 033-9000043-4**

Cash/Cheque

Write a cheque in favour of **PCS - Gladiolus Place** and mail it to us at:  
**6A Mattar Road, Singapore 387715**

Online Donation Platforms

Make a **one-time** or **recurring donation** securely with your credit/debit card via our online donation platforms where every transaction enjoys **250% tax deduction** at:  
[Giving.sg: giving.sg/donate/campaign/gladiolus-place](http://Giving.sg/giving.sg/donate/campaign/gladiolus-place)



# EVERY GIRL LOVED, EVERY LIFE TRANSFORMED.

## CONTACT US

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