



# 25 Celebrating Years

**A Masterpiece of God's Unseen Hands**

**I**n celebration of St Luke's ElderCare's (SLEC) 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this commemorative book "A Masterpiece of God's Unseen Hands" traces our growth and expansion through significant events that have shaped our mission and impact in the community.

It captures inspiring insights from visionary leaders, community-minded partners and dedicated volunteers, whose commitment to compassionate care and creative collaboration have fortified our progress. More than a collection of memories, their stories are a testament to faith in action.

Within these pages, we also showcase the richness of our elders' lives through beautiful collections of art. These elements come together to reflect what is truly priceless at SLEC: the precious lives of our elders, care heroes and partners interwoven into a welcoming community of care and support, through the sharing of faith, hope and love.

Looking ahead, this book shares SLEC's vision for the future to inspire passion and collective action. By working together to uplift and empower our elders, we will enhance the lives of those we serve and make a lasting difference.









So we fix our eyes not on  
what is seen, but on what is  
unseen, since what is seen  
is temporary, but what is  
unseen is eternal.

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**2 Corinthians 4:18**







## Introduction

**What does it really mean to care for the elders? Is it a matter of only tending to their physical needs?**

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**I**t was 1999, just three years after the opening of St Luke's Hospital (SLH) – Singapore's first community care hospital for the elderly sick. Witnessing firsthand the continuing care needs of their patients as they were discharged inspired the founding members of SLH to set up St Luke's ElderCare (SLEC).

Amongst them were SLEC's first Chairman Prof Lee Soo Ann, its first Executive Director Dr Eileen Aw, its second Chairman Mr Foong Daw Ching, and its third Chairman Prof Lee Hin Peng.

Back in the 1990s, the concept of holistic eldercare was quite unheard of. Guided by strong Christian values of compassion, holistic excellence, respect, integrity, stewardship, and teamwork, this founding team recognised that in addition to medical and physical support, what the elders needed was social and rehabilitative care. Their well-being would further benefit from a coordinated care model that offered emotional, psychological, and spiritual support.

Empowered by this vision, the team set their sights on creating a brand new approach of integrated, accessible care services that would transform caregiving for Singapore's growing ageing population.

At the heart of this are SLEC's Care Centres. Beyond housing rehabilitative facilities to meet the elders's physical needs, they would also feature purpose-built spaces and social programmes to strengthen their psycho-social, cognitive and spiritual well-being.

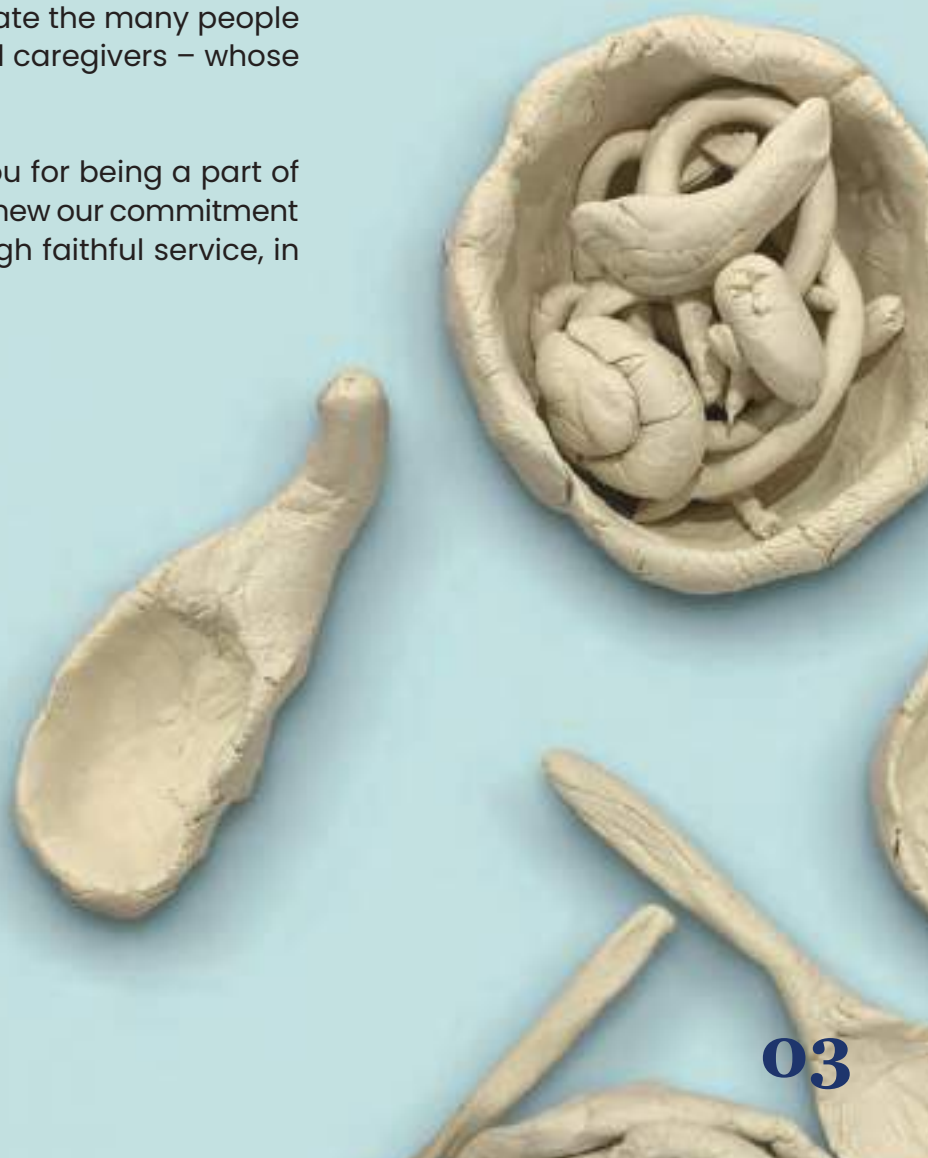
The support of compassionate caregiving staff, partners and volunteers would provide the elders and their caregivers with hope and encouragement by journeying with them through different life stages and events.

Faithful nurturing over the years, led by SLEC's team including its first Chief Executive Officer Dr Helen Ko, its first Corporate Director Mrs Wee Wan Joo, its third CEO Mr Lee Chee Yeng, its fourth CEO Adj A/Prof (Dr) Kenny Tan, and Chairmen Mr Timothy Teo and Prof Ho Yew Kee, enabled SLEC to expand its healthcare expertise and services, to address the evolving needs of the elders and caregivers.

Today, SLEC serves communities across Singapore through an integrated network of 18 Senior Care and Rehabilitation Centres, 12 Active Ageing Centres (Care) and one Residence. The dedication and heart of service of our staff, combined with the generous support of volunteers, donors and partners, enable SLEC to offer an ever-increasing range of engaging and empowering centre-based, community-based, home-based and residential-based programmes to care for the body, mind and spirit of our elders.

This book is testimony to our Almighty God, who has lovingly and gracefully guided SLEC over the last 25 years to achieve our mission of Transforming Community Care, to be a blessing to many. Within its chapters, we hear the stories and celebrate the many people – including founding members, staff, volunteers, partners, elders and caregivers – whose lives and contributions have impacted SLEC in immeasurable ways.

As we commemorate this significant milestone, we want to thank you for being a part of SLEC's rich history. We hope you will continue to journey with us as we renew our commitment to continue serving, loving and empowering our communities through faithful service, in the years ahead.



## Creating New Connections: The Inspiration Behind SLEC's Arts Programme

**A**rt, in the early years of SLEC, took the form of colouring activities. Colouring was both simple and effective for engaging elders, regardless of their physical or cognitive abilities. While some saw art as a way to pass their time, SLEC recognised early on that artistic expression offers one of the best ways to help our elders maintain their physical and mental well-being.

In 2015, SLEC embarked on designing our Arts Programme to empower elders by encouraging them to pursue their passions and interests. From mastering new skills to making something beautiful, elders gain a sense of achievement and self-belief that translates to becoming more confident and positive in other areas of life. Challenging their minds to learn new skills creates new brain connections to fend off cognitive decline. Moreover, our Arts Programme offers opportunities to foster new social connections by enabling elders to not only connect with others who share similar interests, but give back to the community through their artworks, stories, and voices.

To cater to different interests, SLEC has introduced a wide selection of art courses to our elders over the years. Enjoyable, meaningful and even therapeutic, these range from 'traditional' art forms, like painting and sketching, to tailored workshops for comic drawing, batik painting and ceramics.

In 2018, we drew inspiration from the impressive portfolio that our elders had created to organise SLEC's first-ever art exhibition at The Arts House. The exhibition, held over three days, featured artworks curated from over 900 elders under our care.

The Arts Programme is thriving as one of SLEC's signature programmes today, encompassing MELO-D (Musical Engagement and Learning for Older Persons with Dementia), Living Artfully and collaborations with artists, community partners, volunteers and sponsors.



**Oh Leng Hoi, 81**





Joyce Ting, 74



Teo Seok Kiaw, 90



Fan Choon Sen, 77



Kee Ah Tee, 80

# 25

# Years of Serving the Community



1999

**SLEC was set up with the vision to offer an expanded range of care services in the community.**

**At SLEC's first office at Armenian Street, the founding team laid the foundation by raising funds and preparing to set up its centres.**

2001



## 2001

First four centres open in Clementi, Hougang, Whampoa and Yishun, offering day care services.

## 2002

Launch of Maintenance Rehabilitation Programme to enhance SLEC's day care services.

## 2004

- Fifth SLEC centre opens in Tampines.
- In collaboration with Bendemeer Secondary School, SLEC kicks off its first Intergenerational Games involving elders from its five centres.

2006



## 2005

Launch of Wellness Programmes at selected centres, establishing SLEC as a frontrunner in promoting active ageing.

## 2007

Introduction of Active Rehabilitation Programme to provide tailored physiotherapy treatment for elders.

## 2008

Sixth SLEC centre opens in Bukit Timah.

2009



## 2009

Golden Years Centre in Hougang comes under SLEC management, becoming our seventh centre.

## 2010

Eighth SLEC centre opens in Serangoon.

## 2011

Three new SLEC centres open in Ayer Rajah, Jurong East and Telok Blangah.

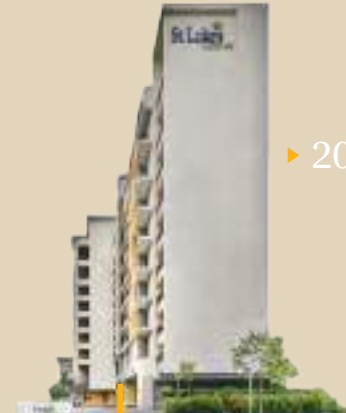




2013



2018



2020



2023

### 2013

- 12th SLEC centre opens in Changkat.
- SLEC, together with SLH, embarks on a joint visioning exercise. The outcome is a common Vision, Mission and set of Core Values that SLEC and SLH share today.

### 2015

- First official arts programme introduced to SLEC elders encompassing modalities like comic book illustration, batik painting and ceramics.
- Initiated Centre-based Nursing and Home Care services to expand our service coverage.

### 2016

Partnering with Nee Soon Grassroots and Alexandra Health Systems, SLEC set up three new centres in Chong Pang, Nee Soon East and Nee Soon Central, after Yishun Centre ceased operations.

### 2018

- SLEC holds its first large-scale art exhibition for 900 elders at The Arts House three years after it introduced an official art programme in 2015.
- Keat Hong and Marine Parade centres open, bringing the total to 16 centres.

### 2019

Five SLEC centres open in Ang Mo Kio, Bukit Batok, Kebun Baru, Rivervale and Sumang.

### 2020

- 22<sup>nd</sup> SLEC centre opens at Hougang Meadow.
- In February, in line with Singapore's COVID-19 pandemic guidelines, SLEC activates an extensive emergency response plan to effectively protect our elders and staff. We closed all Senior Care Centres for the first time in SLEC's history (7 April-1 June) during Singapore's circuit breaker and extended care support to another nursing home.
- Opening of SLEC Residence @ Ang Mo Kio, an integrated facility sited with day care and day rehabilitation services. It was the only nursing home launched during the pandemic.

### 2022

Launch of SLEC CommCare Academy and first SLEC CommCare Symposium for healthcare professionals and members of the public as part of SLEC's effort to foster knowledge sharing and professional development in the sector.

### 2023

- Bishan Active Ageing Centre (Care) opens.
- Development of our signature programmes encompassing the Arts, Dining Culture and Intergenerational Programmes for holistic care.
- Launch of first five-party Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to deliver collaborative and seamless care service in Bukit Panjang.

### 2024

- Launch of SLEC centre at One Punggol, a Day Rehabilitation Centre at Bukit Batok Central, and two Active Ageing Centres (Care) at Anchorvale and Northshore.
- Official opening of the REACH-SLEC Active Ageing Centre (Care) at Teck Whye Vista, the first consortium project in the sector where two organisations collaborate to operate active ageing, senior care, and rehabilitation centres.





hands





# **We are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.**

Isaiah 64:8b

**F**rom the time SLEC opened its doors in 1999, we have witnessed God at the helm, guiding and working through His people to fulfil His purposes.

Leading the charge at the start of SLEC's journey were our founding members. Their pioneering efforts laid a strong foundation for providing integrated elder care to enrich the lives of Singapore's growing ageing population.

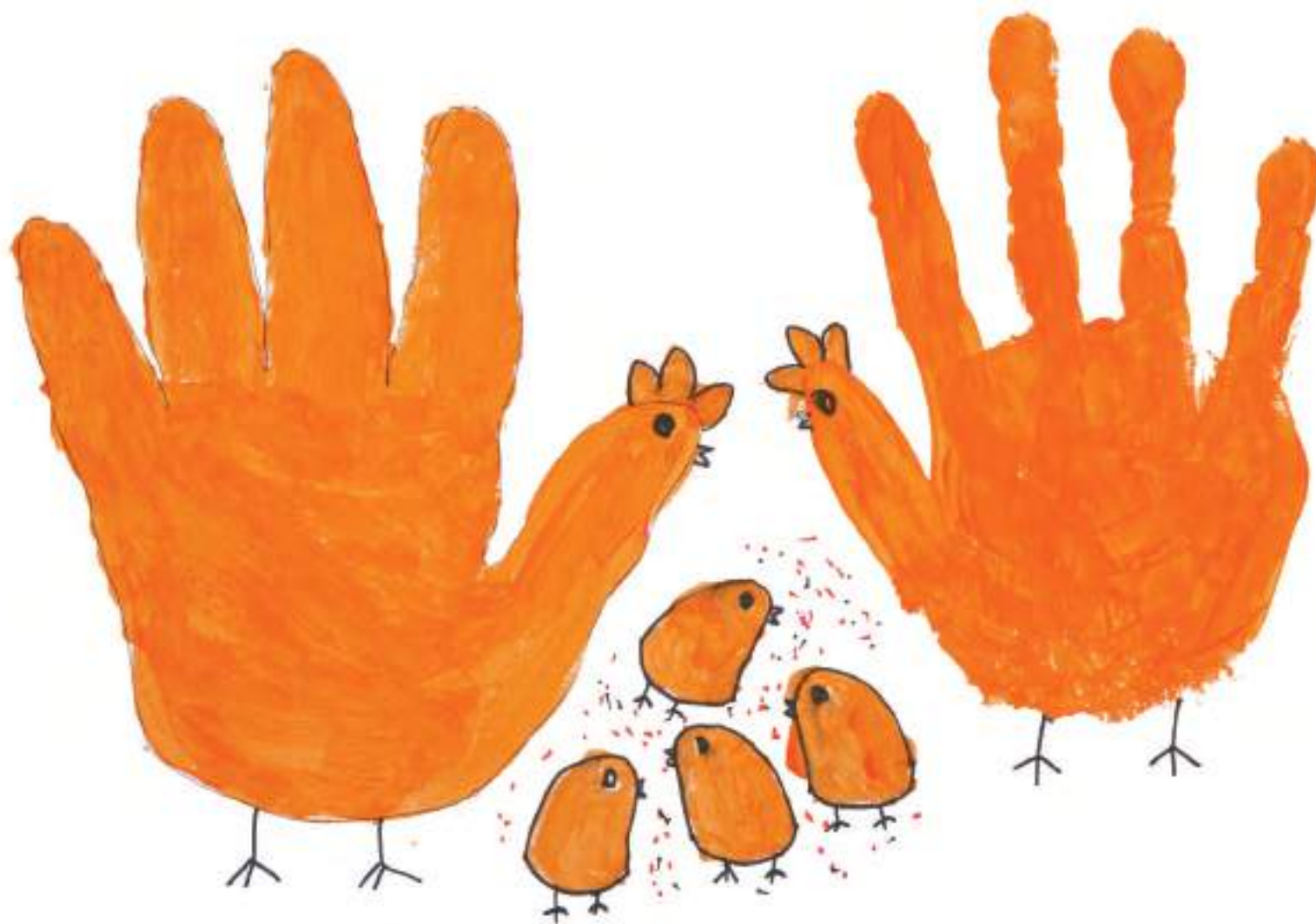
Today, 25 years later, we continue to see His hand at work, as He furthers their collective acts of service. Their heartfelt reflections remind us of the parable of the mustard seed: though smaller than all other seeds, it grows to become a tree that is larger than the other plants and birds are drawn to shelter in its branches.

We celebrate and give thanks for SLEC's thriving ministry that continues to grow and touch the lives of many in our community.



# at work





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**Art done by SLEC Elders:**

Top Left: **Wong Oong Eng, 92**

Bottom Left: **Tan Joo Kian, 85**

Centre: **Soon Lay Peng, 74**

Top Right: **Sia Oh Kit, 85**

Bottom Right: **Leow Moy, 90**



# Envisioning Love's Light For All

## **Prof Lee Soo Ann**

**Founding Member and First Chairman (2001 - 2004)**

**T**he establishment of St Luke's ElderCare (SLEC) stemmed from the realisation that we could do more to care for our patients following the success of SLH. Many were well enough to be discharged but still needed ongoing step-down care as they recuperated back home. We recognised the importance of meaningful social interactions and engaging activities to keep them physically and mentally active, which help slow the ageing process.

Together with Dr Eileen Aw, we developed SLEC's day care centre concept with the vision of providing a vibrant environment for the elders to receive care and to socialise through various activities, such as art, games and singing.

Mr Foong Daw Ching and I went "church-hunting" to gather support to launch these centres. As I was blessed at that time to be the General Secretary at the Bible Society of Singapore, an inter-church organisation, it helped us reach out to different churches and Christian organisations. This established SLEC's DNA as a faith-based organisation as different denominations joined hands to share the love of Christ with the community.

We were very grateful for the partnerships with the many churches, especially those located near to the first four centres in Clementi, Hougang, Yishun and Whampoa. Their multifaceted offers of spiritual support, volunteers, and even funding, enabled us to effectively engage our elders, keeping them happy and energised.

As I think back, there is no doubt SLEC's growth is evidence and testimony of God's deep love for people across all walks of life. Our holistic care approach goes beyond meeting physical needs to caring for social, psycho-emotional and spiritual needs, and touching the human soul.





## **Mr Foong Daw Ching**

**Founding Member and Second Chairman (2005 - 2006)**

**T**he early years were challenging but we could always look to God to provide what we needed. In 2001, as we set up our first four centres, funding was a key challenge. Thankfully, funding from various supporters like the Community Development Councils and SLH, who offered seed capital and office space, helped to overcome this.

Taking over as Chairman in 2004, I faced a significant manpower challenge. Low awareness and interest in eldercare meant recruitment difficulties, especially among younger healthcare staff. Our average staff age was about 50 years, but we were blessed that they were extremely capable and passionate about helping the elders. Their commitment still fills our hearts with gratitude.

As one of my priorities was helping the younger generation understand issues faced by elders, this led me to write to schools to seek support in organising an intergenerational day. The Intergenerational Games (IG Games) Day event came to fruition in 2004 as a joint activity between Bendemeer Secondary School and our first four centres, with the Tampines Centre coming on board after. The IG Games continued annually for over a decade, involving Bendemeer Secondary and subsequently, the now-defunct Chestnut Secondary School.

Fast forward to 2024, SLEC continues to build mutual understanding by incorporating specially crafted intergenerational-themed activities into various collaborative programmes, such as partnering with Skool4Kidz at our One Punggol Centre.

# **Experiencing Divine Provision**





# Creating Holistic Community Care

**Dr Eileen Aw**

**Founding Member and First Executive Director (1999 - 2001)**



**C**reating the concept for SLEC and bringing it to life was my responsibility. Witnessing the need for ongoing care among patients discharged from the hospital led to the idea of providing a comprehensive range of social day care activities and physical rehabilitation services, all under one roof. At that time, there were very few eldercare centres and such services were usually offered separately, at different locations.

Our approach aimed to integrate care services within the community, providing holistic support for the elders – physically, socially, mentally and spiritually. This care model enabled the elders to continue their recovery in a familiar environment, while accessing regular exercise and social interactions a few times a week at well-managed care facilities nearby. At the same time, we hoped to provide relief to the caregivers and family, knowing that their elders would be lovingly taken care of during the day.

As our plans rolled out, we were blessed to have the support of dedicated volunteers from various partner churches. They took charge of running programmes to further enrich the lives of the elders. Over time, the volunteers also became loving and caring friends to the elders. By understanding and befriending the elders, the volunteers were able to design new and engaging programmes and activities that the elders enjoyed.

The beauty of the SLEC centre model lies in our collaborative partnership, involving community health organisations, the authorities overseeing the premises, the churches that provide the volunteers, and SLEC, which provides the expertise in planning programmes and elder activities. Together, we make a meaningful difference in the lives of the elders.



## **Dr Helen Ko**

**First Chief Executive Officer (2001 - 2003)**

**W**hile Dr Eileen Aw oversaw the setting up of the centres' "hardware", like their infrastructure and facilities, I focused on readying the "software", such as essential staff training and development.

It was important to equip our staff to deal with varied challenges at the centres. These ranged from addressing negative perceptions among elders that they had been "abandoned" to the feeling of guilt among caregivers who felt they were not performing their filial duties of caring for the elders.

Prior to joining SLEC, I served as Director of Sage Counseling Centre. As I continued to be involved as a senior consultant, I saw an opportunity to bring in counsellors from Sage to offer satellite counselling at the SLEC centres. They offered much needed support for addressing the elders' psycho-emotional needs. We also added on training for caregivers of the elders who were at the centres, so that they could provide continued care beyond our daycare centres.

Another dimension of care that I was able to introduce was in supporting the spiritual needs of the elders. Many studies have shown that spirituality is important as a source of hope and meaning for many elders, especially towards the later part of their lives.

Beyond these, as we organised many recreational and social activities that required volunteer support, I'm truly thankful to the Lord for providing us with many volunteers, especially from the churches. They were a great source of support for both the elders and our staff.

In later years, SLEC enhanced its support to elders, their next-of-kin and staff by setting up its own Pastoral Care services.



# **Caring For Heart & Soul**



# Advancing Faithfully SLEC's Mission

**In Memoriam:**

**Mrs Wee Wan Joo**

**First Corporate Director (2003 - 2013)**

**A**s SLEC's first Corporate Director, Mrs Wee was the forerunner for two important pillars at SLEC: fundraising and volunteerism.

Amongst the key highlights from Mrs Wee's tenure was the first joint fundraiser by SLH and SLEC. Mrs Wee organised a jog-a-thon event, which brought together six churches to raise funds in support of SLEC. She also tapped on her wide network of contacts to bring in additional funds from various foundations and individuals to supplement church and community development council monetary contributions to SLEC.

Mrs Wee is well remembered for her passion and enthusiasm in initiating SLEC's Wellness Programmes in 2005. These were tailored to accommodate older adults who only had time to exercise in the evenings, housewives who could only join in the daytime, and the elders who attended during their daycare activities in between. These were the precursors to community programmes for active ageing and keeping healthy, as well as Wellness Kampung, a collaborative initiative which co-sites wellness activity spaces with eldercare centres to encourage interactions with the elders.







## **Prof Lee Hin Peng**

**Founding Member and Third Chairman (2007 - 2015)**

**O**ne of my earliest projects was conducting the feasibility studies with Dr Eileen Aw, which eventually led to the setting up of SLEC.

Upon assuming the role of Chairman in 2006, my foremost objective was to enhance service standards and care quality, while my then-CEO Mr Lee Chee Yeng focused on finance matters. To do this, it was important for me to be on the ground at the centres. This allowed me to observe and share hands-on counsel with staff and management.

We also organised the first retreat in 10 years to identify SLEC's areas of strengths and weaknesses – this would enable us to bring up the standards of eldercare services.

From my Christian worldview, I consider service to my fellow beings as a privilege and an opportunity to demonstrate compassion in practical ways. There is no grand vision; I just hope to do my small part to bring comfort, care and relief to those in need.

# **Elevating Service Standards & Care Quality**

# Enhancing Operational Excellence



**Mr Lee Chee Yeng**  
**Second Chief Executive Officer (2006 - 2013)**

**D**uring my tenure, I was blessed to see the number of eldercare centres grow from five to 13. As a result, we had to overcome significant challenges, including recruiting and training staff, finding committed volunteers, as well as cultivating community partners and donors. Thank God we were provided sufficient resources.

After stepping down as CEO, I continued to serve as Honorary Treasurer on the SLEC Board from 2014 to 2017. We also witnessed the generous support of the Government and donors.

Looking back, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve at SLEC. Together, let us continue to serve our seniors and our community.



A full-length portrait of Mr Timothy Teo, an elderly man with glasses, wearing a light blue dress shirt, a dark red tie, and dark trousers. He is standing with his hands at his sides, smiling slightly.

## **Mr Timothy Teo**

**Fourth Chairman (2016 - 2021)**

**I**n November 2013, we conducted the joint visioning exercise for SLH and SLEC. Some 350 staff and Board members were involved in 20 consultation sessions, which stretched over three months. The result was a refreshed version of SLEC's original Vision, Mission and Values, even as our core beliefs remained unchanged.

While SLEC's original mission focused on providing more holistic care for the elders, our refreshed mission seeks to enrich the lives of the elders, together with our partners in the community. This renewed mission guides our actions as we continue to provide even better care for the elders.

SLEC has been blessed with resources to develop a coordinated model of care for the elders that straddles between our Community Hospital on one end, and our Nursing Home or residence on the other. Today, the elders can look to St Luke's community hospital and eldercare centres for comprehensive care, ranging from inpatient to outpatient and home care, as well as from rehabilitation to day care.

One of my greatest passions is person-centric care. While loneliness, helplessness and boredom are the top three woes of ageing, the antidotes for these are loving companionship, opportunity to give and receive care, and variety and spontaneity. This insight has added a new dimension to SLEC's strategy to not only care for the body, but the mind and soul.

# **Strengthening SLEC's Mission Calling**



## **Prof Ho Yew Kee**

**Member of Steering Committee of Whampoa ElderCare Centre and Fifth Chairman (2021 - present)**

**M**y journey with the St Luke's family began when Prof Lee Soon Ann asked me to serve on the Management Committee of Whampoa ElderCare Centre back in 2000. I then worked with Dr Eileen Aw to secure the first funding for the centre from the Central Singapore CDC. Thereafter, Mr Foong Daw Ching asked me to lead the Audit Committee of SLH and, subsequently, the Audit Committee of SLEC. Their gracious invitations have allowed me to serve the St Luke's family for the last 25 years.

As a member of the Steering Committee for setting up SLEC Whampoa, I was involved in discussions with the government to determine its fee structure. The financial sustainability of the centre was crucial for building lasting and impactful ministry.

As we had no prior experience with running eldercare centres financially, we decided to follow the government subvention for different residential types as the basis for setting the fees for SLEC. We worked out the fees by totalling our costs and how much income we would need to generate to break even. I thank God that this became a workable financial model for SLEC. The rest is history with God on our side.

# **Affirming Wise Stewardship**



# Serving: A Journey with God

**Adj A/Prof (Dr) Kenny Tan**

**Chief Executive Officer (2016 - present)**

**G**od is a personal, ever-present companion who is with us in every chapter of our lives.

I had always felt God's call to ministry work. Despite my attempts to attend Bible school, my journey led me towards becoming a doctor. Yet, just six months shy of taking my specialist exams, God's call came: "It's time. You can go to Bible school now."

I sought confirmation, and one of the four signs I received was a new part-time research job that offered flexibility to complete my Graduate Diploma in Christian Studies at the Biblical Graduate School of Theology, followed by a Master's degree in Education.

When this was followed by God's direction to "go back to the deep end", and a new role opened at the School of Medicine for a doctor with training in education, I finally realised that God's call to me to ministry was not in pastoral work, but in the marketplace.

At Bible school, I learnt the foundations for marketplace ministry and that there's no dichotomy between the secular and the sacred – our whole lives are a ministry.

I'm grateful for the entire journey – from hospital to community, from clinical work to administration and management, and in academia, the social sector, grassroots and church. I count it a privilege that, together with dedicated staff, community partners and volunteers, we can demonstrate the love of Christ through our everyday work of caring for our elders at SLEC.

In 2018, a challenge to spend time with God and to write Him a poem ended up with me writing two poems. Since then, He has inspired many more poems, which have been used to support SLEC's fundraising efforts to touch lives.



## BROKEN

I breathed a prayer of thanksgiving  
"In my work I had found meaning"  
His word was firm and steady  
"My child you are not ready"

"But beyond my work of meaning,  
I'd gone for some bible training"  
His word came firm and steady  
"But still you are not ready"

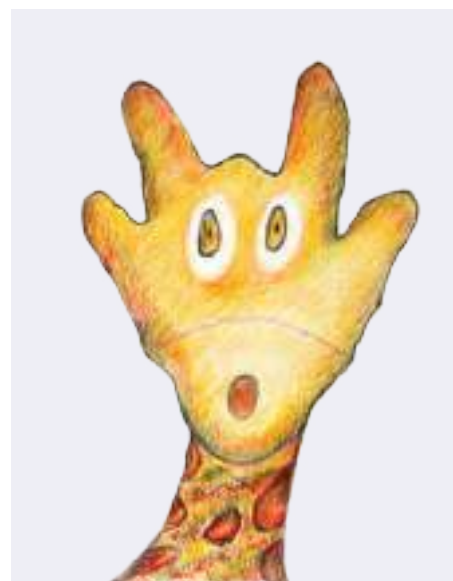
"Besides my theologising  
I've done quite a lot of praying!"  
His word remained so steady  
"That's good but still not ready"

"I have none but my contrite heart  
I really don't know where to start!"  
His word I now hear clearly  
"My child now you are ready"

None other than humility  
Can start His work of destiny  
What seems impossibility  
Sees the hand of Divinity

Kenny Tan (2019)





**Art done by SLEC Elders:**

Top Left: **Leong Sui Tian, 97**

Top Right: **Chua Bee Eng, 60**

Bottom Right: **Tng Eng Kweh, 84**

Bottom Left: **Poon Kin Teck, Vincent, 77**





hearts





**Let all that you do  
be done in love.**

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1 Corinthians 16:14

**W**hen St Luke's ElderCare (SLEC) was first set up, our pioneering founders anchored its vision on being a Christian haven for providing holistic care to the elders and their families.

As the profile of our elders population has become more diverse and health care needs have grown in complexity over the last 25 years, SLEC has continued to expand our range of integrated offerings – including centre-based, community-based, home-based and residential-based services and programmes – to provide the elders with even better care.

Extending enhanced support through SLEC's Senior Care and Rehabilitation Centres, Active Ageing Centres and Residences will make seamless care journeys a reality for our elders.

**at work**

**A**t the start of our journey 25 years ago, St Luke's ElderCare recognised that our focus would not be only on buildings made of bricks and stones, but on building a close-knit community network to support our elders.

Today, we celebrate the many partner organisations – including churches, academic institutions and corporates – as well as volunteers, whose willing hands and compassionate hearts make up the heart and soul of SLEC's caring community. Despite their diverse backgrounds, they share a common desire to bless the elders through service that uplifts spirits, restores dignity and inspires hope. Their selfless acts of service remind the elders that they are seen and valued.

Like creating mosaic art, every effort and action contributes to creating a bigger picture that is truly special and significant. To mark this milestone, some of our partners share their treasured moments and experiences with SLEC over the years.



partners &





## Building Community Bonds

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said:

“The church is the church only when it exists  
for others.”

**S**LEC is God’s gift to Singapore and the Church. Since partnering with SLEC in 2015, our church and volunteers have been richly blessed. Coming together has bonded our community across race, language and religion. Every Tuesday, our church volunteers engage in meaningful conversations and activities with the SLEC elders. In 2023, we launched Friday Zumba Gold sessions, supported by the Health Promotion Board, which are followed by karaoke, Rummikub, art and craft, and refreshments.

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**Reverend Gabriel Liew**  
**Living Hope Methodist Church**

## Spiritual Support

**O**n the fourth Friday of every month, our volunteers spend time talking with the SLEC elders and listening to their stories. During the year, we also organise games, exercises and festive celebrations on occasion such as Parents’ Day, Mooncake Festival and Christmas, to actively engage them, mentally and physically. By sharing love and spiritual care that reflects the teachings of Christ, we hope to offer the elders comfort, hope and a sense of belonging. Volunteering at SLEC has helped us develop deep empathy for the elders and made us a close-knit family.

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**Pastor Amy Leong**  
**Providence**  
**Presbyterian Church**



# volunteers



**Chung Mun Kong, 84**

## **Joyful Journeys**

**A**s a very small church, our members often juggle work and home demands to meet their commitment to serve at SLEC's three centres. Yet this has been a journey of self-discovery and deep joy when they see that their contribution of time means so much to the residents. Many elders live in a lonely vacuum, often feeling unloved and unappreciated in the fringes of life.

Being able to offer genuine fellowship, a listening ear, and prayers of encouragement opens their eyes to God's unparalleled love and companionship. By giving them hope, we brighten their existence.

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***Pastor Lee Fook Choon***  
***Grace Bethesda Church***



## Befriending Blessings

**W**hile we would like to think we've brought some joy to these elders over the last 14 years, their smiles and stories have touched us too. Our volunteers are blessed as they befriend.

Some elders have since developed dementia but the friendships we've built continue through acts of love and service. Some of our members take great delight in preparing homemade snacks for the elders as part of the meaningful work they do.

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***Pastor Tang Kok Fai***  
***Pasir Panjang Hill Brethren Church***

## Finding New Connections

**S**upporting our elders is an important aspect of our community outreach. Our volunteers meet regularly each month to conduct games and exercises, sing and play the ukelele, and share bible stories. We also join the elders on outings, such as to Jurong Lake Gardens or Sentosa for cable car rides, which the elders love.

As many SLEC elders are Mandarin or dialect-speaking, our volunteers make the effort to learn new ways of communicating and connecting with them. We thank God for the opportunity to work alongside SLEC staff in befriending and sharing with them about the Good News of Jesus.

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***Rev Dr Graham Ng***  
***Bukit Batok Presbyterian Church***



**See Fook Kee, 85**

**Koh Hock Neo, 85**



## Just a Call Away

**S**ince 2010, Zion Bishan Bible Presbyterian Church has been engaging elders at SLEC, empowering and enabling them to age healthily, gracefully and purposefully. The precious bonds forged over the years show when SLEC elders call on our befrienders readily for help. Our senior members have also learnt that they can care for and be a blessing to other elders in their retirement years.

As our befrienders Derek and Christina Tay shared, "It's so heartening to see the elder couple we befriended re-discover their life purpose. The husband now actively helps others. Let's continue to pass on the spark and bless more people!"

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**Rev Dr Alby Yip**  
**Zion Bishan Bible Presbyterian Church**

## Buffering Life's Challenges

**W**e are thankful that our partnership with SLEC extends our community outreach to elders within the Macpherson community.

Growing frail in mental and physical health as they age can cause many elders to feel depressed and lonely. Through their social interactions, our volunteers learn about the issues of ageing and are able to provide emotional and social support to help buffer the challenges that the elders face.

It is a joyful time when our volunteers and the elders connect over arts and games. The elders are inspired by the art therapy, especially when they show their finished paintings to their spouse and children.

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**Pastor Kelvin Leong**  
**Full Gospel Assembly Singapore**





## Caring for Caregivers

*Zong Rui and Jing Wen are NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine medical students & Committee Members of Project Empower, which aims to raise awareness about caregiver burnout*

**I**n 2024, 64 participants attended Project Empower's three-day Caregiver Experiential Camp. Its comprehensive programme enabled caregivers to share experiences, access resources and gain peer support. It also equipped youths with knowledge about available resources for supporting an ageing population, as they envisioned their future roles as caregivers for elders family members. Spending time with the SLEC elders at the event was an invaluable experience. The participants gained a deeper understanding of the needs of the elders and new insights into eldercare.

"Since Project Empower was established two years ago, we have developed different initiatives to meet evolving needs. Looking ahead, we are planning to hold a public exhibition to showcase resources that will benefit caregivers on their journey of caring for the elders."

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***National University of Singapore (NUS)***



**Robin Yow King Kock, 77**

## Touching Souls with Music

**F**ounded as a radio channel 'for elders, by elders', VintageRadioSG believes that music is the language of the soul. During our SLEC centre visits, we reconnect elders with music that resonate and bring them joy.

As VintageRadioSG has expanded beyond music to curate content relevant to ageing, we look forward to even more opportunities to be involved with elders through SLEC.

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**Aloysius Tan, Co-founder  
VintageRadioSG**

## Strengthening Community Ties

**A**s part of their Values in Action project, our Secondary 3 students engaged with the elders across 15 SLEC centres. Applying the Design Thinking approach enabled our students to learn from the SLEC Lead Representative about the elders' needs, as well as the values, skills and attitudes they needed to support them. This clear foundation helped our students to not only develop meaningful activities, but also foster a deeper sense of empathy, inclusivity, social responsibility, mutual respect and understanding as they spent time with the SLEC elders.

We believe this initiative builds intergenerational relationships and strengthens community bonds. Our students are learning to be more mindful, positive and patient in their interactions, whether it is in offering a greeting or extending a helping hand to the administrative staff in school, elderly cleaners, or to elderly family members.

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**Ruth Tang, Head of Department,  
Character & Citizenship Education,  
Fuhua Secondary School**



## Uniting Generations

**S**ince 2022, the partnership between Skool4Kidz Campus @One Punggol and St Luke's ElderCare has significantly benefitted children through the Intergenerational Programme (IGP). This structured 30-week programme pairs preschoolers with elders, providing children with unique opportunities to develop empathy, social maturity, and a deeper understanding of the world around them.

Through engaging in weekly activities such as storytelling, crafts, games, and field trips, S4k children build strong emotional connections with their elderly partners. This regular interaction boosts their confidence, patience, and communication skills while helping them learn to navigate relationships with respect and kindness. The programme also enhances children's teamwork and problem-solving abilities as they work with elders on shared tasks.

Parents and teachers have observed children becoming more considerate and emotionally aware, demonstrating the positive impact of this intergenerational experience on their emotional intelligence. The IGP aligns perfectly with Skool4Kidz's mission to foster holistic development and nurture compassionate and well-rounded children.

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***Mishal Lim, Cluster Mentor, Skoolz4Kidz***

**Soh Choon Hua, 78**



**Tang Weng Mong, 80**



## Nurturing Hearts of Service

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

**K**CPSS' journey started in 2022 with our Secondary 2 cohort volunteering at SLEC's Active Ageing Centre and Day care Centre. In 2023, we continued to strengthen ties by getting to know the elders better and planning more meaningful activities, from arts and craft to sing-along and informal conversation sessions. In 2024, we invited the elders to our school, where students learnt to play host and the elders gained insights into the students' learning environment. Some even recalled fondly their own school life memories from long ago.

As KCPians are called to "Let their Lights SHINE!", we want to develop in each student a heart of service and confidence in interacting with the elders. This is important for Singapore's growing ageing population and as the elders make up a significant part of our lives, in our families and our communities. Thanks to our partnership with SLEC, our students have also learnt to appreciate our resilient pioneer generations through establishing rapport and understanding the challenges they faced during the nation-building years.

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***Tan Say Pin, Head of Department,  
Character & Citizenship Education,  
Kuo Chuan Presbyterian  
Secondary School***



**Sia Oh Kit, 85**



As people live longer lives, Prudential Singapore is committed to helping build up the resilience of our seniors so they can age gracefully and with confidence. We are partnering with St Luke's ElderCare to improve seniors' digital and financial literacy, and to create more opportunities for social engagement, so they can thrive in their golden years.

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***Dennis Tan, Chief Executive Officer,  
Prudential Singapore***

## **Impactful Corporate Volunteerism**

**S**upporting Singapore's growing ageing population is a key focus of Prudential's work in the community. We started our collaboration with SLEC in 2023 through Project V, a National Council of Social Service and National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre-led initiative to promote corporate volunteerism. Our volunteers have supported the nursing home cleaning programme at SLEC Residence @ AMK to enable staff to focus on their primary caregiving responsibilities. We have also befriended SLEC elders to help them stay active. Our collaborative financial programmes and Digi Kakis, our digital literacy programme with SLEC have trained nearly 200 elders in 2024.

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***Prudential Singapore***



**Liem Bik Lu, 84**

## **We are Senior Volunteers & Changemakers!**

**P**artnering with SLEC has been inspiring as we share a commitment to positive ageing and building a strong care ecosystem. Since 2020, our collaboration has blossomed with impactful flagship programmes like Enriching Lives of Seniors and Every Mind Matters.

At the heart of it all are our senior volunteers. Trained as changemakers, they shape positive ageing by using tailored activities and proven methods to improve the cognitive and physical well-being of those they serve. Volunteering at SLEC, they not only make a difference but also find fulfilment and personal growth. As Singapore's ageing population grows, journeying together with SLEC will scale our impact to build a more caring and inclusive society.

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***Edna Claudine Leong  
Executive Director, RSVP  
Singapore The Organisation of  
Senior Volunteers***

## Infusing Music & Joy

**V**olunteer Guitar Connection is thankful for the opportunity to work with SLEC to bring music and joy to the elders over the past four years.

As music is a powerful tool for connecting people and enhancing mental and emotional healing, no one should be deprived of the joy of music regardless of their background or circumstance.

Strict restrictions on in-person performances created challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. The resilient support from SLEC's dedicated staff and our volunteer musicians kept us connected to the elders. The regular virtual strum-and-sing sessions we organised helped meet their social and psychological needs.

We are glad to be back conducting in-person sessions at 11 SLEC centres. With Singapore's rapidly ageing population, music engagement through our continuing partnership with SLEC will improve health and well-being.

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***Linda Wong,  
Chairperson & Music for the  
Home-bound Program IC,  
Volunteer Guitar Connection***



**Chia Kim Geok, Annie, 88**

## “Live” Music Outreach

**T**ENG's dedication to using music as a force for good aligns perfectly with SLEC's deep commitment to holistic and compassionate care. The privilege of sharing the gift of music at SLEC through our TENG Gives Back programme, has been incredibly rewarding.

By performing live music from our heart and soul, we hope to enrich the lives of SLEC elders, their families and caregivers. We want to bring comfort and joy to those facing challenging circumstances.

Over the years, we've grown our sessions, song repertoire and interactions to reach more SLEC elders. Our TENG Company team has grown on this deeply fulfilling journey as we share many precious smiles and memories with the SLEC community.

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***Nancy Ong, Head of Outreach,  
The TENG Company***



## Dynamic CSR @ PSA: Driving Positive Change

**L**aunching our flagship Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) volunteering programme, Health@Home, in 2015 strengthened PSA's relationship with SLEC. Since then, more than 700 existing and retired staff have contributed over 21,000 volunteering hours to run over 600 centre-based and outreach activities, such as visits to Gardens by the Bay. Through these, we have created lasting connections and enriched many elders' lives.

We are grateful to SLEC for imparting basic caregiving skills to all our staff at a one-day training session. Joining hands with partners and stakeholders to multiply our CSR efforts has helped us reach more beneficiaries. Promoting a spirit of volunteerism and collaboration has been fruitful and rewarding as we not only help elders age well, and age in place, it also equips our people to thrive in Singapore's rapidly ageing society.

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**Daniel Lim, Assistant Vice President,  
Community Engagement, PSA**

It was such a joy to see volunteers and the elders share smiles and laughter during canvas painting. Volunteering showed me how small things we often take for granted, such as painting and companionship, can bring happiness and is cherished by people. It also made me feel happy to be part of the PSA volunteering team.

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**Jasbir Kaur, staff & volunteer, PSA**

One of my best memories was prawning at Otto, where volunteers and the elders came together much like a big family. They listened intently as we shared tips for them to successfully catch the prawns. That day, I learnt to be sympathetic to the needs of the elders, and to be kind to those I meet.

---

**Daniel Loh, volunteer & retiree, PSA**

## Volunteering at SLEC

**A**n integral pillar of support since our founding, SLEC has more than 2,900 volunteers today. Embodying SLEC's core values, our volunteers are a powerful force as they help out with different centre activities, and bring cheer and encouragement to make a lasting difference in the lives of our elders.

SLEC continues to offer a growing range of volunteer opportunities to empower elders and their families; build stronger communities in Singapore; and, provide avenues for personal growth and skill development.

### ***Rayen's Story: Volunteering is a Lifechanging Experience***

*Encouraged by his mother, teenager Rayen Lim decided to volunteer at one of SLEC's Active Ageing Centres. Many roles were available, such as community befrienders to ensure the well-being and reduce social isolation of elders; activity facilitators to run active ageing programmes; concierge support to provide adhoc help for vulnerable elders living in the community; and, operational, administrative and ad-hoc support to assist with routine centre activities.*

*Rayen decided to help out with logistics, as well as facilitating Active Ageing activities. Volunteering twice a week for four hours each session over three weeks proved rewarding, as Rayen enjoyed the time he spent helping the elders and interacting with the SLEC care teams. Being assigned more responsibility and discovering that he could play a part in helping others boosted Rayen's confidence and self-esteem. His mother observed that he was developing a greater sense of purpose, empathy and maturity as he became more aware of the needs of others. Acquiring new skills also made Rayen more open to exploring new interests and future career paths. Looking forward, Rayen is keen to volunteer again during the next school holidays.*







## Silver Linings Amidst Pandemic

**O**n 7 April, the familiar routines at SLEC's 23 centres came to an abrupt halt when their temporary closure was announced, as part of Singapore's pandemic circuit breaker measures. For elders and staff, this was a time of much uncertainty as most had never been away from their centre for an extended period of time. Many were pensive, worried or sad, even though they understood the importance of the measures for their safety.

Amidst these challenging circumstances, SLEC remained unwavering in our commitment to provide continued high quality care for our elders. In fact, our deep sense of responsibility and determination spurred on our creativity and became the impetus to fast-track SLEC's adoption of innovative technologies to transform elder care. We recognised that these new capabilities would be critical enablers for SLEC to not only engage purposefully with our home-bound elders and their caregivers during the pandemic, but also drive greater impact by meeting rapidly evolving needs of a digital world going forward.

Our award-winning 'Together@SLEC' initiative encapsulated these benefits. Care Ambassadors – made up of a multi-disciplinary team of care staff, counsellors and therapists – conducted one-hour 'Stay Home with SLEC' sessions via Facebook Live and YouTube channels to engage meaningfully with elders. Home-based learning materials lovingly prepared by our staff members enhanced their online experiences. More than 100 caregivers also joined four caregiver forums via Zoom, where they met virtually with SLEC's centre managers, nurses, therapists, counsellors, and chaplains, who shared advice and encouragement.

## Our First Residential-Based Service


**R**ight on the cusp of the pandemic on 4 May 2020, SLEC celebrated a significant milestone. With God's providence, we courageously opened our first-ever integrated residential care facility, St Luke's ElderCare Residence @ Ang Mo Kio (SLEC Residence @ AMK).

With 189 beds, SLEC Residence @ AMK offers nursing home services as well as day care, day rehabilitation and home-based care services to meet the diverse needs of elders in our community. SLEC Residence @ AMK's care team delivers comprehensive care services including community, pastoral, therapy and doctors' support, as well as nursing care and nutritious meals.

Spanning nine storeys, the first two levels at SLEC Residence @ AMK house a senior care centre which provides day care and day rehabilitation services. The upper levels are dedicated to elders who need long-term round-the-clock nursing care and homes for 12 households.

SLEC Residence @ AMK became a channel of blessing immediately upon its opening. It was mobilised to host residents of another nursing home affected by COVID-19, and was welcomed by elders and families in the area. Within a year of opening, the occupancy reached 82%.





**A**t SLEC, we are grateful for the many elders who have come through the doors of SLEC and allowed us to provide holistic care and support for their physical, emotional, social, mental, and even spiritual needs.

To mark SLEC's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, some of our elders and caregivers share with us how SLEC has enriched their lives. Their stories inspire us to continue helping others to live comfortably, joyfully, and meaningfully through their silver years.

Just as art projects often require creative collaboration and talents involving different artists, providing holistic care to meet the diverse needs of our elders also involves teamwork and expertise from the different stakeholders, including care staff, caregivers, community partners and volunteers.

# elders & caregivers





# Living Well, Dying Well with No Regrets

*If we live a life full of regrets, full of things  
We haven't done, if we have lived unfulfilled  
Life, when death comes along, it's a lot worse.  
I think it's true of all of us.*

*So, maybe we should often think of death  
And then get on with life, and hope that  
Means to accomplish five key tasks, saying  
I am sorry, saying I forgive you, saying thank  
You, saying I love you and saying goodbye.*

*But sometimes we just don't get the chance to  
share our feelings.*

---

**Jumari bin Kamdi (Adi), an elder at  
SLEC Residence @ AMK**



**Poh Lei Meng, 67**

Fondly known as “Adi” by everyone at SLEC Residence @ Ang Mo Kio, Jumari is full of creative energy. By nature a private person and despite mobility being limited to his upper body, Adi has become more open since coming to SLEC Residence. Participating in various art activities at SLEC brings much joy and new perspectives on life. Adi also enjoys cooking, listening to classical music and writing poetry about life. One of his favourite activities is excursions with volunteers to places like Gardens by the Bay. His positive outlook on life has livened up the environment at the Residence.



Some people think being in a nursing home is like being in a prison. But it's not. You learn to adapt, connect with people, and make yourself happy. Life is very short - we never know what will happen next. I'm glad I chose to come to SLEC, instead of staying at home alone, cared for by a helper. Besides learning about different religions, such as Christianity, Muslim and Buddhism, I've learnt the value of positive-thinking and respecting ourselves first, which are important to building relationships and a meaningful life.



SLEC's arts programme offers elders like Adi unique opportunities to explore and pursue their art interests and passion, to add value to their lives. Activities led by our volunteer groups foster meaningful connections between the community and our elders.



## Never Give Up



From young, I was abandoned by my parents and have no siblings. Growing up with my grandmother as my caregiver, I had a colourful childhood. I didn't like studying when I was younger.

When I developed arthritis, the medical team said I needed to go to a nursing home. As I asked for one in the Ang Mo Kio area, I became one of SLEC Residence's first elders when it opened in 2020.

At SLEC, I've had the opportunity to engage in many different activities, including art with volunteer groups, intergenerational activities conducted with schools, and outings, such as trishaw rides at the nearby park connector.

The SLEC staff is marvellous, always treating me like I'm the most important person. I'm very grateful that the Lord sent them to look after my needs. I've always been very shy but gradually I've come out of my shell. Without SLEC, I would have kept to myself and would not be as happy as I am today.

I chose to become a Christian as I found it helped me grow as a person. By God's grace, I have grown to become wiser and braver to face life's challenges. Despite the challenges I have gone through, I believe that with God's help, I can do everything.



---

**Catherine Koon, an elder at  
SLEC Residence @ AMK**



**Tee Eng, 72**

## No Longer Alone

**Sometimes, I ask God, "Why am I here?"**



Then the answer comes: I'm already in my 80s. I praise God that my fall wasn't too serious and I'm still able to use my legs. But because I cannot manage things alone, I need help. It's all credit to God, and I'm grateful for His direction that led me to SLEC.

Here at SLEC, I have people helping me who are very kind and alert. They cook and look after me, and come immediately to my aid whenever I need something.

I spend time doing exercises, accompanied by therapists, to strengthen my limbs. I also enjoy spending time with the staff and other residents. We chit-chat and encourage each other. Without SLEC, I would not have anyone to spend time with.



---

**Linda Hee, an elder at  
SLEC Residence @ AMK**

## Someone to watch over me

“

I'm originally from Indonesia and I came to live here after I married my Singaporean husband. For the past few years, I've been the main caregiver for my husband, who is bed-bound and cannot work.

We live in the same block as the SLEC centre in Bishan. Two years ago, I signed up as an Active Ager with SLEC and started attending its Active Ageing activities. When the staff heard about my needs, they were very kind. They offered to pray for me. Shortly after, a position to serve at SLEC opened up. To me, it seemed like divine providence when the prayers were answered. Through SLEC, I have been blessed. I can now care for my husband and stay employed – all within walking distance of my home. I have become a healthier and happier person by keeping active and participating in the Active Ageing programmes.

”

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***Popong Aishah, Active Ager and part-time staff with SLEC AAC (Care) @ Bishan***



**Lee Soo Chai, 83**

## Keeping meaningfully active

“

I appreciate the SLEC centre for providing a place that the elders can go to live more fully and happily. There are meaningful activities for them to participate in to keep mentally and socially active, rather than staying at home all day watching TV or doing nothing.

”

---

***Yvonne Soh, caregiver from SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Kebun Baru***

## Peace of mind

“

We are grateful for the half-day that my mother with dementia spends at SLEC. It gives me peace of mind that she is well taken care of. It also provides us caregivers a break from the demands of needing to take care of our loved one.

”

---

***Jasmine Lee, caregiver from SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Tampines***



## Caring for the Carer

“

Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease is like going through a prolonged grieving process. Having Alzheimer's not only means becoming forgetful, but also includes other issues, like difficulty recognising people, swallowing food, and the loss of speech and mobility. It often feels like this is not the same person you once knew.

My journey with John and Alzheimer's is often filled with grief, guilt, and vulnerability. However, I find comfort in the support provided by the healthcare team at St Luke's ElderCare Residence @ Ang Mo Kio. Knowing that John is receiving the professional care he needs allows me to take breaks to maintain my own well-being.

On the many days that are filled with tears and deep sadness, I'm very grateful to my supportive brothers, family and friends. They are always there for me, offering a listening ear or taking time to have a cup of tea with me.

I know the journey ahead will be challenging, but I will remain steadfast in my commitment to providing John with the love and support he needs.

”

---

***Kamala Devi Hunt, caregiver for her husband John, an elder at SLEC Residence @ Ang Mo Kio***

## Service from the heart

“

We would like to thank the day care and rehab team for the work they do every day and for their patience with my dad. He truly enjoys the activities the team arranges and often shares with us the prizes he wins during games. He even sings to us the song that he sings at the centre. Thank you once again for your team's commitment to taking care of my dad.

”

---

***Jacqueline Tan, caregiver from SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Serangoon***

## Going beyond the call of duty

“

The SLEC staff have provided so much guidance and assurance and care to our family since my father was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. We were at a loss about what to do as his condition had come on suddenly but your team went all out to show us how to care for my dad. Because of that, my dad no longer puts up a strong resistance to attending day care. Instead, he always looks forward to his time at the centre now. I cannot thank you enough for going way beyond the call of duty.

”

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***Edna Leong, caregiver from SLEC AAC (Care) @ Northshore***

## Power of patient care



I have always found the SLEC team to be dedicated and caring. It is not an easy task caring for the different needs and varied characters of the elders, yet they do it well.

Most importantly, with your help, my dad has made progress from needing to use a wheelchair to being able to move around now with just a walking aid.



---

***Melvin Koh, caregiver from  
SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Golden Years***

## Sincere help & care

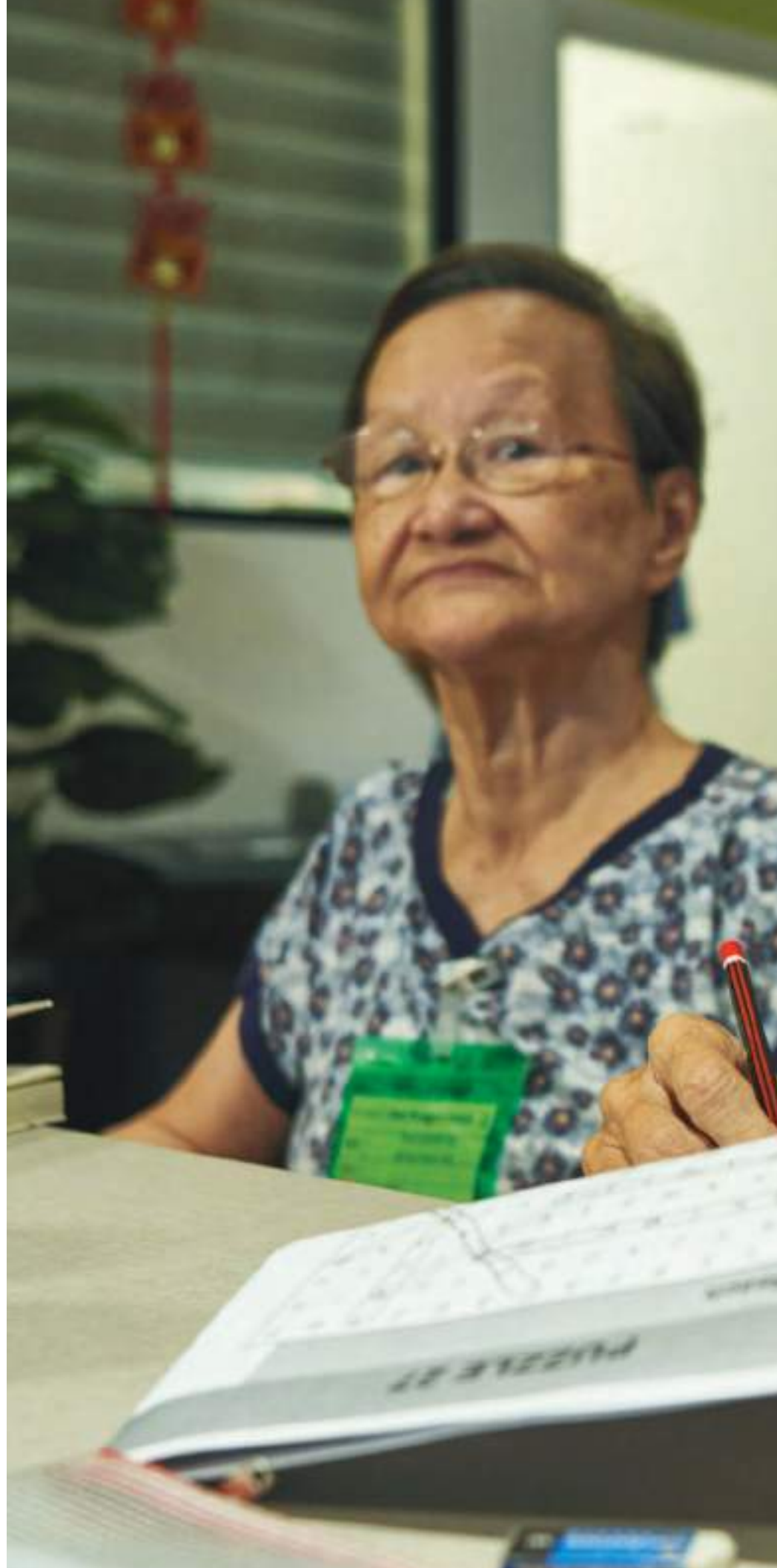


The staff are very welcoming and friendly. My grandmother is usually very picky about the people around her, but she is surprisingly comfortable at the SLEC centre. I believe she can feel the sincerity and warmth of the care team.

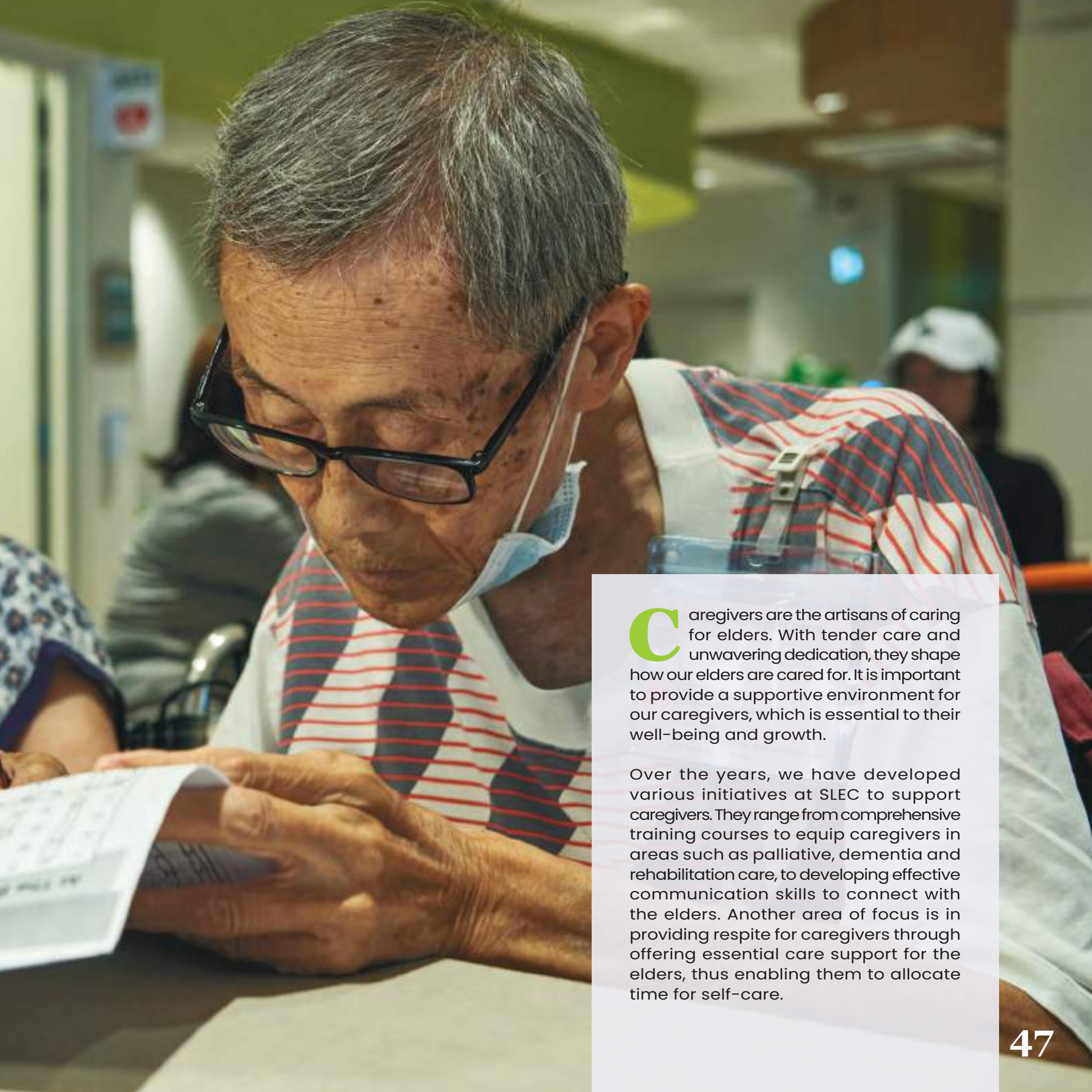


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***Shaufi Saudi, caregiver from  
SLEC Senior Care Centre @ Bukit Batok***



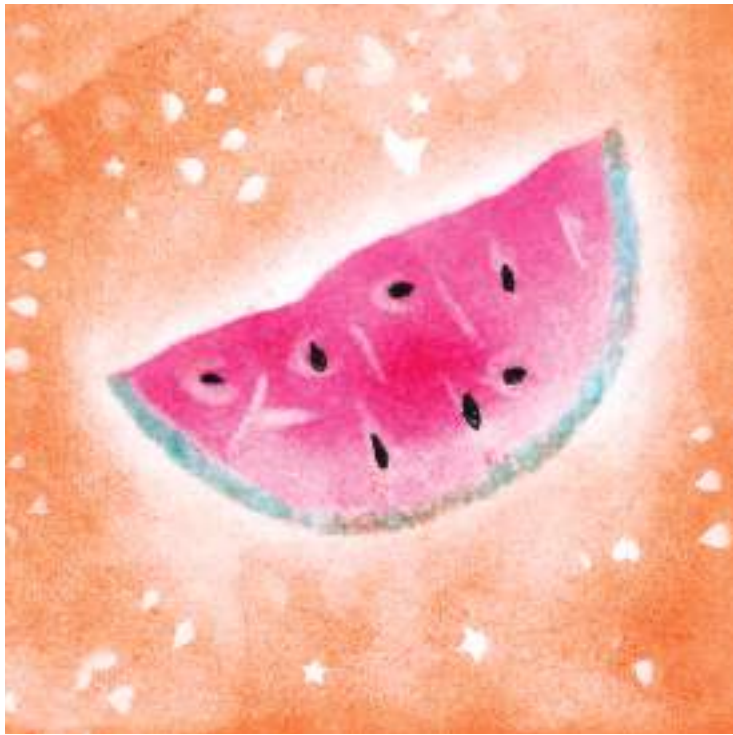




Caregivers are the artisans of caring for elders. With tender care and unwavering dedication, they shape how our elders are cared for. It is important to provide a supportive environment for our caregivers, which is essential to their well-being and growth.

Over the years, we have developed various initiatives at SLEC to support caregivers. They range from comprehensive training courses to equip caregivers in areas such as palliative, dementia and rehabilitation care, to developing effective communication skills to connect with the elders. Another area of focus is in providing respite for caregivers through offering essential care support for the elders, thus enabling them to allocate time for self-care.





**Art done by SLEC Elders:**

Top Left: **Lim Guat Muay, 70**

Top Right: **Raimah Bte Dan, 78**

Spoon and Fork: **Lim Gwuk Nor, 93**

Plate with egg: **Teng Hui Koon, 97**








**Art done by SLEC Elders:**  
This page: **Lee Tai Yip, 75**





faith





“

**Behold, I am doing  
a new thing; now  
it springs forth, do  
you not perceive it?**

---



Isaiah 43:19

**A**t St Luke's ElderCare, we believe every individual is like a precious pearl, radiating light and grace amid life's challenges. To provide enhanced care for these treasures placed in our care and to make an even greater impact in the years ahead, SLEC is envisioning a transformation in community care with a three-pronged focus and six strategic pillars to meet changing needs.

Building on this foundation and our core values, SLEC will continue to fulfil our longstanding mission of making a difference in the lives of elders. Together with key stakeholders and community partners, we will create an integrated and supportive care ecosystem where elders are empowered to age gracefully, and we enhance the well-being of our extended community.

**at work**

**A**s SLEC celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2024, we find ourselves at a pivotal point, with Singapore set to become a “super-aged” society by 2026.

As one of the fastest-ageing countries globally, Singapore faces significant societal implications. For instance, we will see increasing demand for healthcare services, greater pressure on healthcare systems, increased demand for workers in eldercare, and increased demand for social services, such as home care and community support programmes.

Over the last 25 years, we have diligently expanded SLEC's services and capabilities by building faithfully on the vision of our founders to serve our elders and the community.

We are preparing now to enter a new phase of growth and transformation.

While acknowledging the many challenges posed by an ageing population, we also recognise immense opportunities for SLEC to expand and transform the scope of our services. Our goal is to align our efforts to address the evolving health and community care landscape, government priorities, and needs of elders – all of which differ from 25 years ago when we first started.



**Lim Sock Khin, 83**

To achieve this, SLEC will adopt a three-pronged approach, that will focus on:

- **Innovation** through adopting advanced technologies to improve quality of care, increase engagement and enhance accessibility for our elders;
- **Collaboration** with healthcare professionals, academia, community partners and volunteers to develop and deliver integrated care and services for elders; and,
- **Education** through upskilling and reskilling healthcare professionals, mentoring youths, training volunteers and caregivers to enhance quality of care provided to our elders.

We will also focus on initiatives across six key areas: Innovate, Mentor, Programme, Advocate, Connect, and Train (IMPACT).

Working closely with our partners, volunteers, and reinforce our community, we will further our goals of supporting our elders, advancing the care sector, and transforming community care.

Our actions reflect our faith in SLEC's mission and reinforce our commitment to building a brighter future together. Join us as we continue to advance SLEC's legacy of compassion and quality care.









**Art done by SLEC Elders:**

Top Left: **Lee Soo Chai, 83**  
 Bottom Left: **Chew Geok Poh, 93**  
 Right: **Lim Sze Guat, 72**





**Art done by SLEC Elders:**

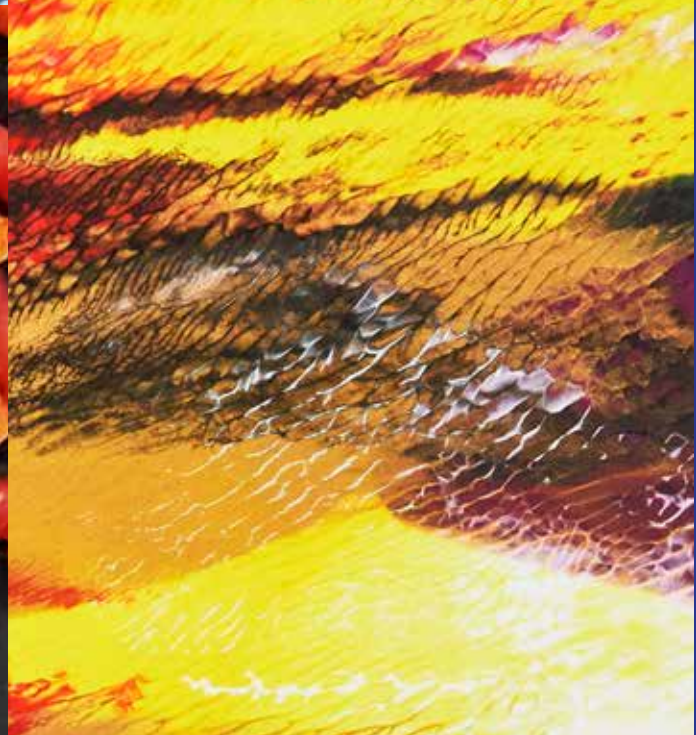
Left: **Yap Gut Twee, 86**

Right: **Kee Ah Tee, 80**



Art done by SLEC Elder:  
This page: Fong Siew Yeng, 65





  
**St Luke's**  
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