

## **Zonta Singapore -Project Pari Fund Annual Report - 1 May 2021 to 30 April 2022**

Zonta Singapore-Project Pari Fund ("the Fund") was set up by the Zonta Club of Singapore in Dec 2009. It is a registered charity since 21 April 2010. It was granted IPC status since 1 May 2010 and has been renewed till 31 January 2024.

### *Corporate Information of the Fund:*

UEN	T10CC0004L
Registered Address	96 Waterloo Street Singapore 187967
Banker:	DBS Bank Standard Chartered Bank
Auditor:	Tassure PAC

### **A. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Fund is a service project of the Zonta Club of Singapore (Zonta Singapore). A Management Committee comprising 2 Zonta members and 3 non-Zontians form the trustees of the Fund.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>	<b>Attendance at Committee meetings</b>
Tan Soh Keng Chairperson	1 June 2022 (Chairman since 2020)	4/4
Winnie Lee Hon Secretary	1 June 2022 (Member since 2020)	4/4
Grace Chiam Hon Treasurer	1 June 2020 (Member since 2016)	4/4
Caroline Loy Member	1 June 2022 (Member since 2016)	4/4
Jonathan Ng Member	1 June 2022 (Member since 2020)	4/4

## **B. OBJECTIVE OF THE ZONTA SINGAPORE-PROJECT PARI FUND**

The Fund grants awards (Project Pari Award) to female students who need financial assistance. The objects of the Fund are:

- a) To improve the status of women through the field of education, community-involvement, culture and sports;
- b) To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them provided that nothing shall be done for commercial reasons or solely for profit. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Fund may exercise the powers:
  - i) to provide financial assistance to needy female students.
  - ii) to conduct life skills programs such as personal well-being and presentation skills.
  - iii) to organise personal enrichment activities such as art workshops, outings and adventurous activities in nature parks.
  - iv) to provide guidance with respect to discipline and personal development.
  - v) to actively work with other like-minded organizations which subscribe to similar aims and objects.

### **Nature of the Project Pari Award (PP Award)**

Project Pari is open to young girls of all races and religion. Zonta Singapore selects candidates in close collaboration with the school principals based on the students' financial background, positive attitude and willingness to learn.

The Zonta Singapore's Project Pari Committee identifies schools to participate in the Award. Participating schools submit a list of deserving needy students from Secondary 1 or 2 for consideration. In May 2019, Zonta Singapore approved the extension of the PP Award to recipients of the PP Award for their post-secondary education upon graduation from their secondary schools. PP students graduating in 2019 will be eligible to apply for this extended Award known as the Project Pari-Plus Award for their post-secondary education such as at the ITE, Polytechnics and National Junior colleges. The first awards commenced in May 2020.

Under the PP Award during their secondary school education each student receive a monthly pocket allowance of \$50 per month for each of the years the duration of their secondary school education provided they gain a 50% pass in the school's final examinations or promoted to the next higher level each year. To help with the financial difficulties of PP students and their families during the COVID 19 crisis, Zonta Singapore gave approval in April 2020 to increase the \$50 monthly allowance to \$100 for each of the months of May to August 2020. Other than financial assistance, enrichment programmes for the girls are also organised. Enrichment programmes are organised by the Zonta Singapore for the beneficiaries.

For the Post-secondary PP Plus Award students who qualify will be receiving a monthly pocket allowance of \$100 each month for each year and they have also to attend the enrichment programmes for the PP students. The PP Plus award requires the student to pass all modules in a given academic year and the student have to re-apply the Award on an annual basis.

The Enrichment programmes include –

- i) Annual Life skills workshop to impart skills and to help instil in the teenagers a sense of self-worth
- ii) Annual Year-end event
- iii) Ad Hoc activities such as attending musicals, corporate visits, outdoor activities, art workshops and attending educational Forums.

## **KEY POLICIES**

### **Financial Policy**

The financial policy is to work within our financial capacity. We must ensure that there are enough funds for each of the recipients of the Award for the 4/5 years of her secondary education and for the 3/4 years of her post-secondary education and sufficient funds to finance the enrichment programmes for the duration of their secondary and post-secondary education where applicable. Projections are done on this basis to enable us to determine if we can enrol more students into the programme.

### **Reserve Policy**

Ensure that there are sufficient funds to support a student for the 5 years of her secondary education and 4 years of her post-secondary education where applicable before embarking to recruit new applicants.

### **Conflict of Interest Policy**

a) Management Committee members shall declare actual or potential conflicts of interest to the Management Committee at the earliest opportunity. Whenever a member of the Management Committee is in any way, directly or indirectly, has an interest in a transaction or project or other matters to be discussed at a meeting, the member shall disclose the nature of his interest before the discussion on the matter begins.

b) The member concerned should not participate in the discussion or vote on the matter and should also offer to withdraw from the meeting and the Management Committee shall decide if this is required. The basis in arriving at the final decision on the transaction or contract shall be documented in the minutes of meeting. The Management Committee's decision on all conflicts of interest situations shall be full and final.

c) During the year under review, there were no matters that involve conflicts of interest.

### **Financial state of the charity**

During the year under review, the funds from reserves and donations/pledges were sufficient to fund the programme. The donations/pledges received were used to fulfil current obligations, i.e., the monthly allowance of the girls selected for the programme and the 2 yearly enrichment programmes, ad-hoc activities as well as to fund obligations to new students identified during the year. Other than bookkeeping, accounting and record keeping/issuance of tax-deductible donation receipts, there were no other administrative expenses.

### **ZONTA SINGAPORE – PROJECT PARI FUND complies with the Governance Evaluation Checklist.**

In 2021/2022, despite the continued Covid pandemic, our service project, Project Pari continued with its events, albeit virtually. It also garnered strong support from new and existing partners and donors.

Herewith is a summary:

#### **1. RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT PARI RECIPIENTS**

In March and April 2022, we conducted interviews virtually with Project Pari candidates.

To date, we have a total of 93 recipients from 4 schools:

Kent Ridge Secondary School – 24

Tanglin Secondary School – 24

Woodlands Secondary School – 24

Marsiling Secondary School – 21

#### **2. RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT PARI PLUS RECIPIENTS**

In March 2022, we conducted virtual interviews for PP Plus Award for 2022.

5 of the applicants are applying for renewal of their Awards. 2 are new candidates. All were successful. We now have 7 PP Plus candidates.

#### **3. WORKSHOPS**

##### **APPLE LIFESKILLS WORKSHOPS**

An Apple Follow-up workshop was held in May 2021: A Reconnect Session on Connecting and Communicating (With Self and others).

This is a virtual follow-up session from the one held on held on 27 March 2021 where the girls had to make personal commitments to do homework on (i) 2 things that they will commit to do, to better connect and communicate with oneself and others; (ii) preparation to share on how each of them are applying the skills learnt in the first workshop on Active Listening”, “Sensing Emotions” and “Communications”.

The girls were divided into teams to share and act out what they had prepared for their homework.

In April 2022, the Apple Lifeskills workshop was held virtually. The topic was “Resilience”: how one adapts to changes and keeps going in the face of adversity. The Apple trainer shared key pillars that one needs to build resilience then participants were put into breakout rooms to discuss and share 5 things they are grateful for. The session ended with a large group sharing on the topic of gratitude.

#### **STEM WORKSHOP BY UNITED WOMEN OF SINGAPORE**

In May 2021, a STEM Career dialogue was organised by United Women of Singapore (UWS). This was a webinar featuring speakers from various STEM industries, including Nursing, Product Formulation and Engineering.

In August 2021, a virtual STEM Workshop was organised by United Women of Singapore (UWS) .

This was another STEM workshop by UWS as part of its Girls2Pioneers STEM programme and was a workshop to find out about Slime.

#### **MOTIVATIONAL TALK**

In July 2021, a Motivational talk was conducted virtually by Elim Chew. Her talk was about her struggles in her younger age and how she found a method to succeed in whatever she chooses to do, how she inspires and encourages all to be “changemakers” in their own field.

#### **PROJECT PARI ADVENTURE HANGOUT**

In Nov 2021, virtual outing was organized by Ace Adventure- The Project Pari Adventure Hangout 2021.

There were physical activities, quizzes and team challenges. Each team comprised students from different schools. This gave them opportunities to know students from other schools and bond with them. They learnt teamwork, leadership and creativity during these breakout sessions.

#### **ON-BOARDING OF NEW PROJECT PARI PLUS RECIPIENTS**

In July 2021, an On-boarding session for all the PP Plus awardees (2020 batch and 2021 batch). Conducted by Zontians Lynnette, Julia Woo, Germaine and Lim Siew Hwee with support from Wan Joo. The session was to induct the

recipients to get them to know about Zonta, know the objectives of the PP Plus Award and what are their obligations as a recipient, and to know what is expected of them.

#### **E. Funding for Project Pari Awards**

The sources of funds were from:

1) Pledges/donations from Zonta Singapore members, friends, donations on SG Gives portal and donations from other charitable organisations.

#### **2) Our Donors & supporters**

We are grateful to all our donors and supporters for their generosity and for volunteering their services at the Project Pari events.

The corporate donors include Singapore Ruby Union, D S Lee Foundation, Netherlands Charity Association and recurring individual donor Marco Li as well as from a former Zonta member. There are also other few donors who regularly donate monthly via the Giving.SG portal.

#### **Project Pari donations received for the year under review:**

Pledges/Donations by Zonta Members	\$, 28,433
Donations from friends & BCF (Bicentennial Community Fund)	\$300,712
Donations from Giving.sg	\$7,265
Benevity (primarily Apple Computer)	\$4,661
Seeds of Change	\$6,675
<b>Total donations/pledges</b>	<b>\$347,746</b>