



Zonta Singapore -Project Pari Fund Annual Report - 1 May 2020 to 30 April 2021

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.

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

D. PROGRAMMES and SERVICES

In 2020, despite the pandemic and the circuit breaker, 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 June and July 2020 and March 2021, we conducted interviews virtually with Project Pari candidates. To date, we have a total of 90 recipients from 4 schools: Kent Ridge Secondary School – 24 Tanglin Secondary School – 28 Woodlands Secondary School – 19 Marsiling Secondary School – 19

2. RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT PARI PLUS RECIPIENTS

In Aug 2020, we awarded 4 applicants and in April 2021, we recruited another 3. The total number of PPPlus awardees is now 7.

3. WORKSHOPS

APPLE LIFESKILLS WORKSHOPS

In July 2020, a "Connect with Apple" Virtual Workshop was conducted by Apple Singapore in partnership with Zonta Singapore. The objective of the Workshop was to share and talk about different sources of stress among the students especially during the difficult time of COVID-19 pandemic and the Circuit Breaker and share with one another on how they coped with the stress. March 2021 saw another Apple Virtual Workshop on Connecting and Communicating (With Self and others). It started with a short main opening presentation on what are skills of Active Listening, Sensing Emotions, Communication involved in Making connections, followed by breakout groups for role play and discussions based on 2 scenarios by students on how to apply the skills presented at the opening session.

STEM WORKSHOP BY UNITED WOMEN OF SINGAPORE

In Aug 2020, a Python Programming Workshop was organised by United Women Singapore as part of their STEM activities for female students. This was a Workshop for students to learn the fundamental Python skills to create an AI chatbot.

PROJECT PARI ADVENTURE HANGOUT

In Oct 2020, a virtual outing was organized by Ace Adventure. The girls learnt not just about physical activities like different yoga poses and Hand Jiving but were also exposed to simple mental activities to destress. There were also challenges for individuals to answer quiz questions on Project Pari and general knowledge on Singapore. There were also team challenges.

ZONTA SAYS NO TO VAW FORUM

In Nov 2020, our PP recipients attended the 6th Zonta Club's Forum on Say No to Violence Against Women (VAW). Due to the COVID 19 social distance measures, the Forum was held as a E-Conference. The theme of the 6th Forum was "Mind Your Mind". The objective of the Forum was to have a dialogue with students both from the PP schools and non-PP schools on mental health issues to equip them with essential tools to enhance mental wellness. There was a special guest appearance by Nick Vujicic, our motivational speaker who gave an inspirational video presentation on how to face challenges, to focus on talents one is good at and not on weaknesses, to adopt an attitude of gratitude, learn from parents and teachers, never give up. 2 of our PPPlus recipients were emcees while another participated in the panel.

ON-BOARDING OF NEW PROJECT PARI RECIPIENTS

In April, we held an On-Boarding session for the 21 new PP awardees. It was conducted by Zontians Lynnette, Siew Hwee and Alice with support from Wan Joo, Swee Ying and Soh Keng. The session was to - induct the new recipients to get them to know about Zonta, know the objectives of the PP Award and what are their obligations as a recipient, and to know what is expected of them. - 1 of the PP alumni who is now a PP Plus recipient shared her experience and on how she had benefitted from PP. - There was Financial literacy advice on how to best use the monthly pocket allowance from Project Pari.

TOASTMASTERS FOR PROJECT PARI PLUS

In Sept 2020, 3 of the PP Plus recipients attended a Toastmasters Course at the Katong Toastmasters 'Club. It is a mentoring programme to teach the girls how to make speeches, communication skills and leadership skills. The course had helped the girls to gain more confidence when presenting in front of a large audience. One of the recipients won first prize in the Toastmasters Katong's speech competition. She will represent Toastmasters Katong to compete regionally.

The last year has been a challenging year. We are so proud of the Project Pari Committee and other Zonta members who had adapted quickly to the virtual world and pushed forward despite the difficulties faced. Their commitment has indeed

been exemplary and inspiring to the Project Pari recipients and reflect the spirit of Zonta.

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. Our regular donors were Mr Li Marco, the Netherlands Charity Association and the few donors who regularly donate monthly via the Giving.SG portal.

Total amount of donations received for the year under review -

Pledges/donations by Zonta members	\$ 24,405.00
Donations from friends/Corporate	\$ 68,150.00
Donations from Giving.sg	\$ 9,446.00
Benevity	\$ 4118.40
Total donations/pledges	\$106,119.40