



## Zonta Singapore -Project Pari Fund Annual Report - 1 May 2022 to 30 April 2023

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:*

<b>UEN</b>	T10CC0004L
<b>Registered Address</b>	96 Waterloo Street Singapore 187967
<b>Banker:</b>	DBS Bank Standard Chartered Bank
<b>Auditor:</b>	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>	<b>Company/Job title</b>
Tan Soh Keng Chairperson	1 June 2022 (Chairman since 2020)	4/4	Alexandra Health Fund Limited/Deputy Director
Winnie Lee Hon Secretary	1 June 2022 (Member since 2020)	4/4	Retired
Grace Chiam Hon Treasurer	1 June 2020 (Member since 2016)	3/4	Retired
Caroline Loy Member	1 June 2022 (Member since 2016)	3/4	National Neuroscience Institute/CFO
Jonathan Ng Member	1 June 2022 (Member since 2020)	4/4	Singapore Chinese Cultural Center/Senior Assistant Director of Corporate Services

## **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.

Administrative expenses include bookkeeping, and audit fees and record keeping/issuance of tax-deductible and non-tax-deductible donation receipts, and outsourcing of accounting functions to Chatsworth.

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

Project Pari turned 14 years old in 2022 and it is still garnering strong support from new and existing partners and donors. As the world was hit by the deadly COVID virus in 2020, all face-to-face activities ceased and was replaced by online activities. Indeed, it was a new and strange world we were in in the last 3 years and 2022 saw us gradually stepping back into what we once knew.

Summary of key programmes for year 2022 – 2023:

1. 2018 saw Apple Computers come on-board as a new partner. On 7th July 2018, volunteers from Apple conducted a half-day Life-Skills Workshop at their campus.

The workshop was aimed at increasing the confidence of our beneficiaries. This is now classed as one of the 2 mandatory events which the girls must attend yearly. The Workshop was such a success that Apple Computers decided to expand its partnership with Project Pari in 2019, by conducting 2 Workshops at their campus and 2 mentoring sessions at the schools after each workshop. 2020 saw the world enter one of the worst pandemics – COVID. All face-to-face activities were shifted online, and Apple Computers continued to support Project PARI by conducting online workshops.

For 2022, we conducted our online life skill workshop on 23 April which saw 116 participants attend and this number included 35 volunteers from Apple, our club and Project PARI Plus girls. The theme of the workshop was Resilience. 2023 will see us resuming face-to-face activities and the next Apple onsite workshop will be held on 15 July 2023

2. Ace Adventure Expeditions is the other mandatory event which the girls must attend in order to not suffer the consequence of having their financial support temporarily taken away.

On 29 Oct 2022, they organized an amazing trek of the southern ridges. The girls are divided into 11 groups and given a map to work together as a team and fulfil tasks at 6 checkpoints. Part of the trails were challenging which saw a few minor casualties. All in all, everyone enjoyed this activity which is aimed at building their resilience. Our Apple partners and the Project PARI Plus girls came as volunteers,

with some of our club members. Ace Adventure Expeditions has given us this activity pro bono.

3. To expose our girls to STEM, we connected with Johnson & Johnson and 15 girls were treated to a lab tour where they get to meet young female scientists making a difference in the industry of daily products of cleaners, toners and sun blocks. This onsite visit was done on 4 Nov 2022.

4. Our girls (both PP and PPPlus) were also invited to join our Zonta Says No To Violence Against Women activity on 29 Nov 2022, Kpop Fitness Workout

5. We also caught up with PPPlus recipients on 13 Dec over dinner to provide networking between Zontians and PPPlus recipients. This is to help develop their confidence in networking and interacting with people, something that they will get to do when they join the workforce after they graduate.

6. Where donations is concerned, individual donors coming via our members and our fundraising committee continue to do good work in supporting PP.

7. To date, we have the following number of beneficiaries in the following schools:

KENT RIDGE SEC SCHOOL : 11

WOODLANDS SEC SCHOOL : 16

MARSILING SEC SCHOOL : 16

Total : 43

Tanglin Secondary School were selected to merge with a bigger school and has since decided to leave PP program.

### **Zonta Singapore-Project Pari (PP) Activities** **Period 1 May 2022 to 30 April 2023**

Date	Activity	Venue
23 Apr 2022	Apple conducted a Life Skill Workshop on Resilience. It was attended by 116 participants, which included our own Project PARI girls, Zonta members, Project PARI Plus girls and volunteers from Apple. It was fun and informative. Our Zonta members and the Project PARI Plus girls came on board to facilitate. What a way to give back.	Online Via zoom. It was challenging, especially on the engagement side.
23 June 2022	As a new Service Chair, I got the amazing opportunity to have a wonderful dinner with our PP Plus young ladies to have a quick catch up with them. Also took this opportunity to on-board the new recipients. As we are still in COVID period, the numbers were kept small as this is F2F, so in attendance from Zonta were just Lynnette and me.	Bali Thai at Suntec
27 May 2022	We also did our virtual on boarding with all the new PP recipients for 2022. This is done online with the new recipients logging in from their school and the teachers joined in too.	Online

29 Oct 2022	<p>As we were once again allowed to meet F2F, we decided to bring ACE Adventure's activities to the great outdoors again.</p> <p>This time, the good people of ACE Adventure organised an amazing trek of the Southern Ridges of Singapore.</p> <p>The girls learn not just about physical activities but also to overcome difficulties and teamwork. Each team was also given a map to navigate, and they need to get to all the check points and complete all the challenges. The teams were made up of girls from different schools and this gives them opportunities to know students from other schools and bond with them. They learn about teamwork and leadership during this trek.</p> <p>Lunch and goody bags were given at the end of the trek and ACE Adventure, once again, did this for us – pro bono.</p>	At the Southern Ridges
4 Nov 2022	<p>To further expose our PP recipients to STEM, this year, we were invited to see the young scientists in action. We took 20 girls and their teachers for a Lab Visit with Johnson &amp; Johnson and they learn about what goes into cleansers, toners and sun blocks. Needless to say, our girls were very impress by all the young female scientists.</p>	At the Science Lab of JNJ
29 Nov 2022	<p>Our girls were also invited to the KPOP Fitness workout by our Advo Comm on their 16 days of advocacy to Zonta says no to Violence against Women.</p> <p>This was another great opportunity to expose them to the advocacy work we do at Zonta and also to educate them to also so no to violence which might be inflicted to them.</p>	On event site.
13 Dec 2022	<p>Year-end appreciation dinner with 4 of the PP Plus beneficiaries. From Zonta, Lynnette, Germaine, Soh Keng, Julia and Swee Ying attended the dinner.</p>	Royz Et Vous – Sultan Gate
1 Apr 2023	<p>The Zonta Project Pari (PP) Committee conducted interviews for PP Plus Award for 2023. 5 of the applicants are applying for renewal of their Awards and 5 are new candidates. All have been accepted.</p> <p>The interviews were conducted virtually by 3 teams of interviewers – Germaine, Lynnette, June, Pek, Siew Hwee and Swee Ying</p>	On-line
24 March 2023	<p>The Zonta Project Pari (PP) Committee conducted interviews at Woodlands Sec for 2023 PP applicants to replace students who graduated at the end of 2022. Of the 7 applicants, 5 were accepted. Interviewers were: Nicki, June, Lynnette and Swee Ying</p>	On Site at School
30 March 2023	<p>The Zonta Project Pari (PP) Committee conducted interviews at Marsiling Sec for 2023 PP applicants to replace students who graduated at the end of 2022. There are 10 applicants for this school and all are selected. Interviewers were: Germaine, Rachel &amp; Gillian</p>	On site at School

31 March 2023	The Zonta Project Pari (PP) Committee conducted interviews at Kent Ridge Sec for 2023 PP applicants to replace students who graduated at the end of 2022. There are 8 applicants for this school and all are accepted. Interviewers were: Lynnette, Pek, Gillian & Jenn	On site at School

## 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 volunteers and Management Committee members are not remunerated for their services.

The corporate donors include Fullerton Investment and individual donors from Fullerton Management who are contacts of Zonta member. There are 6 regular donors on the Giving.sg platform including Marco Li, a regular donor who is a strong supporter of Project Pari for many years.

There are donations from Apple employees, as besides donating their time during our life skills workshops, they also give monetary support which the company matches.

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

Tax – deductible	\$127,240.00
Non-Tax – deductible	\$ 10,623.31
<b>Total donations/pledges</b>	<b>\$137,863.31</b>

### Project Pari donations received for the FY 1 May 2022 to 30 April 2023:

Marco Li donations for the year - \$25,000  
Pledges/Donations by Zonta Members - \$36,300  
Donations from Zonta friends and the public - \$31,010  
Donation by family of deceased Zonta member - \$20,000  
Donations from Giving.SG - \$14,930  
Benevity (primarily Apple Computer \$6,903.31) - \$10,623.31

**Total donations = \$137,863.31**