## NATIONAL SKIN CENTRE HEALTH FUND Annual Report for FY2022

## **PURPOSE**

The National Skin Centre Health Fund (NSCHF) was registered as a Charity under the Singapore Charities Act, Chapter 37 on 20 August 2020. The NSCHF was established to receive donations towards the pursuit of medical research and development, improvement to health services in Singapore, and to provide funded care to patients determined to be in need of financial assistance. NSCHF took over the funds and activities from National Skin Center Health Endowment Fund in May 2021. The Fund is an approved Institution of a Public Character (IPC) and is valid until 29 September 2024

Charity Trustees : National Skin Centre (Singapore) Pte Ltd

Registered Address : 1 Mandalay Road Singapore 308205

Unique Entity Number (UEN): 202010012C

Bankers : DBS Bank Ltd

Auditor : Ernst and Young LLP

#### FY2022 BOARD MEMBERS & BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE RATE

Name	<u>Designation</u>	Date of Appointment	% of Attendance
Ms Tan Beng Neo Eunice	Chairman	27/03/2020	100%
Adj A/Prof Lim Yean Teng	Member	27/03/2020	100%
A/Prof Lee Lai Heng	Member	27/03/2020	66%
Mr Seow Choke Meng	Member	27/03/2020	66%
Ms Lim Siew Wah Grace	Member	01/05/2020	100%
Ms Vijayaletchimi D/O Egamparam	Member	01/01/2023 *	33% *

Three board meetings were held for the financial year ending 31 March 2023  $\,$ 

## **ROLE OF THE GOVERNING BOARD**

The Board's role is to provide strategic direction and oversight of NSCHF's programmes and objectives and to steer the charity towards fulfilling its vision and mission through good governance. As part of its role, the following matters require Board's approval:

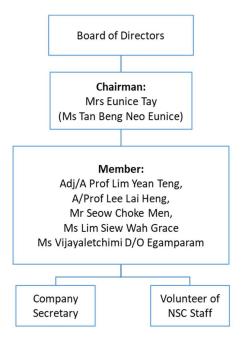
- Approve budget for the financial year and monitor expenditure against budget;
- Review and approve quarterly financial statements;
- Regularly monitor the progress of the charity's programmes.
- Annual review of reserves to ensure that the reserves are adequate and that the charity could fulfil its continuing obligations.
- Decides to place its reserves in fixed deposit or with Fund Managers approved by MOHH
  as short and long term investments respectively.

## **TERM LIMIT OF BOARD**

To enable succession planning and steady renewal in the spirit of sustainability of the charity, the Board has a term limit of ten years. We currently do not have board members serving more than 10 consecutive years. Board members are renewed or re-appointed every three years.

## POLICY ON THE MANAGEMENT AND AVOIDANCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Fund does not have paid staff and the Board members do not receive remuneration from the Fund for their services rendered. All activities of the Fund are managed by staff of National Skin Centre (NSC). The Fund Board members comply with the policy on conflict of interest.



## **RESERVES POLICY**

The National Skin Centre Health Fund ("NSCHF") is a registered charity with a mission to give grants, raise and manage financial contributions in support of medical research and developments, medical and healthcare education, and healthcare services related to dermatology and venereology for Singaporeans, and the Singapore community at large.

As NSCHF main source of funding is donations, a reserve policy is required to ensure long term financial stability and sufficient funding to support the charity's principal activities.

Where possible, NSCHF should aim to have a reserves level of more than or equal to 5 years, to hedge against fluctuations in income and unpredictable emergency situations.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

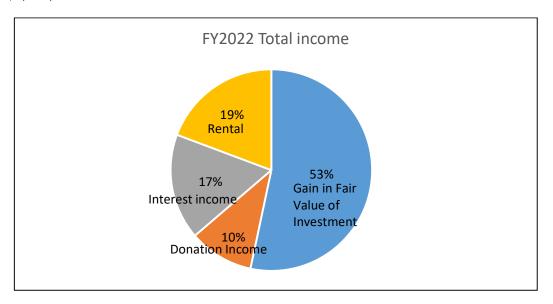
All Board members are required to comply with the charity's conflict of interest policy. The Board has put in place documented procedures for Board members to declare actual or potential conflicts of interests on a regular and need-to basis. Board members also abstain and do not participate in decision-making on matters where they have a conflict of interest.

## WHISTLE-BLOWING POLICY

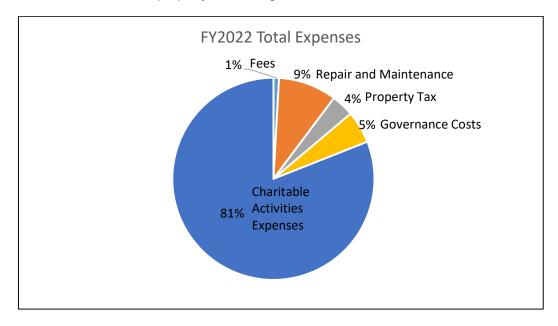
Our charity has in place, a whistle-blowing policy to address concerns about possible wrongdoing or improprieties in financial or other matters within the charity.

## **SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The Fund reported a net surplus of \$87,490 for FY2022. Total income and expenses amounted to \$149,982 and \$62,492 respectively. The accumulated fund as at 31 March 2023 amounted to \$3,815,821.



Total income of \$149,982 comprised donations received from individual donors amounting to \$15,565, interest income amounting to \$25,450, rental income amounting to \$28,967 and gain in fair value of investment property amounting to \$80,000.



Total expenses were \$62,492, which included charitable expenses of \$50,557, governance costs of \$3,216 and other operating expenses amounting to \$8,719.

## CHARITABLE PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

The Fund supported the following charitable activities during this year:

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEMES

## 1.1 Tattoo Removal for Youths-at-Risk

This fund was set aside to support needy school going children who are asked by their school to have their tattoo removed or faced expulsion from the school. \$23,583 was disbursed as at 31 March 2023, leaving a balance of \$6,417.

During the year under review, 7 more patients were recruited including those from juvenile homes and community partners. A total of 43 patients to date has been recruited under the Programme since funding was approved in July 2018, and 68 treatments have been completed.

## 1.2 Skin Aid for the Vulnerable and Elderly Programme (SALVE)

An amount of \$90,000 was approved to support SALVE program from March 2020 to, extended further to Mar 2024. Patients with chronic relapsing skin diseases can be supported clinically and socially with regular application of topical medications, to reduce the incidence of preventable re-admissions into acute care hospitals.

\$7,302 was disbursed as at 31 March 2023, leaving a balance of \$82,698. The monies were claimed for medication and transportation. There are 3 active patients in the Programme who have been going to National Skin Centre for treatment. 4 patients were discharged from the Programme as their conditions have markedly improved. Further publicity and expansion of Programme SALVE was deferred in order to conserve resources during the ongoing pandemic.

#### 1.3 Medication Assistance Scheme

In July 2021, the Board approved to maintain the original list of medications in the scheme while removing their off-label criteria, and included 2 additional non-standard drugs - tacrolimus ointment 0.03%, 0.1%. The total budget remains the same at \$120,000 for 3 years. \$216 was disbursed in FY2022, thus, the carried over balance as at 31 March 2023 is \$110,588.

## 1.4 Itch Programme (Suu Balm)

For the enhanced Suu Balm Itch Programme approved in July 2021, the original budget was increased to \$10,728 per year for 3 years for Subsidized patients at NSC Itch Clinic. In FY2022, \$1,902 was disbursed, leaving a balance of \$28,396 as at March 2023.

## 1.5 Health Fund-SEC for Eczema patients

The Fund provided financial assistance to the needy patients diagnosed with eczema who are prescribed with retail items for their treatment that are not supported by Medifund. \$1,630 was disbursed in FY2022, leaving a balance of \$2,555 as at 31 March 2023.

## 1.6 Patient Welfare Fund (Transportation)

This fund is set aside to provide financial assistance to the needy patients for transport fares. An additional \$6,000 was approved to support this scheme for another 3 years and a drawdown of \$1,168 was made during the year.

#### 2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

## 2.1 Charity Clinic @ Singapore Christian Home

\$1,477.14 was disbursed as at 31 August 2018, leaving a balance of \$28,523. There was no further disbursement since the immergence of Covid-19. As there is no further request for support, this program has therefore been terminated at the end of FY2022.

## 2.2 Suu Balm ITCH Programme - Donation to NKF

\$11,479 was approved in July 2021 to support funding of a donation of Suu Balm Cream to NKF as a pilot community outreach programme. \$2,003 was further utilized in FY2022. In view of the success of the pilot programme, \$80,122 was approved in September 2022 to purchase Suu Balm as a donation in find for patients undergoing Renal Dialysis at NKF. In FY2022, \$26,770 was spent on such purchases for the NKF patients, thus the carried over balance as at 31 March 2023 is \$53,352.

# 2.3 Badminton Camp for Kids with Eczema

An amount of \$9,000 was approved to support badminton camps held for children with eczema, with the aim of encouraging active living among children with this skin disease. 2 camps were held for a total of 50 children in FY2022. \$2,077 was disbursed as at 31 March 2023, leaving a balance of \$6,923.

#### 3. RESEARCH GRANTS

There were three NSC's Research studies which were awarded funding support of \$44,618 till April 2022.

## 3.1 Genome-wide association study (GWAS) of atopic dermatitis

This research was extended further and since been completed in December 2022. 97 participants were recruited for samples to study on the genetic risk factors for disease progression and treatment response. A total of \$4,850 was utilized, leaving a balance of \$10,006.

## 3.2 Multiplex imaging of Atopic Dermatitis Skin

A total of \$14,769 was disbursed to NSC for the laboratory reagents purchased by NSC's research team to begin the studies, leaving a balance of \$11 out of the \$14,780 granted. The research has been completed in April 2022.

# 3.3 Evaluation of various methods of transdermal therapeutic antisense oligonucleotide (AON delivery)

This research was conducted to evaluate whether AON can be administered through the skin using various routes. It was completed in April 2022, leaving a balance of \$13,113. There was no further update as at 31 March 2022.

## **FUTURE PLANS AND COMMITMENTS**

## o Badminton Camp for Kids with Eczema

With the successful camps held in FY2022, NSCHF will be organizing a badminton camp in April 2023.

There are also plans to start a 3-6 months basic badminton course for children with eczema and/or other chronic skin conditions. Through the weekly trainings, we hope to instill the interest and necessary basic skills needed for them to continue their lifelong journey of active living via this fun sport.

#### Research Studies

NSCHF will continue to conduct further research on dermatology and health skin issues in FY2023.

## o FY2023 Campaigns

NSCHF plans to roll out the campaigns below to raise funds and increase the awareness of the various NSCHF programmes.

Month	Campaign / Programme
September – World Eczema Month	ITCH Programme, Badminton Camp & Public Forum
December – Festive Season of Giving	Share Your Blessings Campaign – Pick a Programme to support