

2024 CanCare Centre CEO Annual Report (01/07/2023 – 30/06/2024)

CEO: Rev. Jackie Chan

I. Foreword

Through God's protection and grace, the ministry of CanCare during this financial year can be summarized by the expression "grace upon grace."

We first thank God for the first blessing bestowed upon CanCare, which is His abundant provision. The second blessing is that CanCare successfully held a large "Positive Energy" music sharing event in August 2023.

God has provided us with more than 100 volunteers, enabling them to embrace the mission of serving cancer patients. Through God's gifts, our volunteers have demonstrated a unified team spirit, serving, promoting, and expanding CanCare ministry. As a result, more cancer patients and their carers have received God's love and grace, fulfilling His good will, as stated in the Bible, 1 Peter 4:10: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

II. Work Report

1. Education and Training

We organized various training courses to help participants understand the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of patients and carers, and improve their caring skills. We offered these courses in two languages, both in-person and online, so that local and overseas participants could attend. During this financial year, around 360 participants attended CanCare training courses.

2. Media Promotion

CanCare Media utilizes diverse media platforms to promote and publicize CanCare ministry.

We broadcast "Walking with CanCare" on 2CR Australian Chinese Radio Station, covering topics such as traditional Chinese medicine, law, finance, healthcare, and mental health, we receive high praise from listeners. Each episode has an interactive segment where listeners actively call in to participate. Through their engagement, strong bonds have gradually established between the listeners and CanCare.

In terms of video content, we produced 15 episodes of "CanCare Cancer Classroom," where viewers can access cancer-related information monthly on our social platforms.

3. Companion Telephone Support Service

This service provides cancer patients with support through phone calls and text messages. During this financial year, our volunteers supported 19 newly diagnosed cancer patients and their carers.

The patients are in a state of extreme distress and worry when seeking support from us. Since our volunteers are cancer survivors, they empathize with those seeking help. Through one-on-one communication, our volunteers listen carefully and share their experiences, helping to alleviate the fear associated with treatment. Overall, those who participated in the 'Companion' service are very grateful for the support from our volunteers, who have accompanied them through difficult times.

4. Support Groups

CanCare holds support groups in Westmead, Hurstville, Lidcombe, Castle Hill, Chatswood, and Surry Hills, with over 100 participants attend every month.

The purpose of the support groups is to allow participants to share their experiences and concerns that they may have about their health conditions. Each session features a guest speaker sharing a specific topic, fostering mutual encouragement and support.

5. Walking Groups

CanCare has two walking groups that organize walks regularly with enthusiastic participation each time. Participants and volunteers chat and laugh while walking outdoors, achieving the goal of relaxation and physical and mental well-being.

6. Visiting Group

Some patients are unable to attend CanCare activities in-person, so we provide visitation service. Volunteers are arranged to visit the patients' homes, offering personalized care and support.

7. Thanksgiving Dinner

On May 5, 2024, CanCare hosted its 17th Thanksgiving Dinner with the theme "Rainbow After the Rain," attended by around 500 people.

We were honored to have two special guests: counsellor Dr Winnie Chan and gospel singer Ms Mimi Tang from Hong Kong. Dr Chan shared her experiences as a carer, while Ms Tang performed several hymns. Their contributions brought great encouragement to those attended.

8. Music Sharing Event

In August 2023, CanCare held four "Positive Energy" music sharing sessions titled "Illuminate Your Heart with Love" at Chatswood Zenith Theatre and Hurstville Club Central. In addition to several healthcare professionals, we were honored to invite professional

singers Ms Michelle Siu and Ms Angela Pang from Hong Kong. A total of over 1,300 people attended the events.

In addition to introducing CanCare services, the focus of these events was to uplift cancer patients, their carers, and the Chinese community in Australia. We hope to offer mutual encouragement through the performances and testimonies shared.

This large-scale event was made possible by the cooperation and effort of all the guests and CanCare volunteer team, showing God's grace and provision.

III. Strategy for the Coming Year

For the 2024-2025 financial year, we plan to continue expanding various ministries, ensuring that CanCare vision and services reach every corner of the Australian Chinese community. Our planned initiatives include:

1. Promoting "Life and Death Education" to gradually enhance the Chinese community's understanding of death as a natural law of life and reduce the fear of death.
2. Holding a music sharing event in August 2024, titled "Symphony of Life – Four Seasons of Life."
3. Organizing a Mandarin drama called "The Drama of Life," encouraging people to express gratitude, love, apology, and farewell to their loved ones before the end of life.
4. Providing more quality services to cancer patients and the community.
5. Continuing to develop diverse training courses.
6. Using social media platforms to share positive and professional messages.

4. Conclusion

Looking back at the past year, God's provision in both volunteer coordination and finances has given us abundant resources, allowing us to focus on service without material concerns. We have been able to smoothly develop and complete various ministries, training, and promotional activities. God's grace has truly exceeded our expectations, as described in Ephesians 3:20: "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us."

We are deeply grateful to God, "He is our help and our shield" (Psalm 33:20b), as well as to the selfless dedication of the CanCare volunteer team and the ongoing donations and support from all sectors of society.