



Angel Tree

ANGEL TREE HAMPER PROJECT 2017

PROJECT
REPORT



Prison Fellowship
Singapore

OVERVIEW

The Angel Tree Hamper Project was launched by Prison Fellowship Singapore (PFS) in 2005 with a vision to bring the hearts of inmates and their loved ones together in the spirit of Christmas. Over the years, we have witnessed how inmates have found Christ in prison and are transformed by the Word of God. With this initiative, they are given an opportunity to seek forgiveness and share with their families how God has touched their lives.

Hand-written letters with powerful messages of hope and reconciliation are written by inmates and are personally delivered with hampers by volunteer church teams to the families. This knitting of hearts not only brings hope and joy to children and youths with parents in prison, but also opens doors for the restoration of broken relationships between inmates and their loved ones.

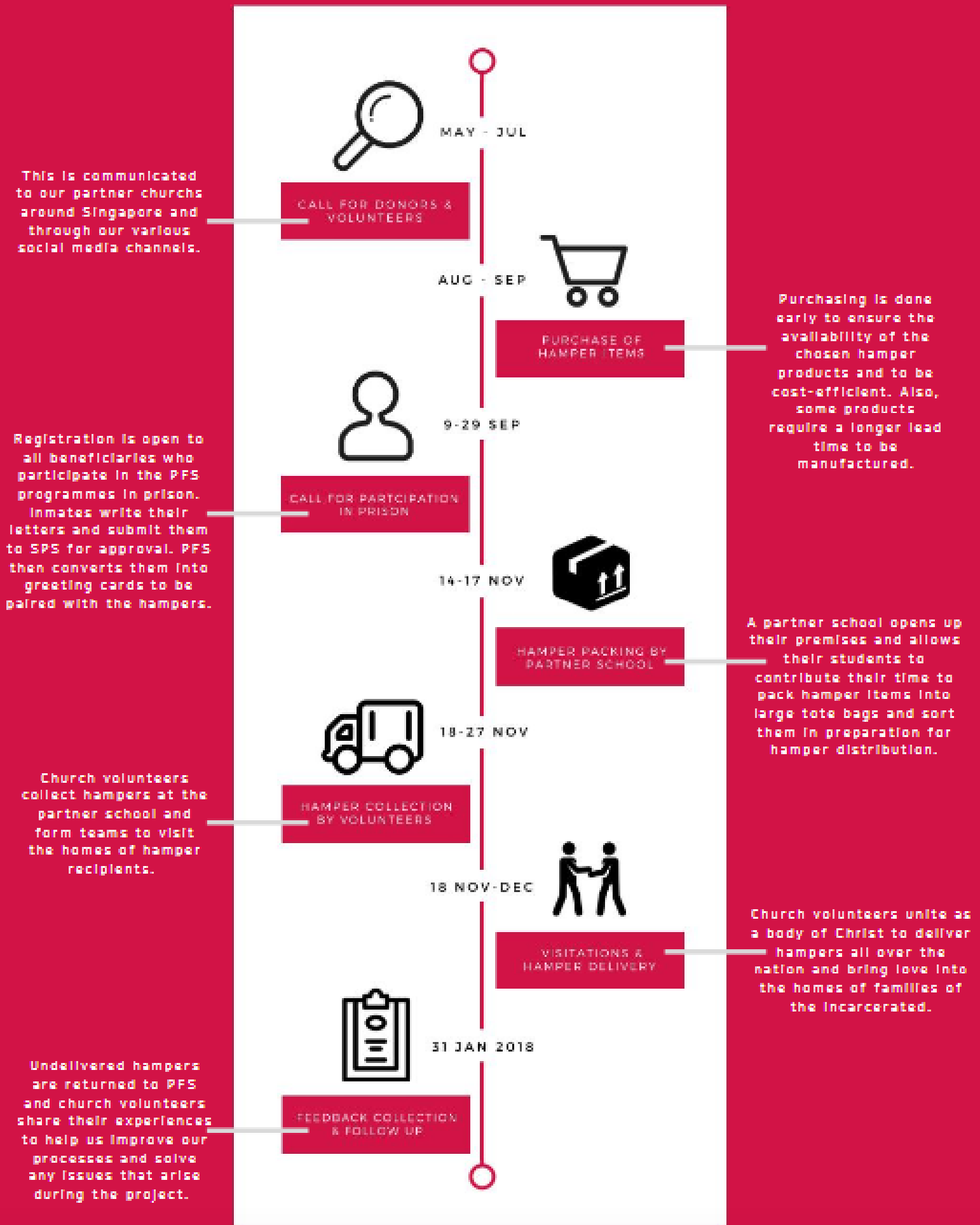
Churches and business organisations unite as one body to contribute to society and bring the love of Christ through donations and dedication of their time and service. This is possible only because of their participation from the point of preparation through to the delivery of hampers and their personal encounters with the families. These meetings also provide the opportunity for us to further identify special needs of families whom we can help in greater ways.



A study in Singapore to identify significant predictors of re-offending in a sample of 772 adolescent offenders indicated that father criminality was a significant risk factor for adolescent re-offending, in addition to other risk factors, such as an earlier age of first criminal offense (Ang & Huan, 2008).

credits: dadsforlife.sg

THE JOURNEY



OUR PARTNERS

PARTNER SCHOOL



Christ Church
Secondary School

It has always been a joy for us to partner with schools over the years in the area of hamper packing. This not only gives us a platform to share with the next generation about prison ministry, but also gives them the chance to discover their gifts and contribute to society in their own way. This year, we teamed up with teachers and more than 100 students from Christ Church Secondary School for a fun time of packing and sorting Hampers. It was a sight to behold as the students bonded together with their teachers and with us for a purpose greater than themselves. These youths displayed a spirit of excellence, in the way they carried themselves, treated one another and carried out the work. Most importantly, they reminded us how important it is to have fun!



OUR PARTNERS

PARTNER CHURCHES

Bedok Methodist Church
Bethel Presbyterian Church
Bethesda Gospel Hall Ang Mo Kio
Cairnhill Methodist Church
Chapel of the Holy Spirit
Change Community Services
Cherith Baptist Church
Christ Methodist Church
Church of the Good Sheperd
City Harvest Church
Cornerstone Community Church
Elim Church Assembly of God
Emmanuel Evangelical Free
Church
Eng Kong Christian Church
Faith Community Baptist Church
Full Gospel Assembly
Glory Presbyterian Church
Grace Assembly of God
Hope Presbyterian Church
Lawyers' Christian Fellowship
Light Of Christ Church Woodlands
Living Hope Methodist Church
Living Sanctuary Brethren Church
Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer
Mar Thoma Syrian Church in
Singapore
Mount Hermon Bible-Presbyterian
Church
New Creation Church

New Life Bible-Presbyterian
Church
Newton Life Church
Orchard Road Presbyterian Church
Pentecost Methodist Church
Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church
Queenstown Baptist Church
Salem Chapel
Sheperd's Assembly
Short Street Tamil Methodist
Church
St James' Church
St John's Chapel
Toa Payoh Chinese Methodist
Church
True Way Presbyterian Church
(English)
Wesley Methodist Church



supported the project through donations, of which 28 signed up with volunteer teams to distribute hampers to the families.

TESTIMONIES



I delivered a hamper to a 45-year-old man whose son is currently in prison. He lives alone and is almost blind, only able to see outlines and some light. He had told me that he lost his sight in 2010, couldn't accept it and tried to commit suicide several times. But in 2011, he accepted Christ and has been praying for his son. He requested for me to read the greeting card to him, so I described the pictures on it and read the contents to him. I could see that he was touched by his son's words. I was touched too.

He said that there were few words between the two of them before the incarceration. I then took out the contents of the hamper, put them into his hands and explained one by one what they were. He was thankful and shared that his son accepted Christ in prison and wants to be baptised. Now, he is diligently studying inside, praying hard and even sharing

God's word with his father. This reminds me of the prodigal son returning to his father.

'...I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.
- Luke 15:19-20 (NIV)

I praise the Lord for turning good out of this incarceration. Though he has many challenges, this man keeps thanking God. I thank God that even though this gentleman is physically blind, he has eyes of faith. It is truly a blessing to be able to participate in this project.

— St. John's Chapel volunteer



It was a pleasant experience, seeing the joy of the families receiving hampers and greeting cards from their loved ones brought smiles in our hearts. It is also a great experience for my wife as she can relate to and understand more about prison ministry.

— St. James Church Volunteer

My experience was positive for the most part as the hamper my team delivered was accepted. The family member even invited us into the home and we had a long chat about some of the struggles he faced. One of my team mates also shared and there was an emotional connection with tears and words of encouragement.

— Hope Presbyterian Church Volunteer

The uncle we visited seemed very glad to meet us and shared with us many stories of his past. However, language was a barrier as he was more comfortable speaking in Hokkien. Thankfully we brought my mother-in-law as well so she could communicate more freely with him.

— Prinsep St Presbyterian Church

A simple hamper delivery can go a long way in communicating the love and support of the church community for the families. Recipients won't feel that they are alone. It is a meaningful and thoughtful project. I am able to understand the concerns of the inmate's families and empathise with the situation, and also the challenges and emotions they are facing. A very good way to spread the love of Christ.

— St. John's Chapel Volunteer

It is heart warming to have volunteers come forward to deliver the hampers and pray for the opportunity to reach out. What's important are the hearts of the volunteers in wanting to bless the family members despite difficulties that they may encounter.

— True Way Presbyterian Church Volunteer

LETTERS OF RECONCILIATION

Dearest Mummy,

Of all that God has given me,
the greatest & best blessing of all
is none other than you, Mum.
The best thing that I've ever been given
is the privilege of being your son.

Please forgive me for all that I've done in the past, all the
hurt & shame that I've caused you & allow me to make it up
to you & to make you proud of me & to keep you as happy
as possible. There are many things that I need to do and do in
my life & I need your love & support to accomplish as you
are my strength. I Love You, My Darling Mummy.
Merry Christmas & A Blessed New Year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

“Dear Heavenly Father, Thank you for your big heart and being so
gracious to me, forgive us as we might not be loyal to you now. Please help us
show us the path to your lord and the strength to face you. Help us see your
goodness and fruitfulness in private to have a faith in you. Lastly, I like to pray
upon my family behalf, Dear Lord Jesus, Thank you for listening to our prayers,
Sacrificing the sins that we have done. Please show us the light and slowly guide us
to you. Thank you Lord Jesus as you are still looking out for us. I ask for your
help to keep my family safe and healthy. Please help to cure on any sickness or
problems they have, once again I thank you Lord Jesus for listening.
In Jesus name we pray. Amen”

FAITH, HOPE & LOVE

亲爱的奶奶,大哥知小妹... * * * * *
时间过得真快,圣诞节即将到来,希望你们在新的一年里
祝大家 圣诞快乐,身体很健康,一切顺利福气多! * * * * *
圣诞是上帝赐给我们每个人的美好圣诞礼物...就是耶稣基督的降生,
耶稣把我们从黑暗中带到光明道路上,也赐给我们平安的恩典,来后有指望,
我也衷心祈祷天,我们家人也愿意受到你们的光!



*My dearest handsome son,
It's another year of Christmas and hope you'll love
the gift given to you. Anyway you will receive
more when I return home. Thank you for being
my son and it's one of the best gift God has
given to me. Papa love you now & forever!!
Wait for me ok!!*



LETTERS OF RECONCILIATION

Hi, Dear,

— and —

when I am thinking of what to write
on this card.

I remember these two wonderful verses that
change me and made me a christian and
I would like to share with you.

Rom 4: 7-8
Blessed are they,
whose trasgression are forgiven
whose sin are covered
Blessed is the man
whose sin the lord will never count
against him."

The most wonderful thing about christmas
are that Jesus was born on this day to make
these two verses more wonderfully true.

Amen.

亲爱的家人！好久不见了，大家还好吗？

很快的圣诞节又到了，想到圣诞节，我就想到和你们一起吃火锅，就觉得很幸福很快乐，我在里面想得很多，我出去以后一定会好好的做工，好好的做人，不在吸烟喝酒，不会在让你们失望，尤其是妈妈一定是很伤心很难过，以前我没有听她的话，还有时和她大小声，我真的很对不起她，请妈妈能够原谅，我真的知道错了，妈妈我爱你，在过几个月我就可以和你们在外面见面了，希望你们在外面的日子过得平平安安快快乐乐。

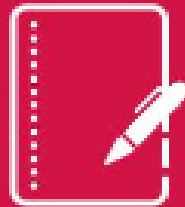
STATISTICS

project costs



\$71,600

HAMPER ITEMS
AND BAGS



\$370

STATIONERY
AND PRINTING



\$170

F&B AND
TRANSPORT

involving

41

CHURCHES

652

VOLUNTEERS

108

STUDENTS

benefitting

573

INMATES

910

FAMILY MEMBERS

THANK YOU.

Truly, this project belongs to God. Through it, churches, organisations and volunteers experience first-hand what it means to extend love to the marginalised in Singapore.

On behalf of the inmates and their families, PFS would like to thank all churches, organisations, schools and volunteers for the support, donations, encouragement and prayers. For believing in what we do and for sharing our vision. Your love and support for inmates, ex-offenders, and their families is a priceless affirmation of our efforts.

God bless you!

