

Year in Review 2019



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About Us

About RHT Rajan Menon Foundation

[RHT Rajan Menon Foundation](#) (“Foundation”), is a registered charity and grant-making philanthropic organisation in Singapore approved by the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore. The Foundation was set up in 2015 and acts as a corporate foundation for [RHTLaw Asia LLP](#) and the [RHT Group of Companies](#), to carry out our charitable endeavours. The Foundation recognises that every contribution has an impact on our beneficiaries and hopes to make a difference in ways we can. Contributing to the communities in which we live and work in is part of daily life at RHT and is integral to how we operate.

Raised More Than
S\$2 million

Donated More Than
S\$1.5 million

Our Vision

- To establish, inspire and encourage a philanthropic culture among the corporate and legal fraternity of giving back to the community.
- To socialise and actualise such philanthropic culture into meaningful programmes where donors and stakeholders can participate and contribute to directly.

Supported More Than
11
Beneficiaries

Our Mission

- To provide a framework, platform and channel for corporate social responsibility initiatives and activities.

Our Four Causes



Education



Environment



Disadvantaged
Groups



Arts

Welcome message from our Patron

Dear Friends and Partners,

Warm greetings on behalf of RHT Rajan Menon Foundation. Thank you for your generous support and active participation in our events for 2019.

I am heartened by your charitable spirit and commitment to make a difference to our community. The Foundation is a serious and committed catalyst that seeks to inspire mindset change in the wider business community. We believe that success and profitability are intertwined with the sustained prosperity and health of the community we serve.

Through the generous support of our friends and partners, funds raised by the Foundation go towards four key philanthropic pillars – promoting education, protecting the environment, uplifting the disadvantaged and nurturing the arts and sports - all worthy causes.

This Report fleshes out the platforms by which the Foundation furthers these causes in concrete ways. The programs and projects are sustainable and realistic. They include a five-year sponsorship in support of SMU's Pro Bono Centre; publication of two editions of a guidebook to help caregivers of the elderly discharge their responsibilities more effectively; the GAIL seminar series that promotes the environment cause in the region and our support for the good work of the Alzheimer's Disease Association. The Foundation, in a modest way, has also made an impact in Indonesia and Vietnam.

I take this opportunity to thank our friends and partners for their dedication and diligence in organising a full calendar of meaningful charitable events throughout 2019. I look forward to working with you again in 2020 to continue supporting the Foundation's causes and beneficiaries.



**Associate Professor
Ho Peng Kee**

Patron,
RHT Rajan Menon Foundation

Welcome message from our Chairman

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We are deeply appreciative of the generous support from our friends and partners towards RHT Rajan Menon Foundation's activities throughout the year. They have shown that it is possible to be profitable, while being socially and environmentally responsible.

Here at RHTLaw Asia and the RHT Group of Companies, we believe that CSR is no longer defined by how much money a company contributes to charity, but by its overall involvement in activities that improve the quality of people's lives.

The RHT Rajan Menon Foundation Charity Golf event, though only in its fifth edition, has become an annual event on our philanthropic calendar. To-date we have raised more than S\$2,000,000 for our various beneficiaries.

Within RHT, we continue to support education through scholarship, bursary, book prize and sponsorship. Our regional focus in business also extends to our charitable efforts as the Foundation continues to identify suitable opportunities to reach out to ASEAN communities in need through its ASEAN+ Outreach Programme.

Our focus on "Disadvantaged Group" centres on the elderly community in Singapore. Our Programme includes working with SMU Pro Bono Centre to prepare and certify LPA for the elderly, production of an elder care guidebook in our four official languages, donation and sponsorship for eldercare related events and activities.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in his speech at the Climate Action Summit at the United Nations said, "As leaders, we all have the responsibility to our part to rally our people's support for sustainable development. To convince and educate our people that these efforts are important, and to safeguard our future, and the futures of their children and grandchildren." I believe this responsibility extends to business leaders as well.

In 2019, the Foundation held its inaugural Greening ASEAN: Initiatives & Leadership ("GAIL") Sustainability Day to celebrate organisations which have gone above and beyond to embrace sustainable practices. The Foundation's GAIL Sustainability Day was a full day event comprising of a charity golf tournament, sustainability forum and Gala Awards.

Nurturing the arts is one of the Foundation's four key philanthropic pillars. Working closely with the family of the late self-taught artist, the Foundation supported the Jaafar Latiff: Beyond the Familiar exhibition during Singapore Art Week 2020 to share the acclaimed contemporary batik art works with the public.

The Foundation has had a busy year through its involvement in a diverse mix of worthy causes.

On behalf of RHT Rajan Menon Foundation and its beneficiaries, I express my heartfelt appreciation to all of you who have rallied for the Foundation's cause through your generous donations and active participation.



Mr Tan Chong Huat
Chairman,
RHT Rajan Menon Foundation

Leadership



**Associate Professor
Ho Peng Kee**
Patron



Tan Chong Huat
Chairman



Kaylee Kwok
Deputy Chairman



Bernard Tay
Director



Linda Hoon
Director



Surinder Kathpalia
Director



Jennifer Lee
Director



Connie Chang
Honorary Treasurer

Signature Programmes

The Foundation is proud to be the driving force behind the Ageing RigHT Project (“Project”) which is primarily aimed at meeting the needs of our pioneer generation progressively over the next few years.

Phase 1 of the Project was rolled out in November 2017. This involved the initial publication of the eldercare guidebook “As You Are, Now” in English on topics ranging from basic first aid and health matters to financial and personal estate matters which serves as a handy guide for the elderly as well as their loved ones and care givers. The guide was distributed to the various RCs and CCs as well as Lions Befrienders Senior Activity Centres and PAP Community Foundation (“PCF”) Sparkle Care Centres.

Our eldercare guidebook was officially launched by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at a public event on 11 August 2018 during Phase 2. This eldercare guidebook was published in 4 official languages i.e. English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil.

Phase 3 involved the engagement of our elderly by the supporting partners, who helped raise public awareness as well as educate the elderly, their family members and caregivers on basic first aid, dementia, road and home safety issues affecting them:-

- Alzheimer’s Disease Association
- Singapore Red Cross Society
- Singapore Road Safety Council
- People’s Association
- PCF Sparkle Care Centres

Lastly, Phase 4 of the Project involved law students from Singapore Management University (“SMU”) Pro Bono Centre (supported by our Foundation) who helped our elderly with their wills, lasting powers of attorney, and advance medical directives (with guidance from lawyers of [RHTLaw Asia](#)).

We are grateful for this timely and meaningful undertaking.

01 Ageing RigHT

Signature Programmes

01 Ageing RigHT



Photo Credit: Singapore Road Safety Council

About “As You Are, Now” Eldercare Guidebook



The “As You Are, Now” eldercare guidebook is for the elderly and their caregivers and was officially launched by the Prime Minister on 11 August 2018.

The guidebook is written by a team of dedicated professionals and published especially for the elderly and their caregivers. Through the publication of the guidebook, the Foundation together with various supporting partners such as Ministry of Social and Family Development, People’s Association, PAP Community Foundation, Singapore Red Cross Society, SMU Pro Bono Centre and Alzheimer’s Disease Association seek to educate the elderly and their caregivers on issues they need to be aware of. Topics such as protection against physical, emotional and financial abuse, lasting powers of attorney, advance medical directives, basic first aid, dementia, home safety and road safety issues have been carefully chosen and written to address the challenges that ageing can, and will, bring.



Photo Credit: Singapore Red Cross Society

Signature Programmes

02 GAIL



We recognized the importance of sustainability to address climate change, adverse social and community impact and corporate governance issues. In response, the Foundation commissioned its sustainability initiatives named: **GAIL (Greening ASEAN: Initiatives and Leadership)** and it was launched at the fourth annual ASEAN Summit in 2018. GAIL's aim is to facilitate relevant expertise, knowledge and practical measures to enable ASEAN companies to respond to the region's growing call for sustainable development.

03 ARHTPhil



ARHTPhil is a project initiated by RHTLaw to unite Art and Philanthropy into a cohesive, compelling and credible proposition. ARHTPhil looks to benefit stakeholders such as museums, insurers, banks, collectors and members of the public. The purpose of ARHTPhil is to facilitate more collectors to monetise their art and thus allowing more of such works to be exhibited for public enjoyment. ARHTPhil will achieve this by encouraging banks to customize art received as collateral with a museum instead of keeping them in a vault. Museums will act as custodians. Insurers come in to provide innovative risk management solutions to enhance the banks' collateral and mitigate risks.

Signature Programmes

04

EduRigHT



Subhas Anandan Bursary/Scholarships

Established in 2017 through collective donations towards the Subhas Anandan Legacy Fund, the Subhas Anandan Bursary/Scholarships provides financial assistance to full-time undergraduates from the School of Law at the Singapore Management University and to spur them to greater heights of excellence.



Photo Credit: SMU Pro Bono Centre

Sponsorship to Singapore Management University Pro Bono Centre

The Foundation is pleased to support Singapore Management University Pro Bono Centre to advance the pro bono spirit within the legal fraternity for a period of five years starting from Academic Year 2017-2018.



RHT GRACE Institute

RHT GRACE Institute is a member-supported social enterprise governed by its Council and guided by an Advisory Panel focused on promoting governance, risks, anti-money laundering, compliance and ethics (“GRACE”) among the corporates and professionals. Users learn about the GRACE concepts through a proprietary app developed by RHT GRACE Institute. We expect to launch RHT GRACE Institute in April 2020.

Signature Programmes



Project Bridge (Lombok, Indonesia)

A rural village in Lombok, Indonesia had to rely on makeshift bridges to get across different river sections from their village to the mainland. These bridges were unstable and collapsed at each monsoon season, presenting dangerous situations for both adults and children.

After various discussions with both Singaporean and Indonesian contacts, The Foundation supported in the construction of three bridges totalling 49m, benefitting 15 farmers and 75 of their family members whose main source of income come from the farming of chillis, vegetables and rice.

This is the Foundation's first corporate social responsibility project out of Singapore.

Project Earthquake (Lombok, Indonesia)

The Indonesian island of Lombok was struck by hundreds of earthquakes and tremors in 2018, killing more than 460 people, destroying homes and buildings as well as displacing hundreds of thousands of people.

The Foundation provided humanitarian aid to the people of Lombok, by contributing 50 tentages as well as food supply to them.

Project School (Long An, Vietnam)

RHT Rajan Menon Foundation ("Foundation") is pleased to share that the upgrading works on the school kitchen / canteen at VietLam Primary School was completed on 16 December 2018. The Foundation has made a donation towards this project, as part of its ASEAN+ Outreach Programme.

A launch ceremony was held at the school on 26 February 2019, and Mr Benjamin Yap, Senior Partner of RHTLaw Vietnam attended the ceremony on behalf of the Foundation. VietLam Primary School is located in Long An Province, Vietnam and currently has 110 students.

05

ASEAN + OUTREACH PROGRAMMES



Donated



Upgraded
School Kitchen



Highlights of The Year 2019

- 01** ADA Caregivers' Appreciation Lunch
- 02** Lions Befrienders Flag Day
- 03** RHTRMF Charity Golf 2019
- 04** RHT Rajan Menon Foundation GAIL
Sustainability Day
- 05** Singapore Red Cross' 70th Anniversary
Commemoration and Annual Awards Ceremony
- 06** SMU (certification of LPAs at TRANS Family
Service Centre)
- 07** Jaafar Latiff: Beyond The Familiar art exhibition
- ArtSpace@Helutrans

ADA Caregivers' Appreciation Lunch on 5 January 2019 01



Photo Credit: Alzheimer's Disease Association

The Alzheimer's Disease Association - ADA Caregivers' Appreciation Gala Luncheon was held at Equarius Hotel, Resorts World Sentosa, in recognition of the caregivers' dedication and hard work. The event was jointly organised by ADA and 4th year law undergraduates from the National University of Singapore (NUS).

The Foundation was a sponsor for the event and we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ADA at the event for the collaboration on the Foundation's Ageing RigHT Project. The Project aims to develop a comprehensive and integrated system of care and support as well as an age-friendly environment for the elderly in the community.

02 Lions Befrienders Flag Day on 4 May 2019



Partners and staff of [RHTLaw Asia](#) as well as business leaders and staff of [RHT Group of Companies](#) had made donations in support of Lions Befrienders Annual Flag Day. Some of our staff had also volunteered their time to sell the flags on 4 May 2019.

Lions Befrienders aimed to raise \$150,000 through the event to help fulfil their mission to provide friendship and care for seniors to age in place with community participation, enabling them to enjoy meaningful and enriching lives. RHT Rajan Menon Foundation is pleased to participate in this cause which resonates with our Ageing Right initiatives.

RHTRMF Charity Golf 2019 on 27 May 2019

03



The Foundation raised over S\$500,000 at its fifth annual charity golf event held at Sentosa Golf Club in support of its beneficiaries, namely, the Singapore Red Cross Society, Singapore Management University Pro Bono Centre, Alzheimer's Disease Association and the Singapore Road Safety Council. [RHTLaw Asia](#) and the [RHT Group of Companies](#) also celebrated its 8th anniversary during the gala dinner with a cake-cutting ceremony.

Since its inception, the Foundation has raised more than S\$2 million to support beneficiaries involved in education, the environment, disadvantaged groups and the arts.



Photo Credit: Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF)

04 RHT Rajan Menon Foundation GAIL Sustainability Day on 26 June 2019



The Foundation held its inaugural **Greening ASEAN: Initiatives & Leadership (“GAIL”) Sustainability Day** at the Sentosa Golf Club to celebrate organisations which have gone above and beyond to embrace sustainable practices. The Foundation’s **GAIL Sustainability Day** comprises of a charity golf tournament, sustainability forum and Gala Awards.

Business partners of [RHTLaw Asia](#) and the [RHT Group of Companies](#), including more than 250 individuals and organisations supported the event. Olam International Ltd won the Sustainability Excellence Award for its outstanding efforts to revitalise communities,

regenerate nature as well as redesign farming and food value chains for the benefit of all stakeholders. The sustainability forum hosted insightful panel discussions and an interactive workshop to put a spotlight on success stories from businesses which are leading the way with their efforts to champion sustainable development. More than 60 golfers teed off for a green cause at the event. Sentosa Golf Club, was specifically chosen for the inaugural event as it is part of the Building and Construction Authority’s (“BCA”) list of green event spaces and holds the BCA Green Mark Platinum Award.

Singapore Red Cross' 70th Anniversary Commemoration and Annual Awards Ceremony on 30 September 2019

05



RHT Rajan Menon Foundation (“Foundation”) attended the Singapore Red Cross’ 70th Anniversary Commemoration and Annual Awards Ceremony held at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront. The Foundation, a benefactor of Singapore Red Cross, received the prestigious Friend of Singapore Red Cross Award.



The awards, presented by President Halimah Yacob who is also Patron of the Singapore Red Cross, aims to honour and recognise exceptional accomplishments and contributions made by volunteers and partners to support the Singapore Red Cross’ mission.

Photo Credit: Singapore Red Cross Society

06 SMU (certification of LPAs at TRANS Family Service Centre) on 12 October 2019



The Foundation took part in the preparation and certification of Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA) for the elderly at the Trans Family Service Centre (located in Bedok), an initiative by the SMU Pro Bono Centre. Partners, associates and staff of RHTLaw Asia attended at the Trans Family Service Centre to prepare, explain and certify LPAs for more than 40 elderly persons and their respective donees.

Jaafar Latiff: Beyond The Familiar Art Exhibition - ArtSpace@Helutrans on 8, 9 and 11 January 2020

07



Jaafar Latiff: Beyond the Familiar art exhibition supported by RHT Rajan Menon Foundation took place from 9th to 19th January 2020 at ArtSpace@Helutrans.

Jaafar Latiff is Singapore's second-generation artist who was a self-taught visual artist acclaimed for his contemporary batik and acrylic works. Known for his innovation in batik painting, he introduced abstract art into a traditional craft and made it relevant to larger audiences. He was also a lifelong arts educator, spending most his life as a teacher of art in various educational institutions including Baharuddin Vocational Institute, LASALLE College of the Arts and the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. The late artist's works have been exhibited internationally and can be found in public spaces in Singapore such as Orchard MRT station and Changi Airport.

[RHTLaw Asia](#) held a closed-door opening reception for their guests on the 8th of January 2020, followed by the official opening reception to the public on 9th of January 2020. A panel discussion on the Legacy of Art – Insights, Trends and Management was held on the 11th of January 2020 to discuss the issues and complexity of building an art collection.

The Foundation is making a difference in our community and we could not have done it without the strong support of the following people:-

- Our supporting partners, sponsors and donors
- Our Patron and Board of Directors of the Foundation
- Lawyers and staff of [RHTLaw Asia LLP](#)
- Management and staff of [RHT Group of Companies](#)

We thank you for changing lives.

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