



## For Immediate Release

### Over \$1 Million Raised at Dover Park Hospice Sunflower Gala Ball 2019

**SINGAPORE, 18 August 2019** - Dover Park Hospice (DPH) held its annual fundraising event – **the Sunflower Gala Ball 2019** at The Ritz-Carlton on **Saturday, 17 August 2019**. Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Health graced the Gala Ball as its Guest-of-Honour this year.

Close to 500 guests attended the fundraiser dinner, which has raised **\$1,065,000** that will go towards supporting the patients of Dover Park Hospice Inpatient, Home Care and new Day Care programme.

In line with the theme of '**JAM, JIVE, JAZZ**', guests were treated to a night of exciting performances by various groups. Local singer, Ms Jacintha Abisheganaden and Chairman of Eu Yan Sang International Ltd (EYSI), Mr Richard Eu lent their voices to raise funds for the night.

DPH's very own *GEMS* showchoir made up of volunteers, serenaded the audience with three song and dance performances during the night. In addition, guests at the gala ball were treated to a delightful four-course dinner customised by the chefs at The Ritz-Carlton. The menu was specially curated to the theme for the night (black with a touch of yellow) included in the presentation of the dishes.

A highlight of the silent auction held throughout the evening showcased a jewellery piece and a bottle of whisky amongst other auction items.

With a jewellery design inspired by the theme of the gala ball, as well as the jeweller's signature namesake stone, *The Canary Diamond* had generously donated a bespoke fancy yellow diamond bracelet worth S\$35,600 for the silent auction. The one-of-a-kind bracelet is an art-deco creation made from 10 fancy-yellow diamonds totalling 5.35 carats and 310 round white diamonds at 2.79 carats.

One of the oldest liquid from a renowned distillery in Scotland was also up for bidding at the gala. Distilled in 1978, the Port Ellen 39-year-old is an elegant and complex Single Malt Scotch Whisky expertly married from a selection of ex US-Bourbon and ex European Sherry refill casks.

The auction item sponsored and presented by Diageo Rare and Exceptional (a division of Diageo); the world's leading premium drinks company, is one of only 1,500 bottles of the whisky available worldwide due to current closure of the distillery.

The winning bidder not only brought home the limited-edition whisky, but also received an exclusive invitation for a unique whisky tasting experience by Diageo Private Client Suite, Singapore.

DPH was founded in 1992 as a secular, non-profit organisation to meet the growing need of palliative care in Singapore for terminally-ill patients. Open to everyone regardless of age, race, religion, or income level, DPH is dedicated to meeting the unique physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those who are nearing the end of life.

Over the years, DPH has brought care and comfort to more than 12,000 terminally-ill patients and their families through a programme of active and compassionate service. Today, Dover Park Hospice serves about 800 patients a year.

Speaking at the gala, Mr Robert Chew, Chairman, Dover Park Hospice, shared about the expansion plans of the hospice in meeting the growing demands for palliative care services as Singapore's population ages rapidly.

"As we prepare for our move to the Integrated Care Hub at HealthCity Novena in 2021, we are working towards doubling our inpatient capacity from 50 to 100 beds and expanding our home care and day care services to serve more patients. In April this year, we have also started the operations for our new Day Care where we are now able to deliver integrated palliative care in a seamless manner to ensure continuity of care for our patients based on their needs."

Every year, DPH needs to fundraise about \$3.6 million to help subsidise the costs for its patients for its palliative care programmes and services - in hospice, home care and day care.

To make an outright donation in support of Dover Park Hospice, you can do so at [https://www.giving.sg/campaigns/sunflower\\_gala\\_ball\\_2019](https://www.giving.sg/campaigns/sunflower_gala_ball_2019) or contact Dover Park Hospice via email: [galaball@doverpark.sg](mailto:galaball@doverpark.sg)

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## **About Dover Park Hospice**

Founded in 1992, Dover Park Hospice is Singapore's first purpose-built hospice, catering to those nearing their end of life's journey. As a secular, non-profit organisation, we open our doors to people of every age, race, religion, and income level. Through a transdisciplinary team comprising doctors and nurses specialising in palliative care, medical social workers, art and music therapists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and pastoral counsellor, the team jointly assess, discuss and plan for the care of the patients including caregivers' support.

We provide holistic palliative care in meeting the physical, emotional, psycho-social and spiritual needs of our patients. To complement our inpatient service and home care programme, we have extended our services in providing integrated care to our patients with the operation of our new Day Care to ensure continuity of care in a seamless manner over time and in different care settings.

For more information on DPH and our services, please visit [www.doverpark.org.sg](http://www.doverpark.org.sg) or [www.facebook.com/doverparkhospice](https://www.facebook.com/doverparkhospice).

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