

For Immediate Release

**Hair for Hope First Satellite Event Kicks Off
13-year old Cancer Survivor shaves hair to encourage friends who
are battling cancer**

Singapore, 10 June 2011- 13-year old cancer survivor, Foo Ce Heng, Jarenn, kicks off this year's Hair for Hope by going bald "to show love and encourage his friends who are battling cancer". Both Jarenn and his father, Foo Heng Jiunn, Zaric, are first time shavees at the first Hair for Hope 2011 satellite event organised by the Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF).

Jarenn was first diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in 2009. With sheer determination and fighting spirit, he returned to school in March this year after a 22-month treatment to further his learning pursuits.

Wheelchair-bound due to an infection as a result of a skin graft operation, the young cancer warrior demonstrates the virtues of love and giving back to the community. To date, Jarenn has raised more than \$4,000 for CCF, surpassing his target amount of \$3,500. During his cancer journey, CCF has assisted Jarenn in coping with the treatment through therapeutic play and providing him and his family with social and emotional support. CCF has also helped in integrating Jarenn back to the school by providing his teachers and classmates with an understanding of his condition and how they could assist him.

Reflecting on his cancer journey, Jarenn says, "Don't ask why you have cancer, because you will never have an answer. Play hard! Eat well! Sleep well! Live life as normal as possible."

Jarenn's father, Zaric, 46, joins his son to shave bald to show his support to Jarenn and children who are battling cancer. Zaric is a full-time caregiver for Jarenn.



Together with Jarenn and Zaric, a group of like-minded individuals from all walks of life also pledge their support for children with cancer by going bald at this Hair for Hope satellite event to raise funds for CCF and increase awareness on childhood cancer. The shavees are shaved bald by Jean Yip hairstylists. Jean Yip Group has kindly offered their services for all Hair for Hope events over a 3-month period from June to August, targeting to shave 3,000 shavees.

Executive Director of Children's Cancer Foundation, Ms Chee Wai Yee remarks, "We are heartened by the enthusiastic response and support for Hair for Hope. Indeed, children with cancer and their families are encouraged to know that they are not alone in their fight against cancer. The increasing number of shavees over the years testifies to the strong community support which makes it possible for CCF to improve the quality of life of children with cancer and their families. "

Organized by Children's Cancer Foundation, Hair for Hope 2011 main event will be staged at VivoCity Central Court on 23rd and 24th July (Saturday: 11am to 7pm/ Sunday: 1pm to 6pm), where the public shaving will take place. Into its 9th consecutive year, Hair for Hope has grown to be a well anticipated charity event in Singapore. In 2010, a total of \$1,471,172 was raised by 2,603 shavees. Hair for Hope 2010 also recorded a highest number of 325 female shavees at the main event.

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About Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF)

Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF) is a non-profit organization impassioned with the mission of improving the quality of lives of children with cancer and their families through enhancing their emotional, social and medical well-being. Since 1996, CCF has helped more than 1,950 children and their families at its Resource Centre located at KK Women's & Children's Hospital (KKH) and the National University Hospital (NUH) providing them the much needed support in their battle against the life-threatening illness.

CCF has adopted an integrated hospital-home-community service model for children and youths with cancer and their families to efficiently assist them through the different stages of the illness and recovery and provide opportunities to develop new areas of services.

For a full list of our services and programmes, visit us at www.ccf.org.sg

About Childhood Cancer

In Singapore, about 100 new cases of childhood cancer are reported every year. Among the type of cancers affecting children, the most common are leukaemia, lymphomas, brain tumours and solid tumours.

These children under the age of 19 have to go through a rigorous treatment regime. Besides the physical pain caused by cancer and its treatment, young patients often feel isolated because of the withdrawal from school and prolonged stay in the hospital. Cancer is a debilitating illness that takes its toll, physically, emotionally and mentally, not only on the child but also on his or her family. We appeal for community support to help them cope with their needs at different stages of the illness. We can all play our part to facilitate reintegration of children with cancer back to our community.