



channelnewsasia.com  
A MEDIA CORP Interactive Media

**Celebrating 100 YEARS**  
of Independence Since 1959

Tell us your idea to support the empowerment of women and girls in disadvantaged communities.  
You could get a **US\$25,000** grant to go out and make it happen!

**PROJECT INSPIRE**  
3 MINUTES TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Monday, June 13, 2011

- HOME
- ASIA PACIFIC
- SINGAPORE
- WORLD
- BUSINESS
- SPORT
- TECHNOLOGY
- ENTERTAINMENT
- HEALTH
- SPECIAL REPORTS

**BLOGS**

**YOURnews**

7 Day News Archive  
M I T W T F S S

Search

- iPhone App
- BlackBerry App
- Android App
- Mobile News
- RSS
- eNewsletter

**TWITTER**

Follow us on Twitter

**FACEBOOK**

Find us on Facebook

Eye on Business

- Video
- Finance
- Lifestyle
- Travel
- Weather
- Discussion
- TV Shows

LIVE | About Us

## SINGAPORE NEWS

### Love means going bald in Hair for Hope

By Leong Wai Kit, channelnewsasia.com | Posted: 10 June 2011 1850 hrs

Recommend 186 recommendations. Sign Up to see what your friends recommend.

SINGAPORE: Be prepared to see more bald people - up to 3,000 of them - between now and August.

That is the number of 'shavees' the Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF) is targeting for its Hair for Hope (HfH) series of mass hair-shaving events that end by August.

The annual affair, now in its ninth year, raises funds for children with cancer and their families, while offering moral support to children with cancer.

Showing that it is okay to be bald, the CCF held its first mass shave-off on Friday with an aim to raise S\$1.8 million through donation pledge cards to individuals who shed their locks.

Going bald for a good cause at the first satellite event at Kaki Bukit were 22 people, including 14-year-old cancer survivor Jarenn and his father Zaric Foo.

Jarenn was diagnosed with leukaemia at the age of 12.

He went through 22 months of treatment and only returned to school in March this year.

"I'm here today because I want to show love, and encourage my friends who are battling with cancer," said Jarenn, who insisted on shaving his hair which has just grown back after 15 months of chemotherapy.

Chopping her locks for the first time for HfH was Nanyang Technological University student Isabel Phua.

"I've been wanting to do this for the past six years, but I held back each time for fear of what my friends would make of it," said the long-haired 20 year old.

"I finally took the step to shave because I was moved by the cause of HfH, and I really wanted to be a part of it."

Since HfH started in 1996, it has helped more than 1,980 families.

CCF chairperson Dr Tay Miah Hiang said: "Generally, medical treatment cost is rising due to more expensive research and cost of medication. "A bone marrow transplant (for leukaemia treatment) can be as costly as S\$150,000 per patient. This excludes the cost of the long-term follow-up and medication to prevent rejection."

Apart from providing financial aid, CCF also helps children with cancer reintegrate to school, by preparing their teachers and school-mates.

So far it has been smooth sailing for Jarenn, who is temporarily wheelchair-bound due to an infection from a skin graft operation.

"My friends have been very supportive - they even help me to the toilet," the secondary one student at Jun Yuan Secondary School said.

Although Jarenn is still undergoing regular treatment including daily oral chemotherapy, he is hopeful of his condition, and lives by his motto: "Don't ask why you have cancer because you will never have an answer. Play hard, eat well, sleep well, and live life as normal as possible."

*HfH's main events will be held at VivoCity on July 23 (11am - 7pm) & 24 (1pm - 6pm). Members of public are welcome to come forward to shave off their hair and make donations.*

-CNA/wk



Photos 3 of 3  
The Foes pose for a photo after Jarenn (L, foreground) and daddy Zaric Foo (R) shaved their heads (photo: CCF)

Facebook | Twitter | Messenger | Google | Email | Print

del.icio.us | Digg | SHARE |

#### OTHER SINGAPORE NEWS

- Lawrence Wong appointed to MAS Board of Directors
- Singapore adventurer sets off to scale Mount Kilimanjaro
- Mother of abandoned "Eunos baby" jailed 10 weeks, fined S\$2,000