

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

She Beat Cancer Twice. One Year On, Mira is Thriving.

Her family wants Singapore to know what recovery after childhood cancer really looks like.

Singapore, 30 June 2026 – The last time Singapore heard about Mira, she was 13, days out of a bone marrow transplant, and just beginning on her recovery. Her brother Austin, then 15, had donated his bone marrow to save her life. Her blood count was rising and there was glimpse of hope.

One year on, Mira is living the life the family were all quietly hoping for.

She is 14 now, in Secondary 1, recently selected for her school's basketball team, and has picked up the guitar, a new passion sparked through Children's Cancer Foundation's (CCF) J.A.M.M. programme. Periodic blood and bone marrow checks remain part of her routine, but they have become reassuring milestones rather than sources of fear.

"She's active, eats a lot, and is just like any other girl her age," shared her father. "We're really grateful to see her enjoying life again."



(Photo: Mira in 2026)

What Recovery Actually Looks Like: Rebuilding Confidence and Connection

Recovery is not a moment. It is months of check-ups that slowly shift from sources of dread to reassuring milestones. CCF social worker coordinated with Mira's school leadership before the academic year began, making sure her teachers understood what she needed before she even walked through the door.

It is guitar lessons through CCF's J.A.M.M. sessions that gave a quiet girl a new way to express herself. Home visits. Family programmes. Certificates from CCF's education awards and survivor recognition initiatives that celebrate achievements which once felt out of reach.

"It was through CCF's activities that Mira picked up the guitar and became more open," her father shared. "The family activities and house visits gave us opportunities to bond, create new memories, and help us to feel supported and not alone in this journey."

"Each certificate and trophy symbolises another achievement and a new beginning. These programmes remind us that every step forward is worth celebrating."

For Austin, life has also found its rhythm. Now preparing for his O-Level examinations, he is back to his active lifestyle. The experience has brought the siblings even closer together. Whether they are playing basketball, badminton, video games, or heading out together as a family, their bond has grown stronger through the challenges they faced together.

"The journey has taught them to appreciate one another more," their father said. "Conflicts are inevitable, but they hold no grudges."



(Photo: Mr Lim, Austin and Mira)



Beyond Treatment: Why Every Act of Support Matters to Families Like Mira's

For Glenn Yong, giving back has always been more than a gesture. Known for his commitment to uplifting young people and supporting causes that create meaningful opportunities for them, he was a natural choice when the foundation sought someone who could connect with its mission beyond a one-time appearance.

When Glenn learned about Mira and Austin's story, he was deeply moved. A younger sister who battled cancer twice. An elder brother who stepped forward without hesitation to donate his bone marrow. A family that stayed strong through one of life's toughest challenges. Wanting to better understand the realities faced by children and families impacted by childhood cancer, Glenn readily came on board to support the foundation and meet the family behind the story.

He spent an afternoon with Mira, Austin, and their loved ones, not as a celebrity guest, but as someone genuinely invested in hearing their experiences firsthand. He joined them for a game of basketball and listened as they shared their journey beyond hospital wards and medical treatments. For Glenn, supporting the foundation was about more than raising awareness. It was about showing up, building connections, and helping shine a light on the resilience of children facing cancer and the families who stand beside them every step of the way.

Because sometimes, the most meaningful support begins with simply being present.

"It was heartwarming to see Mira and her brothers simply enjoying being teenagers again," said Glenn. "But spending that afternoon with them also made me realise that a childhood cancer journey doesn't end when treatment ends. Even after a child is discharged, families continue attending follow-up appointments, coping with the emotional impact of what they've been through, and adjusting back to everyday life."

What I noticed most was their father. Through every challenge, he was always there for his family, offering strength and support when they needed it most. Even shaving his hair to show Mira that she's not alone."

Seeing that made me realise that childhood cancer affects so much more than the child alone, it impacts the entire family. It made me realise how important community support is. No family should have to go through a journey like this alone, and I believe a small act of kindness can make a difference."



(Photo: Glenn Yong with Austin, Mira, playing basketball)



(Photo: Glenn Yong with Austin, Mira, and family)

He hopes Mira's story will move more people to step forward, not just during the hardest moments, but after.



(Photo: Glenn Yong and Mira)

"Their resilience is really inspiring. I hope it moves people to act and show any form of support they can."

The Father Who Shaved for Strangers – Then for His Daughter

Mira's father has shaved his head for Hair for Hope every year since 2013. He discovered the campaign at VivoCity, was moved by the children and families he encountered, and signed up on the spot. He later brought his sons along to support the initiative as well.

"The powerful presence and emotions I experienced that day were truly overwhelming and indescribable," he recalled. "From that moment on, I made it a commitment to continue shaving every year."

But he never imagined his own daughter would one day be among the children he was standing in solidarity with.

Walking alongside Mira through her diagnosis, remission, relapse, and transplant did not shake that commitment. It deepened it.

"Going through Mira's cancer journey gave me a much deeper understanding of the challenges faced by children with cancer and their families," he shared. "It reaffirmed why HfH is not just a yearly tradition for me. It is a meaningful act of compassion, solidarity, and hope."

As HfH2026 approaches, he hopes more people will step forward in support of children and families impacted by childhood cancer.

"Do not hesitate to take that first step," he said. "A shaved head is temporary, but the compassion, awareness, and hope it represents can last a lifetime. Sometimes, a simple act of courage from us can become a source of strength for a child fighting cancer."

Mira's story doesn't end here. But for the first time in a long time, Mira's story is hers to write, bright, open, and full of possibility. For her family, that is the greatest gift of all.



(Photo: The Lim Family in 2026)



**Children's
Cancer
Foundation**

Hair for Hope 2026 Main Event

Since 2003, Hair for Hope has rallied over 75,000 shavees and raised more than \$54 million, supporting programmes and services that help children and families navigate cancer and life beyond it. More than just fundraising, the national campaign transforms one of the most visible effects of cancer—hair loss—into a shared act of solidarity.

Details of the main events are as follows:

Date: 25 – 26 July 2026

Time: 11:00 am to 7:00 pm (Saturday), 11:00 am to 6:00 pm (Sunday)

Location: VivoCity

Guest of Honour: Mr Jeffrey Siow, Acting Minister for Transport and Senior Minister of State for Finance

Members of the public can participate by shaving, fundraising or supporting the cause.

For more information visit <https://hairforhope.org.sg/> or contact us at info@hairforhope.org.sg.

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