341, Jamaica Road (Off Falkland Road) Singapore 757615 Tel: 6257 8364 Fax: 6257 8317 Email: turningp@mbox4.singnet.com.sg

Advisors: Dr Toh See Kiat • Rev. Dr Quek Swee Hwa • Rev. Dr Michael Shen • Elder Goh Ewe Kheng • Dr Y. C. Lim • Miss Laura Seet • Ms Felicity Carter

## The Turning Point Newsletter - Dec 2013

### "If the Lord delights in a man's way, He makes His steps firm; though he stumbles, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with His hand." - Psalm 37:23-24

The festive season is upon us and our Lord has continued to bless us as we walk in His path, allowing Him to guide our every step. On 16 October 2013, we marked another milestone with the renewal of a 3-year contract with the Singapore Prisons Service for the Halfway House Service Model (HSM) programme. In HSM, inmates, instead of serving the rest of their time in jail, are emplaced in a halfway house to undergo a 6-month community-based programme followed by a 3-month aftercare.

As we look back on the year 2013, we give thanks to our various stakeholders who continue to support us – the Singapore Prisons Service, SCORE, Ministry of Social & Family Development and the National Council of Social Service. Our donors have been selfless in their generosity and we are grateful to them. We thank our volunteers who sacrifice their time to assist us in our activities and the Executive Committee & co-workers for their dedication and commitment unto TTP. Our appreciation also extends to employers like Hossino Coffee, Polar Puffs & Cakes and Methodist Welfare Services for stepping forward to help us secure jobs for our clients. Without these individuals and organisations, The Turning Point would not be able to effectively reach out and assist our residents to cultivate better habits which nurture in them a sense of confidence to face the world at large. Together we will continue to level up the quality of rehabilitation work for these offenders, drug abusers and our ex- residents as well.

"Do not be terrified do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)." May the Lord continue to use us mightily to reach out to these sisters and guide them in building a strong foundation in their faith so that they can eventually reintegrate into society and testify to the life transformation power of our Lord Jesus.

# Below is a testimony of one of our ex-residents who experienced the miraculous power of our Lord Jesus in her life.

My name is Ah Eng. I am an ex-drug addict. I have been to prison a total of four times, wasting 10 good years of my youth. However, something life-changing happened during my last admission. The inmates in my dormitory then were very young and there were only a few of us who were older. Although we did not get along with each other, there were no serious conflicts.

There are different religious counselling classes available at the Changi Women's Prison/Drug Rehabilitation Centre, be it Christian or Buddhist. Being a Buddhist, I naturally requested for Buddhist counselling class. One of the dormitory mates who attended the Christian counselling class asked me to consider attending Christian counselling instead as according to her I can pour out my heartache to this Lord Jesus whom she believes in & He will help me. I did not answer her but smiled only. However in my heart, I whispered an inner desire of mine to this

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Lord Jesus. I told Him that I did not wish to continue this kind of horrendous jail-life anymore and wished to get out as soon as possible. Miraculously I was chosen to attend the community-based programme at The Turning Point which is a female Christian Halfway House.

Over at the Halfway House, we had the opportunity to read the Word of God, pray to God, and sing hymns of praise. All this enabled me to understand who this Almighty God is. In addition, we had the opportunity to go to church every Sunday to listen to the Pastor preaching the Word of God. Finally at the Halfway House, I accepted the Lord Jesus as my personal Saviour & Lord!

Time flies and I finally completed my 9-month programme with The Turning Point. Upon returning home, I continue to make it a point to go for Sunday worship at the church. I also participate in their activities like cell groups, bible study groups, etc. I am also active in distributing gospel leaflets & gifts with other Christian brothers & sisters.

It has been 11 years already and I just want to give thanks to the Lord for saving and changing me. He has led me onto the path of light and enabled me to be a new creation in HIM. It is the Lord who holds me tight and leads me on this path. May all the glory and honour be given to my Abba Father. My wish is that more and more people will get to know Him and experience His love. Amen!

Please continue to support the ministry by ordering cookies handmade by the residents. We are also praying for more volunteers to come and befriend the residents. Please email to us at turningp@singnet.com.sg or call us at 62578364. Thank you.

Together in His Service,

### Mei Ling

Executive Director, The Turning Point

A note to our donors: All donors are required to provide their full names and tax reference numbers(NRIC/FIN/UEN) to The Turning Point in order to be given tax deduction for their donations. IRAS will no longer accept claims for tax deduction based on donation receipts we sent you. Our staff will submit information on your donations to IRAS through a special portal they have created for this purpose so please let us have your full name and the tax reference numbers for our submission.

### **Current Staff Workers:**

Executive Director: Ng Mei Ling, Providence Presbyterian Church

Administrator: Violet Lim Siew Kiak, Trinity Christian Centre Social Worker: Khew Swee Ling, Glory Presbyterian Church

Operations & Admin Executive: Sharon Law Lay Choo

Programme & Aftercare Executive: Tay Lee Leng, Full Gospel Church Night Duty Staff: Emily Chua Bee Choon, Evangel Family Church Night Duty Staff: Wong Youk Kheng, Faith Community Baptist Church