Project X is governed by Sunshine Initiative (Singapore) which is a registered society in Singapore. Our Unique Entity Number (UEN) is T14SS0189D. Project X was established in 2008, and our vision is a fair and safe sex industry for everyone involved and a society that respects sex workers, their clients, partners, and families.

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One of the year’s highlights for me was the Human Rights Defenders Program, a program that we have spent the last three years crafting. It is a capacity building program for sex worker community leaders that spans 16 sessions over 4 months. This program was created to align our organization with WHO guidelines which advocates that community empowerment is bedrock to successful HIV intervention programs. It was also created to respond to the demands of the community for more formal forms of capacity building. Ten participants were selected, and from September 2017, were trained on various topics such as HIV, Human Rights, Counselling, Suicide Intervention, Financial Literacy and Project Management. Read more on page 31!

One of the highlights for Sherry, who has been with Project X since 2015, was the trip to Geneva. Sherry is one of the few sex workers who is willing to be publicly open about her sex-worker identity. She has been featured, without her face censored, in multiple media channels such as The Straits Times and Channel News Asia, an important step to help put a face to sex workers who have historically been chastised in mainstream media. She is nonetheless thankful that her parents are supportive of her journey and is thus able to come out publicly as a sex worker. To be given the chance to go to Geneva representing the concerns of sex workers in Singapore was a great opportunity for Sherry to make use of her privilege.

Sherry was joined by Lisa in Geneva, who is a sex worker and an advisor to Project X. For Lisa, it was almost unthinkable that it would have been possible for her to one day travel to Europe, to advocate for women’s rights. Her first time sitting on a plane was in 2015 where she traveled to Kuala Lumpur for the ASEAN People’s Forum as part of Project X. See more of her work in Geneva on page 27.

We re-started our second office after a 3 months’ break with Wany helming the centre. Wany has been a core team member of Project X since January 2014, and we’re stoked that she had agreed to take up a bigger position managing our office and expanding our outreach to sex workers. A constant source of positive vibes and enthusiasm, she has enabled us to reach out to a more diverse group of sex workers through her charm and experience.

Our famed Scarlet Bunnie has returned to school but still lends her support whenever possible, allowing us to reach out to escorts and sugar babies by helping through navigating the virtual space that escorts occupy. While some may think that escorts are more privileged, they still lack real access to justice and we have had a few cases in 2017 where escorts were victims/survivors of abuse and discrimination.

Apart from some financial stability, 2017 was a year of volunteers. Together with our volunteer coordinator Pavanne (who is also a volunteer herself!), we worked out a more systematic way to assign volunteers to tasks and this allowed us to achieve much more!

2018 will be our 10th year anniversary. We will chart where we’ve been, how far we’ve come, how much more we got to achieve in the next 10 years. We hope you will join us in our journey—as a friend, ally, donor or volunteer.
2017: AN OVERVIEW

**Jan**
Scarlet Bunnie, part-time staff, did a guest curation on @hellofrmsg’s twitter page

**Mar**
Our first ever FUNDRAISER!

**May**
Sherry, our researcher and writer, did a guest curation on @hellofrmsg’s twitter page
Volunteers attended SSI course on Counselling Skills

**Jun**
The launch of the sex workers photo-story collaboration with Dear Straight People
International Sex Worker’s Day!

**Jul**
Pink Dot 2017!
UN CEDAW training by The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Sep**
YOGAPLUS and LULULEMON fundraiser
Started our Human Rights Defender training program
Sherry went to Bangkok for the APTN Barriers to Bridges Program

**Nov**
We were featured on Channel 8’s Tuesday Report!
Massage Establishment Act: we conducted lobbying and research

**Feb**
The launch of the sex workers photo-story collaboration with Dear Straight People

**Apr**
Started outreach to male sex workers

**Jun**
International Sex Worker’s Day!

**Aug**
Staff member Sherry was in Jakarta for the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative
Re-opening of our Orchard Towers Office

**Oct**
Staff members Sherry and Lisa go to Geneva for CEDAW!

**Dec**
Our first ever Volunteer Appreciation Night!
KEY FIGURES

- 1200 Reached Through 51 Public Talks
- 69 Abuser Alerts
- 40000 Condoms Distributed
- 112 Case Work
- 16 Yoga Sessions
- 367 Outreach Sessions
- 23000 Website Hits
- 2472 Volunteer Hours
- 1200 Outreach Sessions
This year, we experienced an increase in our number of active volunteers, allowing us to expand our sex worker outreach. Majority of volunteer hours this year (64%) were spent on physical outreach, doing groundwork and interacting with the sex workers. In previous years, regular outreach was only conducted in the Little India area, with outreach in other locations was inconsistent. However, with the greater number of active volunteers, we were able to carry out consistent outreach in 6 locations. Some of our staff and regular volunteers have become familiar faces in the outreach locations and are thus approached warmly by the sex workers present. 13% of volunteer hours were spent on online outreach, and another 13% of volunteer hours spent on office work, which consists of clerical work and letter writing. In 2017, Project X managed to achieve its largest scale of outreach to sex workers to date, and we are thankful to the volunteers whose hard work has made this possible.
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

Project X wrapped up the year with our inaugural Volunteer Appreciation Night, our first event specifically catered for our volunteers to recognise their achievements. 2017 has been an exceptionally good year for us: this year saw the most number of active volunteers, we were able to do a lot more for the sex worker community. It has allowed us to reach sex workers in locations we have never ventured to in the past, with more sex workers willing to come up to our volunteers to report instances of abuse via our Abuser Alert system. It is also with the help of our volunteers that we were able to carry out our inaugural public fundraiser on 3 March 2017. Volunteer Appreciation Night was held on 22 December 2017, at DYMK, our venue sponsor. We are incredibly grateful to DYMK for their continuous support for our cause. The night was wholly dedicated to the celebration of our volunteers and achievements. On the night itself, our volunteer coordinator Pavarne Shantti, also gave out several special mention awards to volunteers that have contributed significantly to Project X in 2017.

SPECIAL MENTION Awardees!

GIANG NGUYEN
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT
Giang started as a volunteer for online outreach, then transitioned to helping us on physical outreach sessions where she contributed a lot of her time translating and transcribing Vietnamese for case work.

NATALEE HO
RESIDENT FIERY WARRIOR
She spends a lot of time after school at Orchard Towers, representing Project X in meetings and writing articles.

PRASHAIN KUMAR
SELF-PROCLAIMED QUEEN
He helps out with our physical outreach and spends most of his time in our headquarters doing clerical and design work.

REBECCA YEONG
THE VOLUNTEER THAT MAKES EVERYONE FEEL OLD
Our youngest volunteer! Despite having her A Levels this year, she was still actively volunteering. Now, after finishing her exams, she is our intern!

ALWYN NG
ABUSER TERMINATOR
They spent 833 hours volunteering with us in 2017! Alwyn spends 4 days a week reaching out to sex workers. They have also collected the most Abuser Alerts from sex workers this year!

MARCUS YEE
RESIDENT TWINK GENIUS
Marcus is one of the volunteers managing and executing male sex worker outreach. He has also assisted us in copywriting, and is also really smart!

PAVARNE SHANTTI
BEST VOLUNTEER AWARD
Our very own Volunteer Coordinator who tirelessly spends their hours liaising and allocating volunteers to their slots!

DION CHAN
HUNK OF THE YEAR
Dion is one of the volunteers managing and executing male sex worker outreach. He is also the most successful at matching with men on dating sites.
Expanded to conducting sex worker outreach in 6 different locations

Commenced male sex worker outreach

New partnerships with stakeholders in 2017 has allowed us to expand our outreach to 6 locations in Singapore. This has allowed us to reach different sex worker demographics and inform more individuals about their rights as a sex worker in Singapore. The sex workers are often initially dubious of our motivations, assuming that we are affiliated with law enforcers. Thus upon our presence at a new location, it takes a few months of continuous outreach sessions for the outreach staff to gain the trust of the workers there.
Since the beginning of Project X, we mostly focused our efforts on reaching out to female sex workers. While we knew that cisgender male sex workers exist, we were unsure of how to reach out to them. In 2016, we tried to start a program emulating that of Midnight Blue — a male sex worker organization in Hong Kong. However, the program lacked manpower and expertise. In 2017, with the help of two dedicated volunteers, the program finally took off.

Male sex workers more often tend to advertise their services online, and are therefore less visible. The outreach process includes going to certain ‘hotspot’ areas, then engaging them via mobile apps where they advertise. This includes a brief introduction of the aims of our organisation and the services we offer. Over 91 outreach hours, 595 messages were sent to male sex workers, with 120 individuals responding to our messages, giving a response rate of 20%. The particularly high response rate can be attributed to the fact that they are likely to have visited countries like Hong Kong where sex worker’s rights movements are much more developed. 60 of the 120 respondents actively enquired on their rights. Most voiced concern regarding their safety, and the steps they should take in the event that they face abusive clients. Sex workers also were curious about avenues for STI testing and the purchase of medication, like PrEP and HIV medication. However, obtaining HIV medication would require them to first obtain a prescription — given most individuals contacted are foreigners, this presents a conundrum as they risk a travel ban if their HIV positive status is reported to the authorities. Many also inquired about the legality of their work, and the possible consequences they would face if prosecuted. Of the respondents, 28 individuals who met up with our volunteers to collect condoms and lubricant, and do so regularly. There were 4 cases brought to our attention of clients who did not pay for their services. In 2 of these cases, the clients pawned their belongings with the workers as a guarantee that they would eventually pay for their services. In the other 2 cases, the clients fled. In the majority of these cases, we provided advice and our befriender service.

In conclusion, our male sex worker outreach has been immensely successful, the community being very forthcoming and willing to engage with us. Male sex worker outreach will no doubt continue to be executed.
Given the increasing number of raids occurring in Singapore's prominent red-light districts, we see an increasing number of sex workers moving online to advertise their services. We started doing online outreach since 2014 and intensified our efforts with the help of volunteers in the last two years. This involves us finding advertisements made by sex workers, and dropping them with a message introducing ourselves. In 2017, we expanded the means by which we reached out to sex workers online. This saw us engaging with them via several mobile apps with testimonies about the services we can provide. The testimonies are sent out as chain messages, in both English and Mandarin, usually accompanied with a related image (examples shown on the right). These messages serve to raise awareness about our presence, allowing them to contact us if they are facing similar situations as the ones detailed in the testimonies. Close to 1,200 people were contacted by our volunteers via the various platforms, and of the 1,200 contacted, 30 sex workers responded, giving our online outreach a 2.5% success rate. This is a stark improvement from a response rate of less than 1% when we first started our online outreach in 2014. It is to note that many sex workers that operate through online chat apps are still wary when they receive unsolicited messages online that are from unfamiliar sources. Such wariness is not unwarranted given that there have been multiple cases in the past where the police have posed as potential clients online to lure and in turn persecute these sex workers. However, amongst those that did reply us, the responses were immensely positive. Most Thanked us for the services that we provided, some responding with questions about their rights, or sharing experiences of violence and abuse. Many of those contacted through these apps do come down to our office to access our HIV and STI testing services, or simply to say hi and connect with our team. Online outreach has allowed us to contact and therefore better empower this “invisible” demographic.
Our Abuser Alert program was launched in 2014, and is a scheme that enables sex workers to report crimes against them to us, and furthermore allows for sex workers to be notified of potential abusers as reported by others. As such, this enables us to monitor and document incidences of violence and discrimination towards sex workers, providing a safe space in which they can speak without fear of judgement. This in turn provides an opportunity where we can educate sex workers about their rights and discern whether there is room to seek justice. Abuser Alerts are collected during physical outreach sessions or can be reported through a form on our website. We have collected a total of 69 Abuser Alerts in 2017, with 52% of our cases being reports of harassment. This includes any behaviour that is highlighted under the Protection from Harassment Act, which includes anything from stalking to sending lewd messages. Such indicates the ubiquity of the harassment of sex workers not only by their clients, but also their pimps and the general public. The number of abuser alerts collected increased from 43 in 2016 to 69 in 2017. This can be attributed to the fact that more sex workers are familiar with our Abuser Alert system and thus readily report their abusers. Furthermore, sex workers may be more educated about their rights and thus can better identify what constitutes abuse, and are thus more forthcoming to report circumstances that they previously might have dismissed. This year, we also documented a case of a serial abuser, that has harassed and assaulted numerous sex workers. This abuser’s actions only came to light through word-of-mouth from other sex workers. Only after we publicised the abuser alert for this individual, that many other sex workers then came forward to identify that they have been abused by this same man. It is a saddening trend that reports of abuse do not come from the victims themselves, but are instead brought to our attention via hearsay and rumours. The unwillingness of the victims to come forward is often caused by feelings of hopelessness and futility, as well as a grave fear of persecution, given that the reporting of such crimes to the police often requires one to
ABUSER ALERT

expose themselves as a sex worker. Migrant sex workers may be deported, while locals are at risk of getting fined if they are found soliciting. This, coupled with a general fear of the police, established by the frequent raids of illegal brothels, massage parlours and other premises. This highlights the systemic obstacles which often act as a barrier to justice.

Similar to 2016, clients still remain the majority of sex worker abusers. The fact that the number of client abusers more than doubled from 19 in 2016 to 40 in 2017 is immensely troubling. This serves as a harrowing reminder that much more can be done to create a safe legal and social climate for sex workers to report and pursue crimes against them. Sex workers are especially vulnerable to abuse not because of the nature of their work, but because of clients’ and society’s perception that selling sex devalues an individual. This moral high ground may in turn incentivise abusers to think they have to jurisdiction to harass and hurt sex workers. It is noteworthy that apart from clients, the police/law enforcers are the largest demographic to have abused sex workers, with the number increasing from 12 in 2016 to 16 in 2017. Such is reinforced by the fact that the number of reports of police brutality also remained relatively high in the year of 2017. Though it is understood that it is expected of a law enforcer to take action against any one perceived to be committing an illegal act—be it soliciting or engaging in commercial sex work illegally—such procedures should be done with the tact and demeanour that is expected of a law enforcer.

In many cases that we detailed, there were accounts of abuse of power by these law enforcers to deliberately intimidate vulnerable, unarmed sex workers. We also see cases of law enforcers using transphobic and racist slurs during a raid or an arrest, like “bapok” and “ladyboy”. We have also received reports that officers use emotional blackmail to intimidate sex workers who have been arrested. Tactics include threatening incarceration and threatening to expose them as a sex worker to their family. Such is presenting to the sex workers false information to blatantly scare them, forcing them into an admission of guilt. Such are just a few examples of how law enforcers deliberately terrorise sex workers. Such is exemplified also during raids of illegal brothels where the anti-vice police are armed with circular saws and hammers. This is use of excessive force—though the violent and aggressive actions of officers may be perceived as precautions done in self-defence, one must recognise that law enforcers have the duty to gauge what is commensurate with the risk of the operation.
Apart from our Abuser Alert channels and reports we receive while interacting with sex workers during our outreach sessions, there are many individuals who approach us directly at our office to seek aid. We first assess their situation, then determine which would be the most appropriate action taken in the circumstance—this can range from providing career advice to legal aid, to a referral to other services. It is a heartening trend that more have been forthcoming to approach us for help—we had 112 cases documented in 2017, up from the 60 cases in 2016. This can be attributed to the fact that awareness has spread of our presence amongst the sex worker community. However, this can also be due to the empowerment of many of our long-term sex worker volunteers and regular beneficiaries to become community leaders, actively urging or referring their peers to seek aid from our organisation. Our Befriender Service is carried out when sex workers are in need of someone to accompany them to places like hospitals and police stations, to provide them the social and emotional support that they lack so to access the services they require. Such a service was born out of the fact that many sex workers expressed trepidation when required to report to such places alone. Our career services include CV writing for sex workers who wish to leave the sex industry, 2017 saw an increased amount of dialogue between our organisation and the police, as well as other relevant organisations like the Ministry of Home Affairs. We are hopeful that such discourse would ensure that sex worker’s rights would be better protected.
Sherry Sherqueshaa was in Bangkok for From Barriers to Bridges, the first regional conference to specifically address transgender health care and HIV in Asia, organised by the Asia-Pacific Trans Network (APTN). 150 delegates from 20 Asian countries were invited to the 3 day convention to engage in dialogue, share, and develop roadmaps for improving transgender health care in the region. The first day saw the discussion of the topic of legal gender recognition. Sherry shared that “though Singapore allows the gender marker to be changed after individuals undergo sex reassignment surgery, other countries do not”. The second day saw the discussion of HIV prevention, care, and treatment. It was proposed that it is best to aim for the “90-90-90” cascade—to, by year 2020, identify 90% of HIV infected individuals and allow them to know their status, start 90% of this demographic on antiretroviral treatment, and virally suppress 90% of this community. Sherry commented that “there is a high need to identify the ‘men having sex with men’ community in a complex spectrum based on their gender identity, sexual orientation, and sexual practices so as to have more diverse and accurate statistics. This allows organizations to identify and target individuals who are HIV positive or are at risk of contracting HIV more effectively.”
In October 2015, the Singapore Council of Women’s Organizations (SCWO) commenced efforts to mobilize local women’s groups to submit a joint coalition report for Singapore’s Fifth Reporting Cycle to CEDAW. Project X was invited and that started our two year journey preparing for the session. In October 2017, armed with one coalition report and one solo report, our resident human rights defender Sherry Sherqueshaa, as well as fellow community leader, Lisa, flew to Geneva, Switzerland for the 68th Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). CEDAW aims to provide a platform to highlight unresolved women’s issues at an international level, to incentivise action on a national level. Sherry and Lisa also attended workshops by the International Women’s Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAW-AP). The workshops provided technical guidance and support as to the CEDAW reporting processes for Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) present. These training sessions also provided guidance as to how women from the reporting countries can go about monitoring and reviewing governmental reports, and the means through which participants could interact with other CEDAW members. These workshops enabled our team to get educated on the strategies to push for advocacy in Singapore while preparing them for the NGO oral statement and State Report. Our participants also had the opportunity to dine informally with the CEDAW committee members, allowing them to further discuss the issues raised during the oral statement and their expectations of Singapore’s replies from the session the following day. After the session, the coalition then had an opportunity to meet with Singapore Government. Representatives to have a dialogue about how to work together in to further women’s rights in Singapore. Sherry and Lisa then joined The Global Network of Sex Work Projects to have a discussion with The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights about sex work in Singapore.
PUBLIC TALKS

Project X has given a total of 52 public talks this year, in settings ranging from social awareness events to tertiary institutions. Through these talks we aim to spread awareness of our advocacy work and incite discourse on sex worker’s rights in Singapore. Public education is integral to our cause as it challenges some of the one-dimensional portrayals of sex workers as perpetuated by the media and legislators.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

PUBLIC TALKS

@HELLOFRMSG

TWITTER CURATION

Sherry and our volunteer Scarlet Bunnie both had one week stints curating @hellofrmsg's twitter page. The platform allowed them to amplify their passions and spread word about our cause, with many twitter users responding positively and inquisitively to the subject matter brought up. During her stint, Scarlet Bunnie also came into contact with an individual named Melinda who shared that her grandmother was a sex worker. They then proceeded to meet up for coffee—the twitter curation was indeed serendipitous!
HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER PROGRAM

2017 saw the launch of our Human Rights Defender Program (HRDP), aimed at empowering sex workers through equipping them with relevant skills to aid others in their community. The HRDP is divided into numerous modules, each module tackles a key issue facing the community and equips them with a specific skill. Here’s a snapshot of the course:

DIGITAL STORYTELLING

The program kickstarted with a module about Digital Storytelling, our highest rated programme to date. Participants were prompted to write about their lives, allowing the them to document their stories through creative means. The methodology of Digital Storytelling allows participants to speak their own truths and publish their stories the way they want them to be, thereby challenging mainstream portrayals and combatting harmful and discriminatory stereotypes. Participants wrote about topics ranging from the reasons they chose to enter sex work, to the relationship with their best friends, or their family. In addition to writing, participants learnt to make videos that included background music and visuals to enhance the effects of the storytelling. They also made an audio recording of themselves narrating the story they had written, allowing viewers an immersive experience. This course was held in conjunction with The Stiletto Alliance, at CARE, NUS, and conducted by Professor Jeff Peterson.

RACE, RELIGION, AND GENDER INEQUALITY

Over two sessions, participants had an opportunity to critically examine gender and racial stereotypes, and learn the language needed to describe their personal experiences of discrimination.

COUNSELLING AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

Mental health issues are often overlooked even as many in the community are battling with it. Over five sessions, participants learnt about the common mental health issues, the signs, strategies to cope, as well as resources available in Singapore to seek help. Participants then went on to undertake a basic counselling course at the Social Service Institute before a two-day session with Oogachaga on Suicide Intervention.

HIV AWARENESS

Through the module participants were informed about the transmission of HIV, and how HIV develops into AIDS. The module highlighted the medication available for HIV prevention, treatment, and where they can be accessed. Participants were also made aware of pre and post exposure prophylaxis (PrEP and PEP) and how and when to use them.

LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS

A key ingredient for empowerment is knowledge of one’s rights. Over two sessions led by pro bono lawyers and NUS law students, participants were enlightened about the various laws in Singapore and their rights in relation to those laws. Areas covered sex work, rape and sexual assault, physical assault, drugs, and theft. These two sessions were complemented with a session on international human rights standards, which provided participants a platform to discuss about the discrimination and injustices they faced. Finally, participants had an opportunity to speak to local human rights activists and had a sharing session on the principles and strategies for advocacy.
In October, the Ministry of Home Affairs announced that it was going to repeal and replace the Massage Establishment Act with something stronger. In summary, the bill seeks to increase the penalties for non-compliant and unlicensed massage parlours. This comes amid a 40% increase in the number of unlicensed massage establishments between 2013 and 2016, many of which were fronts for vice.

When the news broke, many sex workers came to Project X expressing their worry and frustration regarding the new law. Though most agreed that there was a surplus of “happy ending” massage parlours, and agreed that there was a need for government intervention, many others also argued that “happy ending” parlours that are not situated near housing estates or public institutions should be forced to shut down. Many were of course concerned about how the law would affect their livelihoods, and expressed worry about whether they would still be able to support their families. Project X thus embarked on a one-month journey, conducting interviews with sex workers in massage parlours, having closed door meetings with MHA, and having discussions with NMP Kok Heng Leun and MP Louis Ng. We aimed to fight for room for more consultations regarding the matter at hand, as well as the creation of special category license for “happy ending” massage parlours—similar to how the authorities regulate the brothels in Geylang. Unfortunately, while the 2 MPs spoke up for sex workers, 9 more spoke up in support of the even stricter regulations. The Bill passed with zero amendments. That said, new opportunities have opened up for us to consult with various government agencies. All is not lost, and we hope to continue the conversation in the near future. We will leave you with a quote from NMP Kok Heng Leun, in his speech at the second reading of the Message Establishment Bill, delivered on 6 November 2017.

“Speaker Sir, in the past, there was a common understanding that we all did what we needed to do to survive. People could empathise with each other through their shared hardships. However, now that we have progressed significantly, society at large seems to look down and despise people who have not made it, even though they may have different backgrounds and opportunities. The stigma on sex workers (and other forms of manual labourers) remains rampant and it only fuels discrimination and sometimes even violence. We need to be able to treat all human beings/citizens equally and work together to create an equitable society.”
In March 2017, we had Popping the Cherry, our inaugural fundraiser. The event was both to commemorate International Sex Workers’ Day and to diversify our funding sources. We sold all 80 tickets and had a nice mix of sex workers and non-sex workers at the event. We managed to raise a total of $6,000 from ticket sales as well as our online fundraising campaign. We were heartened to see the support for wanting to make sex workers’ rights a reality in Singapore.

The event would not have been possible without the following sponsors: Ok Condoms, for sponsoring condoms for our door gifts; DYMK, for creating Project X’s own unique drink and for donating to us; More Than Veggies, for sponsoring the vegan cookies for our door gifts; Xfers, for providing a payment processing gateway that many of our guests used to purchase their tickets; and our cash sponsors Glenn Goei, Lee Can Can, and Gerrie Lim. We are forever thankful for your generosity.

Our Sponsors:
LULULEMON X YOGA+

In lieu of Yoga+’s first anniversary celebrations, we were their chosen beneficiary of their community initiatives. Yoga+ had a community open house at their Pagoda Street studio, where attendees could pay as they wish for yoga classes, with all proceeds going to Project X.

Yoga+, as part of Lululemon’s Here To Be program, also organised a community yoga session at Clifford Square. This initiative saw a community of yoga enthusiasts—sex workers and non-sex workers alike—coming together for an invigorating community yoga session by the bay. A big thank you to Lululemon for sponsoring the event!

In addition to that, Lululemon also sponsored $1,500 worth of yoga mats, straps, and blocks to Project X!

YOGA SESSIONS @ PROJECT X

Yoga sessions for sex workers are conducted at our Project X community centre on a fortnightly basis. A professional yoga instructor guides the participants during each hour-long class for a fee of only $5 per session. These yoga sessions allow for a safe space for the participants to get active, promoting relaxation and stress-release, bringing yoga to the participants’ convenience. The yoga sessions would not have been possible without the generosity of our freelance instructors. Participants have responded positively to the yoga sessions, mentioning that though the sessions themselves were gruelling, they experienced the health benefits a few days later—many report feeling lighter and more flexible, being able to use the breathing techniques taught during the classes to destress on a day-to-day basis.
Earlier this year, we collaborated with the people of Dear Straight People Singapore to produce a photo-story collection that detailed the stories and quirks of sex workers. Many personal anecdotes were shared—some poignant, some humorous, some saddening. We hope that this project sheds light on the plights and joys of the sex workers that exist around us, that emphasises that despite the nature of their work, sex workers are ultimately human beings not to be belittled or shunned. You can still view this photo-story collection at (insert link).
2017 FINANCES

INCOME

- 15.67% LEE FOUNDATION DONATION
- 32.21% INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS
- 0.42% MERCHANDISE SALE
- 0.35% YOGA SESSIONS
- 0.34% SPEAKING FEES
- 0.02% BAJU SALE
- 2.76% RESEARCH ACTIVITIES
- 2.89% AD-HOC FUNDRAISING
- 5.73% POPPING THE CHERRY CHARITY DINNER
- 39.81% SEXUAL HEALTH OUTREACH SERVICES

TOTAL 127,625.00

EXPENDITURE

- HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS PROGRAM 14.12%
- RENT 14.04%
- SEXUAL HEALTH OUTREACH SERVICES 5.66%
- CPF CONTRIBUTIONS 4.24%
- OUTREACH 3.99%
- POPPING THE CHERRY CHARITY DINNER 3.37%
- YOGA 1.17%
- OFFICE SUPPLIES AND STATIONERY 1.06%
- RESEARCH 0.86%
- STAFF MISCELLANEOUS 0.66%
- TRANSPORT & TRAVELLING 0.52%
- STAFF TRAINING & WELFARE 0.49%
- SALARIES 49.66%

TOTAL 85,454.08

Support Us!

If you would like to make a donation, please make your cheque payable to Sunshine Initiative (Singapore), or bank transfer to:

United Overseas Bank Limited, Bank Code: 7375; Branch Code: 009; Account number: 3183049834

For more information, please go to our website: www.theprojectx.org