



Dear Friends,

As we enter the second half of 2026, our hearts are full of gratitude for each of you – foster parents, volunteers, community partners, supporters, and friends.

We're excited to share that our Buddy for Good and Mentor for Good programmes are supported by the President's Challenge Grant 2026. In this issue, you will find stories that remind us of how the steady presence of a caring adult can play a significant role in a foster child's life and their family, along with highlights of recent events and a peek at what's ahead.

We are also delighted to welcome two new members to our team: Eugenia Chuah, Programmes Manager, and Juliana Chua, Finance and Admin Executive.

Sincerely,
Sue Chang-Koh
Executive Director

Event highlights



Buddy for Good: A Trusted Friendship that Makes a Difference

Buddy for Good pairs foster children with dedicated volunteer befrienders who walk alongside them for at least a year, offering stability and care that can extend beyond reunification.

Befrienders are over 21 years of age and undergo training before being thoughtfully matched.

For foster mother Wui Ling, the programme has been a meaningful addition to her family's journey. Her 9-year-old foster son was recently paired with Lydia, a volunteer befriender who quickly became a trusted presence in his life. Their time together, from playground visits and frisbee sessions to a children's day camp, has been filled with joy and discovery.

Reflecting on her experience, volunteer befriender Lydia shared that the journey has been "deeply meaningful and encouraging," adding that "children never choose the circumstances into which they are born, making it easy to love and show up for them wholeheartedly."

For foster mother Wui Ling, the impact is clear. "Our foster son thoroughly enjoys his sessions with Lydia. He always looks forward to them," she said. "Having more trusted adults and positive role models in his life has greatly benefited him. We're truly thankful to HFG-SG and Lydia."

Through consistent presence, Buddy for Good helps children feel seen, supported, and cared for, one friendship at a time.



Building Safety Before Behaviour Foster Parent Workshop

On 16 May 2026, foster parents joined Kindred Haven trainers for an insightful workshop on looking beyond behaviour to address the deeper needs of children in care.

Together, we reflected on how blocked trust can lead children to push away closeness, even when they long for it, and on how foster parents can meet those difficult moments with calmness and co-regulation.

One powerful takeaway from the workshop: connection grows through gentle, consistent reassurance. Simple words such as "You can be upset; I'll be here when you're ready to talk" can help to rebuild trust.



Peer for Good & Wire Tree Keyring Workshop

On 8 June 2026, we held a Peer for Good gathering for foster parents and a Wire Tree Keyring workshop for foster children, providing a meaningful platform for both foster parents and children to connect and grow during the June school holidays. Foster parents gathered over afternoon tea to share openly about their fostering journeys, challenges, and encouragement, while their children enjoyed a hands-on creative workshop led by trainers from the social enterprise Hi-Story. The session offered a fun and enriching activity, as children crafted their own intricate wire tree keyrings.

For many parents, the session was a timely reminder that they are not alone. "I really appreciate HFG-SG for facilitating such sessions, as they give foster parents a platform to share experiences and overcome hurdles together," said Nicole. "It's comforting to know that I'm not alone in this journey."

Siti, a foster parent, echoed this sentiment, describing the afternoon as uplifting: "It was truly moving to listen to and share life stories, and to witness the resilience in each other's journeys."

By nurturing both peer support and meaningful experiences for children, sessions like these strengthen the fostering community and remind families that they are supported every step of the way.

We're grateful to Hi-Story for generously sponsoring the workshop!



President's Challenge 2026

We are delighted to share that HFG-SG has been selected as one of 62 recipients of this year's President's Challenge. With this support, our Buddy for Good and Mentor for Good programmes can strengthen support for foster families and build a network of community-based care, ensuring every child in need can grow up in a safe and loving family.

The Buddy for Good Programme connects trained volunteer befrienders with foster children and families, providing support from placement to reunification. The programme includes the Kintsugi workshops, inspired by the art of repairing pottery with gold, where caregivers can learn, share, and reflect. These sessions aim to empower caregivers and prioritise the child's wellbeing in decision-making.

Mentor for Good connects experienced foster parents with those who are new in the fostering journey. This peer-to-peer support provides a sense of community, ensuring that no one has to navigate the fostering journey alone. [Watch this video](#) to find out more about the President's Challenge.

Upcoming events

Istana Open House

Sat, 26 July, 2.00pm to 5.00pm, The Istana

We're organising an outing for all HFG foster families and volunteers to the Istana Open House! Join us to explore the iconic Istana grounds, enjoy multicultural performances celebrating Singapore's heritage, and participate in a variety of activities together with your family. [Register](#) by 6 July.

HFG-SG Foster Care & Education Dialogue 2026

Sat, 15 August, 9.30 am to 1.00 pm, JustCo @ The Metropolis

HFG-SG is hosting a dialogue session bringing together foster parents, fostering agencies, educators, and policymakers to explore what takes for a child in foster care to thrive in MOE schools. This session will feature a keynote sharing by Dr Tan Lai Yong, insights from a foster parent, and a panel discussion with Poh Chun Leck, Director of the School Operations Policy Branch, MOE. If you're interested to join, please [email Brenda Tan \(Partnerships Manager\)](#).



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