



HEALTH MATTERS

[HOME](#)[ABOUT US](#)[CATEGORIES](#)[VIDEOS](#)[CONTACT US](#)**18**

Dec 2010

SC Home Going Home

[Health Minister](#)[0 Comments](#)

I was with fellow Sembawang MP Dr Lim Wee Kiak at the Singapore Christian Home (SCH) this morning. The event was to mark the beginning of SCH's shift from the Tan Tock Seng Hospital pavilion wards to Sembawang in 2 years' time.

There was a photo exhibition of SCH's 50-year history. SCH has moved several times but its very first home, in an attap house, was in Sembawang (Upper Thomson 9th milestone)! I was not aware of this fact when we in MOH decided on its final home. Call it destiny 😊

The SCH move is part of our 5-year Nursing Home Development Programme (NHDP), involving 6 nursing homes in total.

First: we are making them bigger. SCH, for example will expand from its current 75 to 250 beds.

Second: we are moving them to HDB towns for the convenience of the patients and their family members. Ren Ci Nursing Home next door in the pavilion wards, for example, will move into Bt Batok Town.

Third: MOH will pay for the full development cost. With each nursing home costing about \$20 mil, this represents a huge investment on our part. It will free up the VWOs from raising building funds to focus on their patients.

Fourth: we will help the nursing homes upgrade their skills, especially in rehabilitation, so that their patients can hope to get better and go home. As I always remind them, nursing homes are NOT homes for the aged. Their mission is not custodial care, but rehab care. We are setting up an Expert Panel on Nursing Homes to help us achieve this. Prof J J Chin of TTSH will chair the panel.

Fifth: we will help the nursing homes reduce their reliance on unskilled foreign workers. Nursing homes can offer meaningful career for Singaporeans, including part-time workers. If they have the right attitude, we will train them up to be competent nursing home workers, with appropriate compensation.

NHDP will cost MOH money. But it is a worthy investment in preparing Singapore for the future as its frail elderly population grows.

Meanwhile, for SCH, Dr Lim's residents are gearing up to welcoming it home. This morning's event was co-organised by Dr Lim's grassroots leaders, who entertained the patients with Christmas carolling, complete with Santa Claus

Google™ Custom Search



powered by Google™

[<< Previous](#)[As I Get Older,
Losi...](#)[Next >>](#)[Feeling Rather
Incom...](#)

Categories

- [City For All Ages](#)
- [Diseases & Conditions](#)
- [Elderly](#)
- [Events](#)
- [For Healthcare Professionals](#)
- [Health Budget Discussions](#)
- [Health Minister](#)
- [Healthcare Facilities](#)
- [Healthcare Financing](#)
- [Healthcare System](#)
- [Heart Bypass](#)
- [HOTA](#)
- [Infectious Diseases](#)
- [Marine Parade Pilot Project](#)
- [Medical Education](#)
- [New Media](#)
- [PCPS](#)
- [Photos / Videos](#)
- [Policies & Issues](#)
- [Preventive Health & Healthy Lifestyle](#)
- [Primary Care Partnership Scheme](#)
- [Recovery](#)
- [Reflections](#)
- [Uncategorized](#)
- [Visits](#)

Archive

- [2014 \(3\)](#)
 - [April \(1\)](#)
 - [February \(1\)](#)
 - [January \(1\)](#)
- [2013 \(10\)](#)
- [2012 \(6\)](#)
- [2011 \(34\)](#)

and log cakes.

- ▶ 2010 (95)
- ▶ 2009 (96)

SCH is going home to Sembawang and I hope its patients can get better and go home too.



Minister visiting the elderly at the Singapore Christian Home

Related Articles:

1. [Follow Minister Khaw's Home Nursing visit on MOH Twitter \(01/10/2009\)](#)

Share with your Friends:

0 1 0

[f Share](#) [T Tweet](#) [g+1](#)

230

[← Share](#)

<< Previous

[As I Get Older, Losing My Hair...](#)

[To Top](#)

Next >>

[Feeling Rather Incomplete](#)

Comments

0 comments



[Comment](#)

[f](#) Facebook social plugin