



福慧佛教文化中心
Fu Hui Buddhist Cultural Centre

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



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CENTRE DAILY OPENING HOURS: 9:00AM TO 4:00PM
ADMIN OFFICE: CLOSED ON SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Table of Contents

1 ORGANISATION PROFILE	2
1.1 VISION AND MISSION	3
1.2 OBJECTIVES	4
1.3 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE	4
2 POLICIES.....	5
2.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY	5
2.2 FINANCE AND FUNDING POLICY.....	5
2.3 RESERVES POLICY	6
3 REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2023	7
3.1 STAFF STRENGTH	7
3.2 PROGRAMMES.....	8
FU HUI DHARMA EDUCATION CENTRE (FHDEC).....	8
3.2.1 Sunday School Dharma Classes	8
3.2.2 Youth Dharma Classes.....	10
3.3 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES.....	11
3.4 OTHER ENRICHMENT COURSES.....	13
3.5 FU HUI LIBRARY.....	14
3.6 PUBLICATIONS	14
4 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY.....	15
4.1 INCOME	15
4.2 EXPENDITURE	15
5 COMMITMENTS AND FUTURE PLANS.....	16
5.1 COMMITMENTS	16
5.2 FUTURE PLANS.....	16
5.3 IN THE YEAR AHEAD	17

ANNUAL REPORT – 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 ORGANISATION PROFILE

FU HUI BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE was registered as a society on 2 July 1987 and under the Charities Act on 12 October 1994.

Charity Registration Number	: 1051
Unique Entity Number	: UEN S87SS0075A
Governing Instrument	: Constitution
Registered Address	: 105 Punggol Road, Singapore 546636
Bankers	: United Overseas Bank Limited; Standard Chartered Bank (Singapore) Limited
Auditor	: Robert Yam & Co PAC
Honorary Legal Advisors	: Mr Khor Thiam Beng, Mr Khor Wee Siong
Executive Committee	: The Executive Committee for the term from 19 July 2021 to 30 June 2025 was elected at an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 17 July 2021.

No.	FU HUI BUDDHIST CULTURAL CENTRE (2021 – 2025)		Board Meeting Attendance in Year 2023
1	President	Venerable Kuan Yan, <i>BBM</i>	3/3
2	Vice President	Mr Teo Geok Heng	2/3
3	Honorary Secretary	Mr Toh Yew Teck	1/3
4	Honorary Assistant Secretary	Ms Mabel Lim May Poh	3/3
5	Honorary Treasurer	Ms Marie Seah Li Kheng	2/3
6	Honorary Assistant Treasurer	Mr Toh Seng Poh	3/3
7	Committee Member	Ms Lim Siew Hong	2/3
8	Committee Member	Ms Kwang Siew Lang	2/3
9	Committee Member	Ms Lee May Leng	3/3



1.1 VISION AND MISSION

OUR VISION

***Creating a Community of Individuals
with Righteous Minds and leading Righteous Lives***

OUR MISSION

***To enable members to be more Mindful,
as well as work towards achieving
Harmonious and Cohesive Living
through the Buddhist teachings (Dharma)***



1.2 OBJECTIVES

- To promote mutual understanding among cultural groups, as well as friendly relations among people of different races and religions in Singapore;
- to collaborate with other religious organisations in Singapore in the pursuance of peace and harmony;
- to foster public interest in and appreciation of Buddhist culture;
- to promote Buddhist culture by publishing books, magazines, newsletters, as well as by organising courses, seminars, forums, discussion and talks;
- to promote moral education based on Buddhist teachings, complemented by cultural activities, community services and charitable activities;
- to propagate the Buddhist teachings as a way of life for self-cultivation;
- to provide facilities and activities for study and research in Buddhist philosophy, psychology, literature, history, drama, music and art;
- to set up library facilities to encourage reading and study of Buddhism;
- to co-ordinate religious and social activities of Buddhists, as well as encourage participation in community services and lifelong learning;
- to conduct healthy, meaningful activities which promote friendship and mutual understanding among members, irrespective of race or cultural backgrounds.

1.3 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

- As a registered charity, Fu Hui Buddhist Cultural Centre (FHBCC) is committed to the established standards of corporate governance in Singapore.
- FHBCC believes that strong corporate governance is in its best interests.
- FHBCC is guided by a set of corporate governance guidelines, based on best practices in the corporate and voluntary sectors.



2 POLICIES

2.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

A Conflict of Interest Policy has been established with reference to the National Council of Social Service's recommendations and existing practice. It provides clear guidelines and procedures to define and determine the course of actions should conflicts of interest arise.

The key objectives of this policy are to preserve the integrity and transparency of the organisation, promote public trust and confidence in the organisation, as well as comply with the code of governance, incorporating measures to prevent actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest that could affect the integrity, fairness and accountability of the organisation, and that any Executive Committee member, staff or volunteer serving the organisation shall act in the best interest of the organisation.

The said policy includes standard operating procedures in handling disclosure of a conflict of interest and how to address any conflict that arises.

2.2 FINANCE AND FUNDING POLICY

As a voluntary and charitable organisation, FHBCC relies totally on public support. Funds for the Centre were mainly from voluntary donations or contributions by members and well-wishers. These funds shall be used in furtherance of the objectives of the Centre.



2.3 RESERVES POLICY

Our reserve position as at the financial year ended 31 December 2023 was as follows:

	Current Year	Previous Year	% Increase/ (Decrease)
	S\$	S\$	
Unrestricted Funds (Reserves)			
- General Funds	11,006,800	9,839,613	12 %
Designated Funds			
- Venerable Yen Pei Cultural and Academic Fund	425,790	425,790	0 %
Total Funds¹	11,432,590	10,265,403	11 %
Ratio of Reserves² to Annual Operating Expenditure³	9.12	8.55	7 %

The reserves that we have set aside provide financial stability and the means for development of our principal activities. The current level of reserves at \$11.0 million is adequate to fund 9.12 years of annual operating expenditure. However, the reserves include the fixed assets of \$91,855 which are required for the continued operations of our organisation.

Adjusting for such fixed assets and depreciation (non-cash outlay) at operating expenditure, on a cash basis, this figure would be adjusted to 9.23 years. We intend to increase our reserves at a level, which is at least equivalent to a ratio of 9.0 years. We intend to use the reserves for religious, cultural and welfare activities.

The Executive Committee regularly reviews the amounts of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil our continuing obligations.

¹ Total funds include unrestricted, restricted, designated and endowment funds.

² Unrestricted Funds.

³ Expenditure for Charitable Activities as well as Operating and Administrative Expenses.

3 REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2023

3.1 STAFF STRENGTH

- FHBCC has a total headcount of 7 employees on payroll, and 5 on contract as on 31 December 2023. Total staff costs and emoluments for FY 2023 were \$302,245.00.
- There was no employee with emolument above \$50,000.

Occupational Classification

Description	Staff On Payroll (Local)	Contract (Local)
Professionals & Program Management	0	2
Program, Finance & Admin Executives	3	1
Frontline Services	2	1
Maintenance Services	2	1
TOTAL NO. OF STAFF	7	5

Key Management Personnel

- No remuneration is made to any of the Executive Committee members of the Centre as their appointments are honorary.



3.2 PROGRAMMES

FU HUI DHARMA EDUCATION CENTRE (FHDEC)

3.2.1 Sunday School Dharma Classes

- The Sunday School had an initial enrolment of 338 students for the year 2023, comprising 40 children, 43 youths and 255 adults (180 adults in the morning session and 75 adults in the afternoon session).
- There were 29 classes in total, comprising 12 Children Classes, 3 Youth Classes, 1 Young Adult Class and 13 Adult Classes (7 Adult Classes in the morning session and 6 Adult Classes in the afternoon session).
- Orientation was held on 5 February 2023. A total of 32 Dharma lessons were held during the year, from 12 February 2023 to 22 October 2023. The lessons were facilitated by 42 volunteer Dharma teachers and 7 volunteer relief teachers.
- FHDEC fully resumed in-person lessons in 2023, with the exception of Mahayana Studies Class which had a large enrolment of 126 students, of which the majority were over 70 years old and some had mobility difficulties. Venerable Hao Xiang, the class instructor, made special allowance for 24 elderly students to attend lessons online, due to health reasons or safety concerns.
- A total of 328 students completed their respective courses of study on 22 October 2023, with the exception of Primary 6 Children Classes, which completed their course of study in August, due to the Primary School Leaving Examination. The Mahayana Studies Class and Adult Class (AM Elementary) held 2 extra lessons on 29 October 2023 and 5 November 2023.
- The year-end Dharma Examinations were not conducted in 2023 and consequently, the year-end Graduation Ceremony was not held. Instead, a Dharma Camp entitled “Towards Merits and Wisdom” was held on 26 November 2023, to mark the end of the Dharma courses.

The one-day camp, held from 8.30 am to 5 pm at Wisdom Hall and Yen Pei Building Level 4, aimed to instill values such as mutual respect, inclusiveness, and cohesive unity through intergenerational activities, as well as inculcate the right view of life through the Buddhist teachings.

The camp was attended by 80 participants, including 18 children, 3 youths, and 59 adults. It brought together three generations of students for shared activities such as Dharma-discussion by teachers, learning and practice of the Four Skilful Means, training in Buddhist etiquette through monastic-style meal-taking, as well as intergenerational team-building games.



3.2.2 Youth Dharma Classes

- The total enrolment of Youth Classes A, B, C and the Young Adult Class was not high in 2023. Nonetheless, the Young Adult Class students participated actively in the course and even organised activities to attract and retain youth students.
- In celebration of Youth Day, the students organised a one-day outing to VivoCity and Sentosa with various games and interesting activities.
- On the first Sunday of each lunar month, the 4 classes gathered together for a meditation session.
- For greater diversification in activities, a “Buddhism Q&A” was held on 20 August 2023, in which Venerable Hao Xiang answered the youths’ questions about the *Heart Sutra*.
- On 17 September 2023, a Cookery Contest was held, in which the students were divided into 4 teams, with each team comprising youths from Classes A, B and C, guided by senior youths from the Young Adult Class. The teams competed to produce vegetarian fried rice or fried noodles within one hour.



- 28 students participated in a 3-day-2-night Youth Camp held from 15 December 2023 to 17 December 2023 in Wisdom Hall. The camp activities included kayaking meditation on the second day. On the second night, the youths escorted elders of Grace Lodge nursing home to Tanglin Mall to view the Christmas light-up. In recognition of this commendable service for the elderly, the camp fees were specially waived this year for all participants.



3.3 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

In 2023, FHBCC fully resumed regular activities onsite. The year was marked by several significant events and celebrations:

- **21 January 2023 - Lunar New Year Countdown**
FHBCC welcomed the Year of the Rabbit with a countdown and bell-chiming for peace and good health.
- **19 May 2023 – 2 June 2023 – Vesak Commemoration**
FHBCC resumed two large-scale Vesak celebration events in 2023. The 3-Step-1-Bow Peace Homage was held on 20 May 2023 and Candlelight Procession on 21 May 2023 at Yio Chu Kang Stadium.



FHBCC was unable to procure a booking for Hougang Stadium this year. Yio Chu Kang Stadium was less ideal as a venue for these two large-scale events, but our volunteers still served with zest and commendable team spirit. They made several trips to Yio Chu Kang Stadium before the events to recce the site, so as to ensure smoothness of the processions during the events.

Our volunteers even mobilised their family members to assist at Yio Chu Kang MRT Station and Bus Interchange, in directing participants the way to Yio Chu Kang Stadium.

It is also worth mentioning that 31 youth students from our Dharma Classes served as volunteers during these two events, as Assistant Coordinator, procession leaders, station guides and photographers.

Our Vesak Celebrations also included 2 Dharma Assemblies held on 19 May 2023 and 28 May 2023, with chanting of *Diamond Sutra*. A ceremony for taking Threefold Refuge and Five Precepts was also held on 26 May 2023.

The Vesak celebrations culminated in “Vesak Blessings Grand Dharma Assembly”, which was held on 2 June 2023. Devotees also participated in the symbolic purification act of showering a baby figurine of Buddha, during the period from 19 May 2023 to 2 June 2023.



- **30 August 2023 – Ullambana Day (Offerings to the Buddhist Sangha)**
Pious devotees made sincere offerings to the monastic community of FHBCC in this meritorious ceremony.
- **12 November 2023 - Fu Hui Day of Gratitude**
A solemn memorial service was held in which Buddhist devotees, as well as representatives from various Buddhist organisations, commemorated the 27th anniversary of the demise of our founder, the late Venerable Yen Pei.



3.4 OTHER ENRICHMENT COURSES

Date	Class	Instructor
<u>Tuesday</u> 8 pm - 9.30 pm This course ended on 1/8/2023.	Guided Reading of " <i>Diamond-Cutter Discourse</i> " 佛教经论导读—《金刚经》	Zheng Zixiong 郑子雄
<u>Tuesday</u> 8 pm - 9.30 pm This new course started on 8/8/2023.	Guided Reading of " <i>Heart Sutra</i> " 佛教经论导读—《心经》	Zheng Zixiong 郑子雄
<u>Thursday</u> 8 pm - 9.30 pm.	Guided Reading of " <i>Treatise on Adornment of the Great Vehicle Discourses</i> " (<i>Mahayanasutralankara</i>) 佛教经论导读—《大乘庄严经论》	Zheng Zixiong 郑子雄
<u>Thursday</u> 8 pm - 9.30 pm	Hatha Yoga 哈达瑜伽班	Jack Ong See Seng 王志新
<u>Saturday</u> 1 pm – 2 pm 2 courses held, with 12 lessons each 11/2/2023 – 6/5/2023; 27/5/2023 – 12/8/2023	Buddhist Etiquette 佛教仪轨	Reverend Hao En 浩恩法师
<u>Saturday</u> 2 pm - 3.30 pm	Chinese Calligraphy (for Adults) 成人书法	Adviser: Yong Cheong Thye Instructor: Tan Poo Hua 顾问：杨昌泰 指导：陈富华
<u>Sunday</u> 11 am – 12.15 pm	Zither 古筝	Lu Jing 吕静
<u>Sunday</u> 4 pm – 6 pm	Buddhist Instruments 法器	Tan Koh Meng 郑高明
<u>Sunday</u> 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm	Fu Hui Choir 福慧合唱团	Yang Wenning 杨汶宁

3.5 FU HUI LIBRARY

- There are over 9,000 books and 20 types of magazines in the library collection, of which 90% are in the Chinese language.
- The library was open from 8.30 am to 4.30pm on Sundays and managed by volunteers from our Sunday School Dharma Classes.



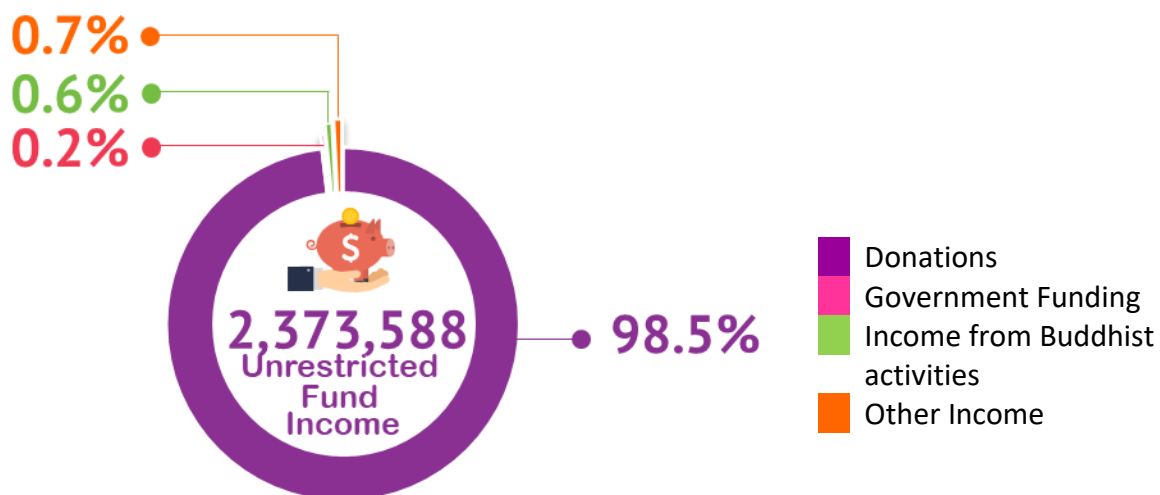
3.6 PUBLICATIONS

- FHBCC published *Grace Quarterly* 《慈恩》, Issues 65, 66, 67 and 68 in the year 2023.
- There was an increase in the subscription for digital editions of *Grace Quarterly*, from 50 in the year 2022 to 88 in the year 2023.

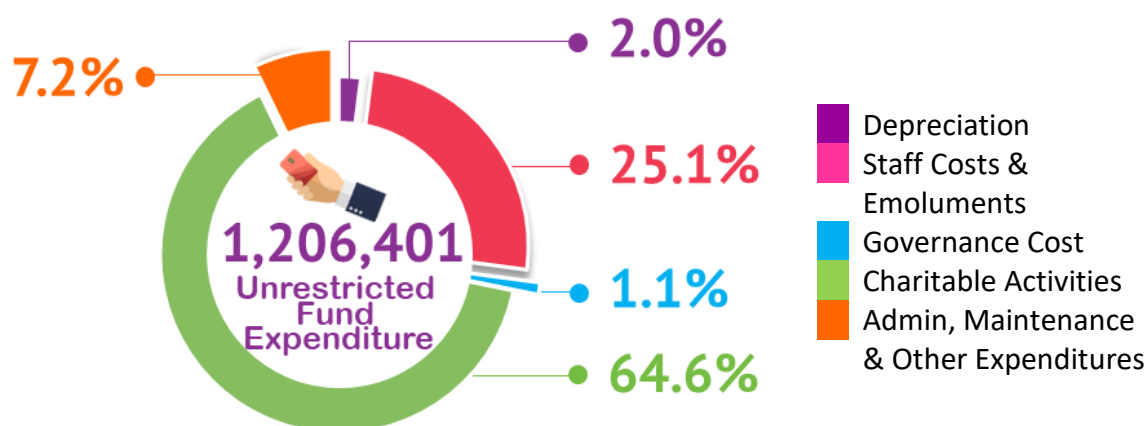


4 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

4.1 INCOME



4.2 EXPENDITURE



5 COMMITMENTS AND FUTURE PLANS

5.1 COMMITMENTS

- FHBCC strives to excel as a cultural centre, by fostering public interest in and appreciation of Buddhist culture and arts, through various platforms and media.
- FHBCC promotes moral education and character development based on Buddhist teachings, by inculcating Buddhist values and life values through courses, talks, camps and other educational activities.
- FHBCC promotes mental wellness through courses for the public to learn Buddhist meditation.
- FHBCC promotes study and discussion of Buddhist philosophy and psychology, for moral uplift and development of wisdom.
- FHBCC enables individuals to develop righteous minds and lead righteous lives through lifelong learning and self-cultivation, especially in ethics, morality and mind-training.
- FHBCC promotes social harmony and cohesion through meaningful community bonding activities such as festive celebrations.

5.2 FUTURE PLANS

- FHBCC shall continually strengthen our programmes for appreciation of Buddhist culture, for Buddhist education, as well as for social engagement through volunteerism, to be in sync with the evolving needs and trends of society.
- FHBCC shall digitalise our founder's writings and teachings to preserve this precious legacy, as well as make these resources available on FHBCC website.
- FHBCC shall provide support to monastics and lay people, to pursue in-depth studies in Buddhist culture, psychology, counselling and philosophy.
- FHBCC shall actively nurture youths in character development and leadership competencies, to carry forward our cause.

5.3 IN THE YEAR AHEAD

- FHBCC shall implement our programmes and activities with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations.
- FHBCC shall increasingly incorporate digital means in executing our programmes, so as to be in sync with the rapid digitalisation of society.
- FHBCC shall review and revamp the curriculum of FHDEC, to meet the evolving needs and address the evolving concerns of our times. New programs and activities shall be initiated to attract and retain youth participation.
- FHBCC shall continue to upgrade the pedagogical skills of FHDEC volunteer teachers, including skills in using digital media.
- FHBCC shall promote greater use of Fu Hui Library, as a Buddhist resource centre, as well as a quiet sanctuary for reading and self-study.
- Youths will be given more encouragement and opportunities to assist in FHBCC programmes, as well as to initiate new programmes.