

THE ROAD AHEAD

SAVH is currently facing challenges such as improving our services and the suspension of our Institution of Public Character status. The road ahead may seem long and winding. For an association with over 50 years of history, ironically there is room to improve and learn.

I ponder for a long while before I continue to write this page. Should I address only our members and leave out our clients, donors, funders, staff and even society? Should I write what certain groups want to hear? What are the problems we want to see fixed, the ways we want things to be done, the SAVH we want to see? How do we solve these challenges?

For an association, especially a disability association to maintain its status as a premier association serving the interest of its community, to cater to all the needs of the visually handicapped and help them to help themselves, all these mentioned groups must work together for the common good of SAVH and the visually handicapped community, not for any particular self interest group.

My sincere wish is that our members continue to ask

not what SAVH can do for them but what they can do for SAVH. To have this attitude requires your self sacrifice and constant strive for the interest of the Association. Yes ask yourself this question "Is what you are doing going to be for the best interest of the Association?"

Clients of SAVH will continue to expect the best services from the Association. Together with NCSS, our staff and management will have to try our best to provide premier services. We hope to improve our services and adapt to changes and understand the needs of our clients. At the same time we urge our clients to understand our limitations, have patience and work with us.

To NCSS, we request your understanding, guidance, patience and tolerance as we work with you to improve our services. Requirements and expectations must also be realistic and time must be given to meet these expectations. On our part, we must genuinely try to meet these expectations.

Donors will require more transparency and accountability from our Association. With the limited resources available, we will continue to try to satisfy these needs to the best of our ability.

Staff of SAVH must adopt a mindset change. Service delivery and client interest must be improved with the help our staff's positive attitude, dedication, perseverance and hard work. Management must also try to work with staff to improve working conditions and promote better understanding with staff.

Most importantly is the need for society to continue to respect those who do things differently, make the effort to understand the visually handicapped and be compassionate, so that SAVH and the visually handicapped community can be taken to the next level.

With all these in place, we are confident that SAVH and the visually handicapped community can strive for the best and achieve success with dignity. Tomorrow will then be a better day.

MICHAEL TAN
Executive Director

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS