





CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

As a conscientious corporate citizen, IRAS inculcates a strong sense of public responsibility among our staff. As active volunteers, we give back to the community whom we serve.

With our Volunteer E-Filing Service, a community project in which IRAS trains volunteers to help taxpayers e-file, we have helped to make e-filing easy and convenient for thousands of people.



IRAS' efforts in nation building are not limited to the economic sense, as we seek to reach out to those around us in a more personal way, as a proactive corporate citizen.

VOLUNTEER e-FILING SERVICE

With the increasing pervasiveness of IT usage in Singapore, those less savvy with the PC tend to be intimidated by having to use one. Our response to this has been the Volunteer E-Filing Service (VES), a community project that first took root in 1994.

Through VES, IRAS trains volunteers from all walks of life, in the annual e-filing of Individual Income Tax Returns. Upon completion of training, more than 900 volunteers were deployed to the 32 islandwide locations where they assisted more than 7,000 people to e-file over five weekends from 18 March to 16 April 2006. The volunteers' efforts were more commendable in the light of the precious weekends that were sacrificed to lend a hand to those seeking to fulfil their tax filing obligations electronically.

This year, we continue to partner the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre, Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore, People's Association, eCitizen Helper Outlets, Society for the Physically Disabled and Sikh Centre, for VES. The 5 CitizenConnect Centres and 3 Student Service Centres of the Chinese Development Assistance Council joined for the first time as VES centres.

We believe that our partners and the volunteers' commitment and concerted efforts played an important role in making e-filing easy and convenient for the taxpayers.

STAFF VOLUNTEERISM AND FUND-RAISING

Our staff also took time out to help the less fortunate. Our annual food-and-fun-fair, "Makan Parade", held in conjunction with National Day celebrations, raised S\$5,500 for the Pertapis Home. Nearly S\$21,000 was also raised in support of the President's Challenge 2005.

A grocery donation drive for the Pertapis Home was conducted during the Hari Raya festive period. Staff volunteers helped to collect the groceries donated by staff, and delivered them to the Home.

In FY2005/06, IRAS staff also gave their support to the "Yellow Ribbon Project". This was an initiative aimed at helping reformed ex-offenders take responsibility for their own actions and earn back the trust from family, friends, colleagues, employers and the community. Staff supported the project by wearing yellow ribbons in show of support, and literally going the extra mile by participating in the Yellow Ribbon Walk on 3 September 2005. A total of S\$1,524 in donations came from the purchase of the yellow ribbons.

During the year, other community projects such as the Community Chest's "Give a Hand!" Campaign and our regular Blood Donation Drives were conducted. The Blood Donation Drives in October 2005 and March 2006 saw a total of 172 units collected. Staff were also encouraged to visit the Health Sciences Authority to help the Blood Bank meet its daily requirements during the shortage in January 2006.



900

VOLUNTEERS TRAINED UNDER
VOLUNTEER E-FILING SERVICE TO ASSIST
TAXPAYERS IN E-FILING RETURNS AT

32

CENTRES ISLANDWIDE