



341, Jamaica Road (Off Falkland Road) Singapore 757615 Tel :62578364 Fax: 62578317 Email: [turning@singnet.com.sg](mailto:turning@singnet.com.sg) Website: [www.tturningp.com](http://www.tturningp.com)

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## The Turning Point Newsletter – July 2014

Dear Friends and Supporters of The Turning Point,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

In 2010, I was invited by the Chairman of The Turning Point Halfway House, Mrs Thumboo-Yeo to attend their 20th Anniversary celebration with Thanksgiving to God, The Almighty, for His Faithfulness in this Ministry. Among the attendees were ex-residents, volunteers, sponsors and friends of The Turning Point.

I had sat next to a pretty and articulated Eurasian lady in her 20s. After chatting with her, I found out that she was an ex-resident, whose life was turned around after going through the rehabilitation program at The Turning Point. Wow, I was truly impressed! There were a few testimonies by the ex-residents on how their lives had changed for the better after their stay in The Turning Point. Having accepted Jesus Christ they are born again without the addictions which have controlled them for years. They are doing their best in maintaining a clean livelihood and more importantly, sharing the love of God with loved ones and their counterparts. I was highly encouraged to hear that.

I remember vividly Ms Florence Ng, the founder of The Turning Point, talking about how challenging but rewarding it was to work with women caught in the throes of drug addiction. It was heart rendering and many, including myself, were moved to tears. I was so inspired by all these Workers; the Founders, the Broad Members, the Volunteers who had sacrificed their time and effort to render their love and attention to these female substance abusers.

Since then, I have occasionally harboured thoughts of being a TTP volunteer. However, my work commitment, shouldering an Officer's responsibilities in the Girls' Brigade Ministry and family life left me little time to spare. I have been a Servant Leader in the 38th GB Company since January 2000. It was not until 2012 that I felt a strong urge to leave my corporate job for a ministry-related one, and started praying fervently for God's direction in my life. I know God works things out in His own perfect timing, and that I should just commit my way to the Lord, trust in Him and be still while waiting patiently for Him (Psalm 37:5-7). I committed everything to the Lord and prayed that God will use me in whatever area He deems fit as He knows my strengths and weaknesses. His hand has been upon me through my thirty over years in corporate life. He is still moulding and preparing me for His purpose.

A chance sharing with Chairman, Mrs Thumboo about my plan to resign immediately after the December holidays last year opens the door for my interview with the HR Sub-Committee and the Founder. I thank them for their prayers too in seeking God's grace for me to come on board as the

Executive Director of The Turning Point in June 2014.

I thank God for this wonderful opportunity to serve Him in this Ministry. I do humbly covet your prayers that I always remember that the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for man (Mark 10:45).

I first met KH in one of my Church's Outreach Meeting in late 2013, where she shared with me her struggles with drugs for the past 30 years. I was delighted to see her again when I joined The Turning Point on 2 June.

Below is her testimony on how God has given her the courage to turn back on her past:

I was reluctant to write this testimonial as it was not an easy task for me. However, God has delivered me from the long-suffering pain and hatred that was rooted in my heart years ago. I have been seeking justice since my tender age, from communism to secret societies and true love and justice was searched in fruitless attempts I was sold as a child bride by my parents and subsequently adopted. My adopted parents were illiterate and I realized the importance of money since young.

At the age of 13, my father committed suicide due to illness, both my mother and I stayed in the chicken farm and we had been looked down upon by others. I told myself I would go all the way to make money and by chance, I became a dance hostess in a nightclub. As staying in a village is like living in an isolated world, I was betrayed by a friend and was raped. I was warned not to report to the police or I would be killed or sent to a shelter. Hatred filled my heart and I was skeptical towards those who were friendly to me. I wallowed in self-pity thinking why bad things happened to good people, why is the world filled with ugliness. I was filled with anger but dared not show my true feeling. I interacted with people behind a mask. I blamed my mother, cursed my biological mother and the only attraction for me was money. I concluded that in life, there is no true love and was lost in thinking that the only purpose in life is to have plenty of money. I hated myself, even thought of using my own hands to end my life. After my marriage, I was deep in drugs and was in and out of drug addiction treatment. My child was born when my husband was being sent to drug addiction treatment and eventually my marriage fell apart. In 2006, my son committed suicide and I couldn't help thinking that our family had suicidal instincts.

In 2013 I was a walk-in to The Turning Point. I started Bible study and realized that God had started His work in me, I have experienced His great Love and Power. I have also the love, good support and care from the Staff, the Executive Committee and Volunteers in TTP.

I am now employed in TTP as a Support Staff and am deeply grateful to God for His grace, goodness and mercy. He has transformed me and I am alive in Jesus Christ, my Saviour.

I feel like a butterfly. HALLELUJAH!

Do continue to pray for KH to place her trust in the Lord.

Please continue to support our baking therapy with your orders for our Cookies. Your participation makes it possible for our Residents to have a viable vocational therapy. Please email us at [turning@singnet.com.sg](mailto:turning@singnet.com.sg)

Thank you.

Together in His Service,

**Joyce Neo**

Executive Director, The Turning Point

Current Staff Workers:

Executive Director: Joyce Neo, Bukit Panjang Gospel Chapel

Administrator: Violet Lim, Trinity Christian Centre

Case Manager: Coreen Chong, Amazing Grace Presbyterian Church

Operations & admin Executive: Sharon Law

Programme & Aftercare Executive: Tay Lee Leng, Full Gospel Church

Night Duty Staff: Emily Chua, Evangel Family Church

Night Duty staff: Wong Youk Kheng, Faith Community Baptist Church

Staff Support : Wong Kim Huay