



Friends of Community Care Awards 2024
Winner - Non-Profit Organisation Category

Team MDI

Nominated by NTUC Health Co-operative Ltd and Vanguard Healthcare Pte Ltd

“We are not alone, even when we are old, as long as we keep paying it forward.”

- Mark Yuen, Founder

Mr Mark Yuen and his organisation, Team MDI, have been dedicated to providing free haircuts for seniors and lower-income families since 2016. The name "Team MDI" pays homage to the hair salon where Mark began his apprenticeship in hairdressing, called Mirror D' International. Team MDI consists of 40 to 50 active volunteers (oldest being 80 years old) from various professions such as salon owners, lawyers, teachers, and medical personnel.

They work in collaboration with social service agencies, residential homes, and NGOs. In 2023, Team MDI held 226 engagements (5 to 7 events per week, reaching out to 20 to 30 seniors from active ageing centres and 50 to 90 seniors from nursing homes), providing more than 10,000 haircuts to seniors. Team MDI's hairdressers have become friends to many beneficiaries, who often confide in them during haircut sessions and share that the haircut made them feel more confident. Such feedback highlights the importance of making hairdressing services more accessible to vulnerable groups in the community. Mark was awarded the People Of Good (Senior) Award in the 2023 President's Volunteerism & Philanthropy Awards for his good work.



Team MDI has visited more than 60 senior activity centres, care centres, schools, workplaces, grassroots, dormitories, nursing homes, hospitals and homes for haircuts



Collaboration with 'S' Projects at Thuja Home @ Pelangi Village (photo taken during their last haircut for residents before the pandemic)



Team MDI volunteers provided free haircuts to 637 migrant workers on 10 December 2023 at a dormitory



Haircuts for seniors at active ageing centres and nursing homes