

## Victoria's Story



**21 year old Victoria Tao has volunteered at NCIS for over a month, and during her time here, she has helped out in several cancer awareness events.**

**Q: How long have you been volunteering at NCIS?**

A: I started volunteering just a month back. So far, I've helped out at various NCIS events, like the Winning Against Cancer Symposium, Cancer Survivorship Week and the direction of traffic at the new NUHMC.

**Q: How did you learn about the volunteering opportunity?**

A: I was looking out for volunteering opportunities online when I came across the NCIS volunteer brochure and application form on the website.

**Q: What made you decide to volunteer your time at NCIS?**

A: I decided to volunteer because I believe in giving back to society. Helping others makes me happy and it puts me in a better mood. I could also expand my social circle at the same time. Lastly, I want to pursue studies related to cancer biology. Volunteering at a cancer institute like NCIS gives me great insights that might help me in the future.

**Q: Describe the most memorable volunteering experience you had so far.**

A: I was stationed at level 10 of the NUHMC one afternoon to help with directions. I noticed an old lady, probably in her 70s, seated in a far corner away from everyone else. She had fallen asleep in the chair and looked cold and uncomfortable. I looked for a blanket, went over and draped it over her. She roused from her sleep and gave me such a genuine smile of gratitude I don't think I'll forget anytime soon. I felt really great.

**Q: Are there any things you've learnt or picked up from your volunteering experiences?**

A: I've learnt so much – from an overview of how hospitals in Singapore operate to handling a wheelchair. I've also learnt the importance of listening and paying attention to details. Many times, patients don't come to you for help directly. You've to observe closely and take the initiative to approach them sometimes.

**Q: What would you say to another young person thinking of volunteering his/her time at NCIS?**

A: I'll say go for it! Don't be afraid of accepting a new challenge or a little change in your life. Volunteering at NCIS just might become one of the most rewarding experiences you've ever had.

***Victoria has made her difference.***

***Make yours too when you join our NCIS family today!***