$1.2 million fund at Mount Elizabeth Hospital will provide free cancer treatment for needy

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SINGAPORE - Mount Elizabeth Hospital (MEH) has launched a $1.2 million fund that will provide full sponsorship for needy Singaporeans who need cancer treatment.

The first phase of the programme, which was launched on Tuesday (March 15) under the hospital's Life Renewed corporate social responsibility initiative, will provide diagnosis, treatment, and/or surgery for up to 120 women with breast cancer over the next two years.

The hospital is partnering Parkway Cancer Centre to provide treatment to the beneficiaries, who will be identified with the help of voluntary welfare organisations.

Singaporean women who hold a valid blue Community Health Assist Scheme (CHAS) card and have tested positive in breast cancer screening or are in need of breast cancer treatment can apply for the sponsorship.

"Breast cancer is the number one cancer among Singaporean women," said Mr Phua Tien Beng, chief executive officer of MEH.

"Close to 9,300 women in Singapore were diagnosed with breast cancer between 2010 and 2014. Over 400 women fail to overcome the disease each year... Our efforts can make a difference, especially among women who may have deferred medical attention due to financial difficulties."

Those who are interested in the programme can email mpac@parkway.sg or call 6250 0000 during office hours. More details on the next phases of the Life Renewed programme will be announced at a later date.

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The first phase of the programme was launched under Mount Elizabeth Hospital's Life Renewed corporate social responsibility initiative. PHOTO: ST FILE