



What is the Foundation's view of philanthropic capital as risk capital?

Mingxin Foundation: There is no difference in supporting a for-profit startup and a not-for-profit startup. Both play an important role of accomplishing its mission towards its vision. The only difference is the non-profit organization has a social cause.

For example, our Foundation will be providing seed capital to a new non-profit startup, BapaHebat SG Limited (aka AwesomeDads SG). It is one of the few organizations in Singapore that focuses on a man's role as a father and the fathering journey. We believe this area needs more focus as fathering is more than just parenting. BapaHebat SG will provide a platform for fathers to learn, network, share and build their own community of support on their journeys to be better fathers. Besides doing preventive work by increasing awareness and engagement, BapaHebat SG Limited is also doing corrective work such as re-integration programs for fathers in prisons and halfway houses.

Why has the Foundation chosen to commit to multi-year grants?

Mingxin Foundation: As with any startup that requires seed funding, it can take 3 – 5 years until the startup is fully functioning. With multi-year grants, we believe that it helps to take some pressure off the non-profit organization in terms of fundraising and allows it to concentrate on getting the organization up and running to deliver on its social mission and goals.

How does the Foundation decide on the causes and organizations to support? Did it evolve over the years?

Mingxin Foundation: It started with a personal interest of supporting the Arts and Nature. However, when COVID-19 hit, we saw that there were many families whose breadwinners had lost their jobs and this impacted their children's education. This was the turning point and we pivoted to supporting educational programs for families-in-need, such as BabaHebat, as well as through bursaries and scholarships.

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