Singapore Children’s Society

bringing relief and happiness to children in need

Information accurate as of May 2021
What do we do?

We help protect and nurture children and youth of all races and religions, especially children, youth and families in need.
Our Mission
To bring relief and happiness to children in need

Our Vision
To be a leading edge organisation in promoting the well-being of the child

Our Core Values
Compassion and Caring, Commitment, Professionalism, Integrity, and Openness to Change
We were established in 1952 by a group of expatriates and concerned citizens to help malnourished, poor, abused and neglected children.

In 1956, we set up a Convalescent Home along Changi beach for sick children to convalesce.
Today, we are 69 years old.

Our Patron-in-Chief is President Halimah Yacob.

Our focus has evolved with changing needs and we now have a wide range of programmes and services across our 12 service centres to meet diverse needs.

We are governed by the Board and supported by five Standing Committees.
Our Board

BOARD

Chairman
Mr Koh Choon Hui DUBC

Deputy Chairman
Prof Ho Lai Yun BBM, JP

Honorary Secretary
Assoc Prof Cuthbert Teo Eng Swee PPA (G)

Honorary Treasurer
Mr David Toh Seng Hong

Members
Mr Alex Lee Ka But BBM
Mr Kurt Wee Chorng Kien JP
Assoc Prof Lim Lee Ching
Mdm Rashidah Bte Abdul Rasip PPA(P)
Mr Ronald Liew Wing Kong
Capt Suresh Menon
Ms Tan Khiaw Ngoh JP
Ms Theresa Sim May Ling

Co-opted Members
Mr Chan Hiang Tiak
Dr Quah Saw Han

Nominated Members
Mr Koh Yeong-Kheng
Dr Lena Lee Siow Ling
Dr Tan Seok Hui
Assoc Prof Isabella Wong Yuen Fun

STANDING COMMITTEES

Children In Care
Community Engagement and Partnerships
Information and Corporate Relations
Research and Advocacy
Social Work Service

OTHER COMMITTEES

Audit and Risk
Awards
Crisis Management
Investment
Human Resource and Remuneration
Nomination
Technology Advisory
Total expenditure of ~$19 million in 2020

- Over 70% of our expenditure is manpower related
- We have a staff strength of over 200, of which the majority are social service practitioners (e.g. social workers) who interact directly with children, youth and families (our beneficiaries)
We are largely self-funded with the majority of funds coming through donations.

- We conduct fundraising events, campaigns and donation drives.
- We are not funded by Community Chest.
- As appointed service providers, some of our services and programmes are funded by the government.
2019
- 4th ASEAN Rural Development and Poverty Eradication Leadership Award
- Charity Transparency Award

2016 - 2018
- Charity Transparency Award

2014
- President’s Award for Social Impact

2010
- Singapore Quality Class Award
- NCSS Outstanding VWO Award in Innovation (Special Mention)
- Our Chairman appointed as Government Representative to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children

2009
- Singapore Prestige Brand Award (Special Merit)

2008
- Endorsed by NCSS as a Centre of Specialisation in Youth Drop-in Centres

2004
- Asia Pacific NGO Award (3rd Runner Up)
- NVPC Non-Profit Organisation Award

1986
- Community Excellence Award
We provide a wide spectrum of services for children, youth and families.

Our financial independence provides us with flexibility to pilot programmes and services to meet unserved needs.

We conduct research on issues affecting children and youth and advocate for changes to improve their well-being.
Adverse childhood experiences or traumatic experiences are becoming more common in childhood.

Increased stressors on families (e.g. financial difficulties, domestic conflicts) can deprive children of a healthy and safe childhood.

The mental health of children and youth is worsening.

Risks and undesirable content associated with the digital world (e.g. cyberbullying) are on the rise.
Children and youth will thrive and be resilient despite the impact of adverse childhood experiences.

Regardless of background, children will have equal opportunities to realise their potential.

As they move into adulthood, youth will develop positively into responsible and healthy young adults.

Children and youth who are in contact with the legal system will be accorded due process; their needs will be met, and their voices heard.

Caregivers will be resilient and empowered to manage current and future challenges so that their children and youth are able to grow and develop in positive environments.
In 2020, we reached out to 34,654 children, youth and families in need.
Our Services

- Vulnerable Children and Youth
- Children and Youth Services
- Family Services
- Research and Advocacy
Protecting Children and Youth who are Abused and/or Severely Neglected

We provide fundamental care and guidance for vulnerable children and youth where suitable, collaborate with families to provide safe, stable and permanent care, and with each child’s best interests at heart.

235 beneficiaries reached
Protecting Children and Youth who are Abused and/or Severely Neglected

Sunbeam Place @ Children's Society
A residential home and gazetted place of safety for children who have been abused and neglected and in need of protection or whose parents are unable to provide proper care

Safe and Strong Families Reunification
Working with the Ministry of Social and Family Development, we help children and young persons in foster or institutional care to be reunified with their families
Children and Youth Services

Supporting, Nurturing and Inspiring our Children and Youth

We provide value-adding care, nurture and inspire children and youth, to complement what their parents and guardians provide.

11,537 beneficiaries reached
Appropriate Adult Scheme for Young Suspects
A scheme that sees trained volunteers or appropriate adults accompanying suspects between 7 and 16 during police investigations

Children and Youth Drop-in Services
Promotes positive development in children and youth, and reduce and prevent our youth from engaging in risky behaviours

Tinkle Friend
A national toll-free helpline and online chat for all primary school aged children who need a listening ear
Family Guidance Order
Appointed by the Ministry of Social and Family Development, we work with families to support children and young persons with moderate to high risk behavioural concerns.

Integrated Service Provider
Appointed by the Ministry of Social and Family Development to run programmes for young offenders and at-risk youth.

Project CABIN
An after school school-based drop-in facility that encourages the development of character and life skills.

Children and Youth Services
Supporting, Nurturing and Inspiring Our Children and Youth
Storm Riders
Anger management intervention programme for children from primary three to six

Student Care
Provides after school caregiving support to primary school children

Vulnerable Witness Support Programme
We train volunteers to help child witnesses deal with stress management and familiarise them with judicial procedures
Supporting and Strengthening Our Families in Need

We support and strengthen families in need by working together with them.

3,263 beneficiaries reached
Casework and Counselling
Supports families with financial/basic sustenance issues, family violence, psycho-social and emotional issues

Compulsory Education Casework
Working with the Ministry of Education, we help children and parents overcome their problems so that children can attend school regularly

Financial Assistance
We disburse funds to needy students and families who are in financial difficulty
Pre-school Outreach
Working with the Early Childhood Development Agency, we assist and support children’s enrolment into pre-schools

Project LADDER
A joint project with the Singapore Prison Service, children maintain regular contact with their incarcerated parent through tele-visits at our premises
A Voice for our Children and their Future

We perform research and advocacy work to protect and promote the well-being of children, youth and their families, as well as to enhance the usefulness of social services to children and youth.

19,619 beneficiaries reached
Bully-Free Programme
Addresses the issue of school bullying and its impact on those involved

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Talk
Provides an overview of the four types of child abuse and neglect and allows participants to gain deeper insights into the topic

KidzLive: I Can Protect Myself
A programme that teaches young children body safety skills, to protect themselves against sexual abuse
Research Studies
Conducts research to help identify social trends and issues related to children, youth and families in Singapore

Singapore Children’s Forum
A national platform for children to voice their opinions

Singapore Children’s Society Lecture
Raises public awareness on issues pertinent to the welfare and well-being of children, youth and families

Research and Advocacy
A Voice for Our Children and their Future