

Connecting Through Circuits of Care

SINGAPORE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT 2020



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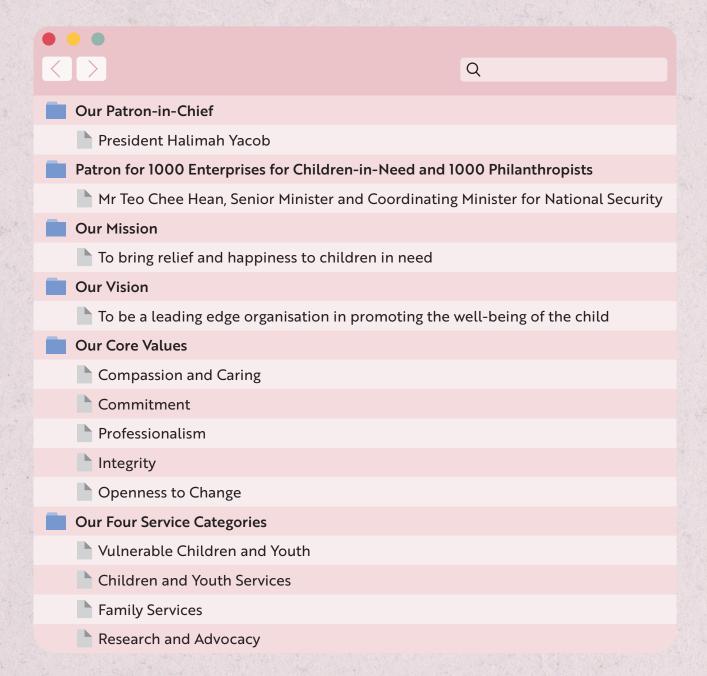
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Singapore Children's Society ("SCS") was first established in 1952 and formally registered as a society on 09/01/1962. SCS was registered as a charity under the Charities Act (Chapter 37) since 07/01/1984 and has been accorded IPC (Institution of Public Character) status from 01/07/2017 to 30/06/2021. SCS has a Constitution as its governing instrument.

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About Us















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2020 was a year that will not be easily forgotten in history. It will inextricably be linked to one word — COVID-19. The global pandemic caused massive economic shutdowns, loss of jobs, national lockdowns, loss of lives and changes to various societal norms. Despite vaccines becoming available unexpectedly fast before the end of 2020, its impact will continue to reverberate around the world throughout 2021 and beyond.

Being one of the first nations to report positive COVID-19 cases, Singapore was badly hit. Our aviation hub ground to a halt, many businesses started to shut down and a climate of fear and anxiety permeated Singapore.

Unsurprisingly, COVID-19 dealt a huge economic impact to our nation. According to the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) statistics, Singapore's

economy contracted by 5.4 per cent in 2020 but showed signs of recovery, with a 2.4 per cent contraction on a year-on-year basis in the fourth quarter, an improvement from the 5.8 per cent contraction in the preceding quarter.

Things are gradually returning to some degree of normalcy with the global and national vaccination rollout. Although MTI maintains 2021 GDP growth forecast at '4.0 to 6.0 per cent', the road to recovery will still be slow and fraught with challenges.

Singapore Children's Society, just like the rest of Singapore, had to quickly adapt and innovate in various ways under these unprecedented circumstances. The title of our annual report "Connecting Through Circuits of Care" reflects how we had maintained our connection with our beneficiaries and various stakeholders despite social distancing constraints through re-imagined circuits of care.

...IT WAS A STEEP LEARNING CURVE BUT EVERYONE HUNKERED DOWN AND PRESSED ON.

To help our beneficiaries cope with the stress of the COVID-19 pandemic, staff members went beyond the call of duty to take on other roles such as supporting online chat operations due to a surge in calls and chats from distressed children. Instead of the usual face-to-face mode, our service centres had to carry out programmes and services online — including counselling and case work — to engage beneficiaries virtually. Staff took to social media platforms popular with children and youth to stay connected with our beneficiaries. Resources were put together and disseminated far and wide, providing free advice to young and old on how to keep homes safe for children and even specifically on how children can recognise their body warning signs when they feel unsafe.

In 2020, all our physical fundraising and volunteer engagement events were either cancelled or postponed and we were forced to go into the digital realm to connect with donors and volunteers. Staff had to work hard to adapt to organising virtual events — it was a steep learning curve but everyone hunkered down and pressed on.

AMIDST IT ALL, I COMMEND OUR STAFF FOR THEIR PROFESSIONALISM, COMMITMENT AND WILLINGNESS TO BE OPEN TO CHANGE.

It was certainly not easy to fundraise amidst such challenging economic times for both businesses and individuals. However, the needs of our beneficiaries became even more acute precisely because of the dire economic situation. We were therefore extremely grateful when those who were able to give, did not hesitate to come forward to support. Corporations, community partners and the public continued to support us and our beneficiaries with cash and other in-kind donations such as laptops for e-learning and other basic food necessities.

Just like the rest of Singapore, telecommuting presented various challenges for staff, similar to how our beneficiaries initially struggled with home-based learning. Amidst it all, I commend our staff for their professionalism, commitment and willingness to be open to change. These core values enabled us all to rise to the challenge to stay connected with our stakeholders and serve our beneficiaries during these trying times.

In terms of finances, our total income in 2020 was \$24.3 million, 13.6% higher than the \$21.4 million income achieved in 2019. This was primarily a result of the Singapore Government's Jobs Support Scheme, although there was also a slight improvement in donation income over 2019. This is a commendable

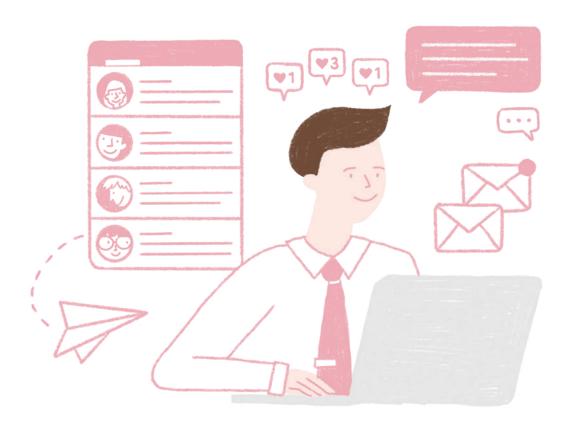
performance given the unprecedented economic circumstances. Our total expenditure was \$18.9 million, a decrease of 5.5% over 2019, mainly due to the cancellation of physical fundraising events. Going forward, we will continue to explore innovative and cost-effective ways to fundraise, especially in the virtual space. We will continue to listen to feedback on the ground to keep our services and programmes relevant and effective.

In conclusion, this year, we will be making plans for a major milestone for Singapore Children's Society in 2022 — our 70th Anniversary. Over the past six decades, we have come far from our humble beginnings as a convalescent home for children to our current network of 12 service centres islandwide. All these would not have been possible without the commitment and dedication of our past and present Board and Standing Committee members, staff, volunteers, donors and well-wishers. My special thanks also goes out to Captain Suresh Menon, our 2020 Ruth Wong Award recipient, for his exceptional contribution to the Children In Care Group over the years. This award is our most prestigious award given to an individual in recognition for their outstanding voluntary service to the Society. I thank all our supporters for their unwavering support in seeing us through the years, especially during a tumultuous 2020. I look forward to working closely with all of you to continue bringing forth doses of happiness to our children in need.

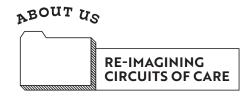
Mr Koh Choon Hui DUBC

Chairman Singapore Children's Society

The COVID-19 Report



The COVID-19 pandemic greatly disrupted our daily lives. With face-to-face interaction severely limited, many of our events and programmes were postponed or cancelled. Some of our centres were also temporarily closed during the Circuit Breaker period. As a result, we were unable to reach out to as many beneficiaries as we did in the past years. However, due to the complexity of our beneficiaries' needs during these unprecedented times, we stepped up to devote even more time and energy to help them.



New ways of working and staying connected were adopted. This was important as the change in circumstances brought about by the pandemic had made the challenges faced by our beneficiaries particularly acute. A surge in demand for assistance was recorded. Children felt confused and worried about the ongoing situation. Families were affected by the sudden loss or reduction of income due to retrenchment and the general economic slowdown. Meeting basic needs became insurmountable challenges for many of them.

In response to our appeal for food supplies, members of the public donated generously.





As schools rolled out home-based learning, many of our children and youth did not have an electronic device to participate in remote learning. Thanks to Engineering Good's donation of 100 refurbished laptops, children and youth from nine of our service centres could participate in home-based learning effectively.

A series of resources were put together to help adults better understand what children were going through and how their emotional needs could be attended to. With a rise in family conflicts and violence in Singapore during the pandemic, we disseminated public education messages to get children to be more aware of their body warning signs if they were caught in unsafe situations, and offered help-seeking strategies.



We continued to engage our beneficiaries to understand their needs and extend our help with the use of technology. Step-by-step videos were produced to guide beneficiaries on the use of video conferencing platforms and intentional efforts were put into co-creating useful online content.

We strived to maintain the emotional connection with our beneficiaries despite the physical distance and staff members displayed resilience in the face of the evolving situation.

As we moved into a 'new normal' with Phase 2 Re-opening, some of our programmes were either conducted in smaller groups in adherence to safe distancing measures or continued to be held online.

When spilt team measures were implemented at Sunbeam Place @ Children's Society and additional manpower was required, staff members from other centres volunteered to be deployed to the Home. A SWAT (Steady, Witty, Adaptability, Timely) team comprising staff volunteers was also formed in June to prepare ourselves if our residential home was required to quarantine in one or more zone(s).





Staff and youth members from The Fort @ Children's Society went on a hiking trip at Coney Island to clock steps in support of our virtual fundraising event, Walk for Our Children 2020.

Themed 'You Brighten My World!', our annual volunteer appreciation event, Tribute to Volunteers, was held virtually. Volunteers participated in a fun quiz on Children's Society and its work and enjoyed a dazzling display of dancing and singing put together by our youth members. They also got a chance to share their volunteering journeys with one another.



With COVID-19 expected to stay for the foreseeable future, Children's Society will persevere to evolve and better address the needs of our beneficiaries and stakeholders, just as we have done for the past 69 years to remain relevant and connected to our charges.

Highlights of the Year 2020

APRIL

Providing Swift Response During Circuit Breaker

With so many caught out by the sudden changes brought about by COVID-19, Children's Society responded very swiftly and provided over 500 children and youth from 260 families with financial assistance, meals and laptops.



JULY

Opening of JYC @ ComLink

JYC @ ComLink started operations on 14 July 2020. Modelled after our children drop-in centre, DEN @ JYC, JYC @ ComLink serves children aged nine to 12 who live in the rental blocks of the Boon Lay neighbourhood. We open our drop-in space twice a week.



MAY

Society Welcomed New Chief Executive Officer

We welcomed our new Chief Executive Officer, Ms Ang Boon Min on 1 May 2020. Ms Ang succeeded Mr Alfred Tan, the Society's first CEO, who retired on 30 April after leading the Society for more than two decades. Boon Min first joined the Society as its Deputy Director of Strategic Planning in September

2013 after spending nine years in consulting with PwC Economics in London and PwC Transactions Services group in Singapore.



Society Chairman Mr Koh Choon Hui Conferred the Distinguished Service Order for National Day Award 2020

Our Chairman Mr Koh Choon Hui was conferred the Distinguished Service Order for National Day Award 2020. Mr Koh has led Children's Society as our Chairman since 1978 and pioneered many new programmes and services to help bring relief and happiness to children, youth and families in need.



SEPTEMBER

Bully-Busting at Scribble Town

We collaborated with the National Heritage Board to present Scribble Town, an interactive exhibition to raise awareness about bullying. Targeted at children between nine and 12 years of age, the interactions between the three main characters featured — Scribblies Sam, Dan and Lydia — aimed to give children a better understanding of the different types of bullying, as well as how and why bullying occurs, and its impact on the parties involved. Held at the Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall, it ran from 30 September 2020 to 31 January 2021. As at December 2020, we saw more than 6,500 visitors at the exhibition.



OCTOBER

Happy 20th Anniversary, KidzLive!

Launched on Children's Day in 2000, KidzLive: I Can Protect Myself aimed to raise awareness about child sexual abuse prevention and empower children with body safety skills. KidzLive was later extended to include pre-school educators



training, parental outreach, and the development of a wider range of resources. Our library now holds a KidzLive information booklet, an animated video titled *April Learns to Protect Herself*, and a KidzLive mobile application that provides information to parents, educators and other caregivers. The mobile application is available for download on the App Store and Google Play Store.



KidzLive information



April Learns to Protect Herself



Going the Distance in Our First Virtual Walk for Our Children

Walk for Our Children took a step in the virtual direction in 2020 when all physical fundraising events were cancelled due to the pandemic. Participants had to clock a minimum of 5,000 steps in a day and they were able to do this with their family and friends anywhere and anytime between 1 October and 30 November. Over a thousand participants clocked more than 48 million steps during the two-month virtual event, raising over \$400,000!

NOVEMBER

Society Appointed as a KidSTART Agency

KidSTART is a government initiative that helps children up to six years old from low-income families. Through outreach and various modes of engagements with the families in the Bedok and Geylang Serai area, we aim to support them by intervening upstream, starting from the mother's pregnancy through the child's pre-school years, covering domains such as nutrition, child development and parent-child interactions.

Our Board and Key Committees

Board

Chairman

Vice Chairmen

Honorary Secretary

Honorary Treasurer

Honorary Assistant Secretary Honorary Assistant Treasurer

Members*

Mr Koh Choon Hui

Prof Ho Lai Yun

Mr Alex Lee Ka But

Assoc Prof Cuthbert Teo Eng Swee

Ms Theresa Sim May Ling

Dr Lena Lee Siow Ling

Mr David Toh Seng Hong

Assoc Prof Isabella Wong Yuen-Fun

Mr Kurt Wee Chorng Kien Assoc Prof Lim Lee Ching Mdm Rashidah Bte Abdul Rasip

Mr Ronald Liew Wing Kong

Capt Suresh Menon Ms Tan Khiaw Ngoh

Co-opted Members Mr Chan Hiang Tiak

Dr Quah Saw Han

Nominated Members Ms Koh Hui-Jian

Mr Koh Yeong-Kheng

Dr Tan Seok Hui

Chairpersons of Standing Committees

Children In Care

Community Engagement & Partnerships Information and Corporate Relations

Research and Advocacy Social Work Service Mr Alex Lee Ka But

Mr Kurt Wee Chorng Kien Assoc Prof Lim Lee Ching

Prof Ho Lai Yun Ms Tan Khiaw Ngoh

Chairpersons of Other Committees

Audit and Risk

Awards

Crisis Management

Human Resource and Remuneration

Investment Nominations Ms Tan Khiaw Ngoh

Prof Ho Lai Yun

Mr Koh Choon Hui

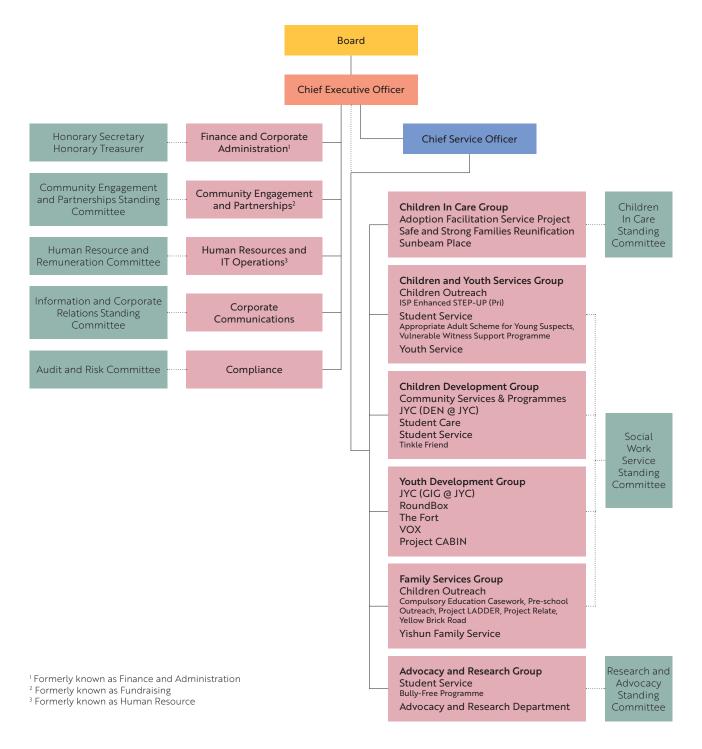
Mr Koh Choon Hui

Mr Kurt Wee Chorng Kien

Mr Koh Choon Hui

^{*} Members are elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Organisation Chart



Corporate Function Heads

Chief Executive Officer Mr Alfred Tan 1999 – Apr 2020

Ms Ang Boon Min from May 2020

Ms Sue Cheng from 2017

(Deputy Chief Executive Officer from Jul 2019 - Apr 2020)

Chief Service Officer

Finance and Corporate Administration

Ms Doris Phua Deputy Director

Community Engagement and Partnerships

Ms Joyce Teng Director

Human Resources and IT Operations

Ms Joyce Lee Deputy Director

Corporate Communications

Compliance

Ms Shen Xuesheng Manager till Dec 2020 Ms Fiona Chew Manager till Dec 2020

Group Leads

Children In Care Group

Children and Youth Services Group Children Development Group Youth Development Group Family Services Group

Advocacy and Research Group

Ms Gracia Goh Director

Ms Tan Bee Keow Director Ms Ann Hui Peng Director Ms Rachel Tan Director

Ms Tan Bee Joo Senior Director

Ms Lin Xiaoling Deputy Director

Centre Heads

Adoption Facilitation Service Project

Safe and Strong Families Reunification

Sunbeam Place Children Outreach Student Service Youth Service

Community Services & Programmes

Student Care

JYC The Fort RoundBox VOX

Yishun Family Service

Advocacy and Research Department (Advocacy Unit) Advocacy and Research Department (Research Unit) Ms Gracia Goh Director

Ms Vivyan Chee Assistant Director Mr Cayden Woo Deputy Director

Ms Joy Lim Director
Ms Ann Hui Peng Director
Ms Tan Bee Keow Director
Ms Gloria Ng Assistant Director

Mr Fang Xinwei Assistant Director Mr Benedict Kuah Deputy Director

Ms Rachel Tan Director

Ms Charmaine Francesca Tan Assistant Director Mr Chee Thow Wei Liat Assistant Director

Ms Tan Bee Joo Senior Director
Ms Lin Xiaoling Deputy Director
Dr Charlene Fu Assistant Director

ABOUT US COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2020/2021

Name	Board	Children In Care	Community Engagement & Partnerships	Information and Corporate Relations	Research and Advocacy	Social Work Service	Audit and Risk	Awards	Crisis Management	Human Resource and Remuneration	Investment	Nominations
Mr Koh Choon Hui ¹ DUBC	Chairman (since 1978) (Board member since 1975)								Chairman	Chairman	Member	Chairman
Prof Ho Lai Yun <i>BBM, JP</i>	Vice Chairman (since 2002) (Board member since 1989)	Advisor			Chairman			Chairman	Vice Chairman	Member		Member
Mr Alex Lee Ka But <i>BBM</i>	Vice Chairman (since 2019) (Board member since 1999)	Chairman			Member	Advisor		Member	Member	Member		Member
Assoc Prof Cuthbert Teo Eng Swee ² PPA(G)	Honorary Secretary (since 2015) (Board member since 2005)				Member*	Member		Member	Member	Member	Member	
Ms Theresa Sim May Ling ³	Honorary Treasurer (since 2019) (Board member since 2011)							Member	Member	Member	Member	
Dr Lena Lee Siow Ling	Honorary Assistant Secretary (since 2020) (Co-opted Member since 2018)	Member		Vice Chairman								
Mr David Toh Seng Hong	Honorary Assistant. Treasurer (since 2019) (Board member since 2019)					Member						
Assoc Prof Isabella Wong Yuen-Fun	Member (since 2018)				Member	Member						
Mr Kurt Wee Chorng Kien JP	Member (since 2007)		Chairman					Member	Member	Member	Chairman (from Jul)	
Assoc Prof Lim Lee Ching	Member (since 2013)			Chairman	Member			Member	Member	Member		
Mdm Rashidah Bte Abdul Rasip PPA(P)	Member (since 2011)					Vice Chairman						
Mr Ronald Liew Wing Kong	Member (since 2018)		Member									
Capt Suresh Menon	Member (since 2016)	Vice Chairman										
Ms Tan Khiaw Ngoh <i>JP</i>	Member (since 2015)					Chairman	Chairman	Member	Member	Member		
Mr Chan Hiang Tiak	Co-opted Member (since 2020)		Member (from Sep)								-	
Dr Quah Saw Han	Co-opted Member (since 2020) (Nominated Member since 2019)				Member*							
Ms Koh Hui-Jian	Nominated Member (since 2018)	Member										
Mr Koh Yeong-Kheng	Nominated Member (since 2020)		Member								Member (from Jul)	
Dr Tan Seok Hui	Nominated Member (since 2018)				Vice Chairman (Research Committee Chairman)							

¹ Mr Koh Choon Hui is a Company Director.

² Assoc Prof Cuthbert Teo Eng Swee is a Senior Consultant and Gazetted Forensic Pathologist at the Forensic Medicine Division, Health Sciences Authority.

³ Ms Theresa Sim May Ling is an Assurance Partner and a member of the Leadership Team of PwC Singapore. In addition, she assumes the role of Finance Partner and Chief Operations Leader.

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^{*} A member of the Research Committee.

Chairpersons of Singapore Children's Society

For over 60 years, we have been privileged to have highly dedicated professionals and civic-minded citizens heading Singapore Children's Society.

Mrs K M Smyth 1952 – 1954
Dr Gopal Haridas 1954 – 1956
Prof E S Monteiro 1956 – 1961
Mr J E Lloyd 1961 – 1963
Prof Wong Hock Boon 1963 – 1965
Mr Francis Thomas 1965 – 1970
Dr M G John 1970 – 1973
Dr Koh Eng Kheng 1973 – 1978
Mr Koh Choon Hui 1978 – Current

National Day Awards Recipients

The following members of our Society were honoured by the Singapore Government for their significant contribution to social service.

The Distinguished Service Order (Darjah Utama Bakti Cemerlang)

2020 Mr Koh Choon Hui

The Meritorious Service Medal (Pingat Jasa Gemilang)

2011 Mr Koh Choon Hui

The Public Service Star (Bintang Bakti Masyarakat)

1985 Dr Koh Eng Kheng 1991 Mr Koh Choon Hui 1992 Mr Peter Joe Chia 1994 Ms Susan Verghese 1995 Dr Lim Hwee Leng 1997 Mr S C Lim 1997 Dr Ngiam Tee Liang

2001 Dr Stephanie Leonard 2002 Mr Gwee Lian Kheng 2009 Mrs Mae-Lim Hoon Ann

2010 Prof Ho Lai Yun

2013 Mr Philip Tan Seng Leong 2017 Assoc Prof Teng Su Ching 2019 Mr Alex Lee Ka But The Public Service Star (Bar) Bintang Bakti Masyarakat (Lintang)

1993 Dr Koh Eng Kheng 2001 Mr Koh Choon Hui 2007 Mr S C Lim 2011 Mr Peter Joe Chia

The Public Service Medal (Pingat Bakti Masyarakat)

1980 Dr Koh Eng Kheng 1984 Mr Koh Choon Hui 1984 Mr Peter Joe Chia 1985 Ms Susan Verghese 1986 Dr Lim Hwee Leng 1986 Mr S C Lim

1987 Mr Safdar A Husain 1988 Mr Leslie Yong

1989 Dr Stephanie Leonard 1991 Dr Ngiam Tee Liang 1994 Mr Gwee Lian Kheng 1996 Mrs Mae-Lim Hoon Ann

1999 Mr Yeo Khee Gee

2000 Mr Yew Hang Meng

2003 Assoc Prof Teng Su Ching 2006 Prof Ho Lai Yun

2007 Assoc Prof John Elliott 2007 Mr Philip Tan Seng Leong 2013 Mr Alex Lee Ka But

Our Work



Singapore Children's Society protects and nurtures children and youth of all races and religions. In 2020, 34,654 children, youth and families benefited from our comprehensive range of programmes and services aimed at addressing different needs. We operate 12 service centres islandwide, offering services in the four categories of: Vulnerable Children and Youth, Children and Youth Services, Family Services, and Research and Advocacy.



Vulnerable Children and Youth

We provide fundamental care and guidance for children and youth who are abused and/or severely neglected. Where suitable, with each child's best interests at heart, we collaborate with families to provide safe, stable and permanent care.



Family Services

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



Children and Youth Services

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



Research and Advocacy

We are 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.



Children In Care Group

Adoption Facilitation Service Project
SSFR @ Children's Society • Sunbeam Place @ Children's Society



The Centres offer a continuum of services catering to children and youth who have been abused and/or severely neglected, as well as their families who face complex challenges.

Providing safe and stable care for vulnerable children

Sunbeam Place @ Children's Society, a gazetted place of safety, provides care and protection for children and youth outside their homes. We provide a nurturing environment for our residents, supporting their socioemotional development and academic learning while they live away from their families.

Promoting child recovery and well-being through trauma-informed care

Practices that help our children and their families understand the impact of, manage and heal through their traumas, are all integral parts of our service delivery. Whether in caring for a child in our residential institution, reunifying a child with their birth families, or facilitating the integration of a child with their adoptive families, it is vital that we help them using evidence-based tools and trauma-informed approaches. On a needs basis, structured interventions such as Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioural Therapy are provided by trained therapists.

Supporting and empowering families in transition to provide safe care for the children

Our services though child-centric, are familyfocused, so that the birth families of our children are strengthened to once again provide care that is safe and stable for them. Maintaining familial connection for example, is emphasised for our residents at Sunbeam Place. For families requiring intensive services to resolve complex issues such as family violence, drug dependence and chronic mental health challenges that impact parenting capacities, SSFR @ Children's Society fields a team of social service practitioners to provide home-based coaching to ensure that children and youth in foster care and institution settings can return home in a safe and timely manner. Our Adoption Facilitation Service Project also aims to seek stable and permanent homes for children, so that they can be loved and nurtured once again, in a family.













Sunbeam Place @ Children's Society's annual talent show in 2020 saw residents performing on stage, singing and dancing for their parents who tuned in virtually to cheer them on.



Through staff- and volunteer-led programmes, our residents learn life skills such as cooking to prepare themselves for independent living, a reality for some of our residents.



Children and Youth Services Group

Children Outreach @ Children's Society (ISP Enhanced STEP-UP (Pri) Student Service @ Children's Society (Appropriate Adult Scheme for Young Suspects, Vulnerable Witness Support Programme) Youth Service @ Children's Society



The Centres support children and youth in times of distress. Some of the children and youth may have exhibited school absenteeism issues or atrisk behaviours. Others may be suspected to or may have committed an offence, or are required to attend Court hearings.



Supporting children and youth in times of distress

We recognise that a child or youth who has to attend an investigation interview for an alleged offence is likely to experience anxiety. The same goes for a child or youth who is called to give his/her testimony at Court hearings because he/she was a victim or witness of a crime or family disputes.

Our social service practitioners and trained volunteers for the Appropriate Adult Scheme for Young Suspects and Vulnerable Witness Support Programme are neutral adults who will accompany children and youth when they undergo these processes, looking out for their physical and emotional well-being.

Reducing school absenteeism and supporting engagement in prosocial activities

We actively reach out to and engage with children and youth with school attendance issues through the Integrated Service Provider (ISP) Enhanced STEP-UP work. We support them in managing difficulties such as low motivation or poor socialisation skills to better cope with the demands of the school system.

Assessing pre-Family Guidance Order (FGO) applications holistically

Our systemic approach in working with the different stakeholders, accompanied with our knowledge of community resources, enables us to right-site applications upon assessment of risk and needs. Families will be referred to other community partners or pre-FGO programmes for the right level of intervention, in the hope of diverting them away from the Court system.

Supporting families under the FGO system

Our social service practitioners are the holding space for children, youth and especially their caregivers when the challenges they face are prolonged and have neither ready nor quick solutions. Apart from equipping families with the essential skills to cope, we provide them with the necessary support to tide through difficult times and prevent the children and youth from re-entering the Court system.

Reducing reoffending through ISP work

Our social service practitioners are trained in offencespecific interventions to support young offenders who have been given a chance for community rehabilitation to change and lead a crime-free lifestyle.

We use a case management approach to engage youth in individual, group-based and family sessions. Through these, youth learn about taking responsibility for their actions, solving problems, and resolving conflicts in a prosocial manner. Youth also learn to engage meaningfully with others at school or at work and to manage their emotions positively, thereby forming healthy relationships with others.





Children Development Group

Community Services & Programmes @ Children's Society

JYC @ Children's Society (DEN @ JYC) • Student Care @ Children's Society

Student Service @ Children's Society (Tinkle Friend)



The Centres offer programmes and services to better support children in their developmental needs.

Empowering children

JYC @ Children's Society (DEN @ JYC) and JYC @ ComLink are drop-in spaces for children after school hours where we support their development. We aim to discover children's potential and strengths, as well as empower and nurture them towards positive lifestyles.



Supporting children after school hours

Our Student Care Centre provides children a space to rest, as well as a nurturing environment to help them develop holistically. We have a team of staff members to supervise and guide the children in our care.



Children are engaged in activities such as gardening, art and craft and homework support.

Strengthening children's social and emotional well-being through structured programmes

We conduct programmes in school and community settings. Children observed to be unmotivated or have poor social or coping skills may join our groupwork to build assets of resilience to enable them to manage and overcome challenges.

For children who present with difficulties managing anger, we provide both groupwork and/or individualised casework and counselling to equip them with tools to manage their anger in safe ways and build positive relationships with others.





Safe Simon teaches children the importance of knowing and listening to their body's warning signs and what they can do to keep safe. Scan the QR code to watch the video.

Supporting children through Tinkle Friend hotline and online chat

Tinkle Friend is a national toll-free helpline and chatline for primary-school-aged children. Our Tinkle Friend service offers anonymity, and this has allowed children to share their problems freely.

Manned by trained social service practitioners and volunteers, we listen to the users attentively and guide them to formulate solutions to resolve their problems or ease their fears, ensuring that they feel supported at the end of every call. We also refer them to community partners for further



intervention work where necessary.



Youth Development Group

JYC @ Children's Society (GIG @ JYC) • RoundBox @ Children's Society The Fort @ Children's Society • VOX @ Children's Society



The Centres are drop-in spaces catering to youth living in the respective vicinities. Our social service practitioners reach out to youth to invite them to join us, engage them when they walk into our centres, offer counselling to help them resolve their difficulties when needed and support them to organise activities. Each Centre also organises a signature event every year.



Youth member of VOX @ Children's Society, Syed Aqiil bin Syed Alwee Alshahab, providing a safety briefing to members of the interest group, 'Understanding Animals' before their outing to Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve. The interest group was started by Aqiil with other youth members who share a common love for animals.



Youth members of The Fort @ Children's Society collaborated with Radin Mas Youth Network to pack appreciation cookies for our frontline workers in March.

Developing the 5Cs in our youth

Our four community-based drop-in centres and 11 school-based Project CABINs offer a safe space for youth to have fun, make friends and learn new skills after school. They also serve as a platform for our social service practitioners to cultivate in our youth members the 5Cs guided by the Positive Youth Development Framework – Caring, Character, Competence, Confidence and Connection.

Through interest-based programmes that are youth-initiated, we bring out positive qualities in them such as leadership and giving back to the community.

Preventing and reducing risky and harmful behaviour in youth

Being a community touchpoint, our centres are in a unique position to steer youth away from dangerous activities and support them to better themselves.

When rapport is established, youth members share their inner thoughts and feelings, enabling our social service practitioners to identify their strengths and challenges in a non-intrusive way. This has enabled us to provide targeted intervention, sometimes in collaboration with family service centres, school counsellors or other community partners.

To share the research and reflections behind the setting up of our youth drop-in space, we launched "A Guide to Youth Drop-In Centres: Reflections from Research and Practice". This guide is an update of an earlier version released in 2011.





Scan the QR code to view the guide.



Family Services Group

Children Outreach @ Children's Society (Compulsory Education Casework, Pre-school Outreach, Project LADDER, Project Relate, Yellow Brick Road) Yishun Family Service @ Children's Society



Family is an important influence in a child's life. To better cater to the needs of children and youth, the Centres work with families to enable and facilitate parental involvement and promote sustainable interventions.

Supporting families and enhancing caregiving capacity

We offer programmes and services to families facing challenges arising from incarceration, financial hardship, unemployment, relationship issues, educational neglect, etc.

Through casework and counselling, groupwork and outreach services, we support families and individuals who are navigating through their challenges. We build their resilience and empower them to manage or resolve their difficulties.

Recognising the important role caregivers play in their home environment, we strengthen their caregiving skills, impart parenting knowledge that is age-appropriate, so as to enable them to provide a safe and conducive environment for the growth and development of the children in their care.



Supporting children's development

We provide early intervention for children who face household challenges such as parental incarceration or who display at-risk behaviours like school absenteeism. Our work with these children aims to facilitate their healthy cognitive, emotional and social development through working with the family and other stakeholders.





Advocacy and Research Group

Student Service @ Children's Society (Bully-Free Programme) Advocacy and Research Department



We work alongside other Centres to gather insights from the ground. We bring attention to these gaps via sharing on public portals, through campaigns or public education initiatives.

Responding appropriately to bullying

We run programmes in schools and in the community to heighten awareness about bullying. To promote zero-tolerance towards bullying, we provide coaching to children, youth and stakeholders on how to respond and manage, as well as how to be an upstander while remaining safe.



Promoting child abuse prevention through public education

We expanded our touchpoints further when the National Institute of Early Childhood Development engaged us to train its lecturers on child sexual abuse prevention. We also made our first foray into reaching out to Mandarin-speaking pre-school educators when we conducted our first Mandarin online training. We supported like-minded community groups to spread the message of child sexual abuse prevention. In 2020, we worked with a group of Nanyang Technological University final year students on a project to raise awareness on online sexual grooming. We also worked with the National Library Board, Neighbourhood Health Service Kids, Early Childhood Development Agency KidSTART Home Visitation Team, Fei Yue Community Services and the Singapore Sport Institute on initiatives along the same theme.

Creating awareness and advocating for change

Our ears are always on the ground, listening out for signals that the status quo is no longer serving the best interest of our children and youth. When the number of reported physical abuse cases increased and more cases were brought to the public's attention through media reports in 2020, we penned a commentary discouraging caregivers from using corporal punishment on their children. This commentary was published on CNA and generated numerous comments and discussions.

One of the dilemmas that our social service practitioners faced is that of reporting underage consensual sex. It has been a difficult balancing act between observing the legal obligation to report and preserving the helping relationship with our youth clients. We rode on the debate in the media and penned a letter to the Ministers for Law and Home Affairs as well as Social and Family Development, seeking clarity on the legal provisions and expressing the need for complementary efforts in the community to guide our children and young persons without the fear of criminal prosecution.



Scan the QR code to access the commentary piece published on CNA.



Promoting better understanding of issues through research studies

We actively conduct research studies to better identify and understand issues that affect children, youth and families. Our research studies are designed based on practitioners' observations of new trends on the ground. We are currently conducting research on issues pertaining to bullying, academic stress and well-being, resilience, child-centered financial aid, and the impact of COVID-19 on children. These studies are undertaken with the goal of providing local evidence to inform our services and programmes.

A bi-annual research newsletter, Research Bites, aims to make research findings more accessible to interested members of the public and professionals working with children, youth and families. Nine issues have been published since it started in 2016.



Building a stronger research and advocacy culture within the organisation

For UM (For U and Me) was launched in August 2020 to promote staff discussions on topics at the heart of our work.

As a follow-up to our alternative paper on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in 2019, the first ForUM session explored the topic of the UNCRC to enhance staff members' understanding and appreciate how it relates to our work.

The second ForUM session in the series looked into the subjects of child participation and corporal punishment. We invited Ms Priscilla Lui, a child rights advocate from Hong Kong, to share her three decades of experience in advocacy work for children and their families. A number of community partners also joined us at this session.

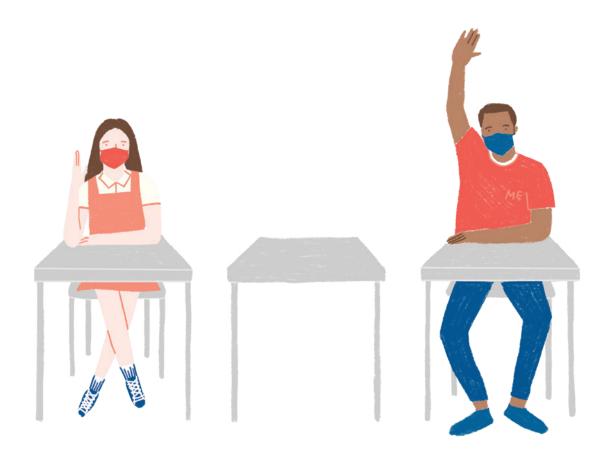
Supporting centres to design and conduct programmes and services that are data-informed

Our Research Unit provides technical support to enable evidence-informed programmes and services. The Unit works collaboratively with service centres in both programme development and programme evaluation. For instance, in programme development, Research Officers and Centre Staff work collaboratively to conduct literature reviews to support the design of new programmes. After centres identify specific programme outcomes of individual programmes, Research Officers also assist with sourcing or developing measures to assess the efficacy of these programmes.



Scan the QR code to access Research Bites.

Programme Evaluation



We evaluate our programmes to ensure stellar programme quality and accountability. In 2020, the delivery of many of these programmes and services was affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Some programmes were moved online, some were conducted in smaller groups in adherence to safe management measures, while others were postponed or cancelled. Despite these challenges and limitations, we have developed new approaches to the evaluation of some of our programmes and these are the highlights of 2020.

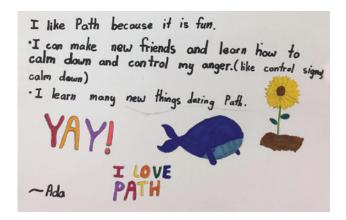
PATHS

The Promoting Alternative THinking Strategies (PATHS) programme is an evidence-based social and emotional learning curriculum that focuses on increasing self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship management, and responsible decision-making among children.

Ever since Meng Hau attended the programme, he has learnt how to manage his expectations within his capabilities and abilities. Back in Primary 1, he gets emotionally worked up easily over matters he cannot resolve. Getting him to cool down and recollect his thoughts with a calm mind was never an easy task. We are glad to have the unwavering and caring guidance from the staff at Student Care to constantly guide him with words of encouragement. He has made much progress since then.

MR AND MRS OH, PARENTS OF OH MENG HAU, AGED 10

Since 2019, PATHS has been implemented weekly at Student Care @ Children's Society. Programme evaluation data between June and December 2020 revealed that students showed significant reduction in aggression and disruptive behaviour. Students also showed marked improvement in their concentration, attention, and their social and emotional competence. These data will be collected every six months so that the effectiveness of this programme can be assessed continually.





It was helpful when Nawal created a story to explain difficult situations to my children. The story helped me understand how my children's current fears were linked with their past negative experiences. It also helped me explain to my children and have more conversations to reassure them. The pictures helped my children remember better too. When everyone shares the same story, we get to retell the story many times so that my children's fears can be reduced.

TESTIMONIAL FROM A MOTHER THANKING MS NAWAL ADAM KOAY, SENIOR COUNSELLOR AT SSFR @ CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Safe and Strong Families – Reunification (SSF-R)

SSF-R service aims to reunite children in foster and residential care with their families through intensive and targeted intervention for vulnerable families. In March 2020, we conducted an assessment of SSF-R workers' understanding and ability to use trauma-informed care principles in their work and identified areas of strength and future improvement. Evaluation results indicated that the team scored the highest in the areas of understanding the impact of trauma on children, knowledge and capacity to reduce the impact of trauma on children and caregivers, and having strong agency support to prevent vicarious trauma among staff. Several areas for future improvement were also identified, such as standardising protocols for administering trauma screening tools for children and caregivers, increasing staff training on trauma-focused treatments for children and supporting caregivers with past trauma, and continuing efforts to reduce the impact of systemic trauma on children and families. This exercise will be repeated regularly as part of our drive towards providing trauma-informed care to our beneficiaries.

Tinkle Friend

Tinkle Friend is a confidential toll-free helpline and online chat service that provides support, information, and advice to all primary-school-aged children in Singapore, especially for children who are feeling lonely and/or are in distress.

I have used Tinkle Friend 2 times [sic] and I always feel comforted and assured after the chat. The method and strategies given by Tinkle Friend works! Thank you:)

TESTIMONIAL FROM AN ONLINE CHAT USER

In July 2020, Tinkle Friend piloted the user satisfaction survey to gather children's feedback on the online chat service. Amongst the 264 children who responded, 83% of them were satisfied with the service received, 86% of them felt better after talking to Tinkle Friend, and 74% of them felt more confident to deal with their issue after they chatted with Tinkle Friend. As part of our ongoing efforts, Tinkle Friend will continue to implement the satisfaction survey and explore other evaluation methods to better meet the children's needs.

It has helped my anxiety a lot, thank you so much! and also [sic] having a listening ear too!

TESTIMONIAL FROM AN ONLINE CHAT USER



Youth Centres

Our four youth centres promote positive development in youth, while reducing and preventing them from engaging in risky behaviours. Across the four centres, we received feedback from 139 youth via an online survey, and 32 youth via focus group discussions. Youth who responded to the survey indicated that they felt staff and peers were supportive and dependable. They were also given opportunities to voice their opinions and had picked up values and life skills from coming to the centre.

I was someone who preferred to be alone especially when I was in an unfamiliar environment when I first joined JYC. Even so, Mr Ben and Mr Solomon treated me like I was their close friend even when we did not know each other very well yet. With their guidance and support, I have improved a lot academically. I also used to think that I would not be able to reach my goals, but I feel more positive about my future now. A big thank you to Mr Ben and Mr Solomon for always thinking of me and ensuring that I have someone to support me whenever I face challenges.

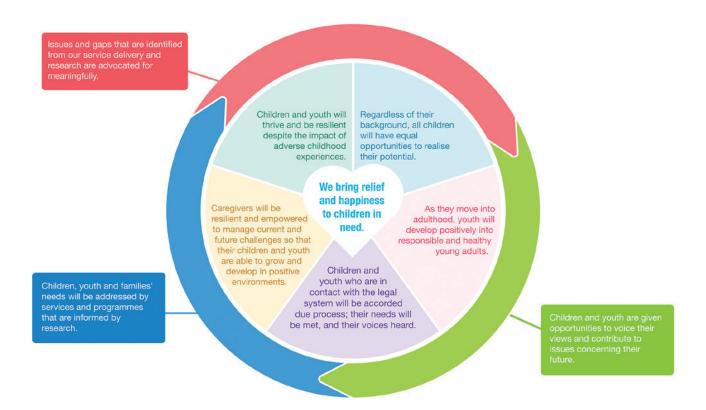
RONALD AW ZHI XIN, 16, YOUTH MEMBER OF JYC @ CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (GIG @ JYC)

The youth who participated in the focus group discussions shared similar sentiments and further elaborated that staff were caring and that they could approach staff when faced with problems. Youth also gave their feedback on how youth centres could be improved in terms of facilities and services. We will continue to engage and listen to our youth's voices and findings will be used to improve our service delivery.



Ronald Aw (centre) with Mr Benedict Kuah (left), Deputy Director/Head, JYC @ Children's Society and Mr Solomon Ng, Counsellor, celebrating his GCE O-Level results.

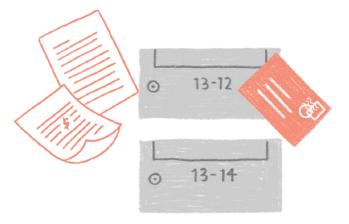
The Year Ahead



With our mission at the heart of our work, we seek to accomplish the eight goals in the diagram. The five goals in the inner circle are what we hope to achieve through our direct service work. These are supported and complemented by research and advocacy embedded in our practice, presented as the three goals in the outer circle.

In 2021, we remain committed to meeting the needs of our beneficiaries through our programmes and services. The majority of our expenditure will continue to be on manpower, spending on programmes as well as financial assistance for our beneficiaries.

To support our work and service goals, these are our key fundraising initiatives for 2021.



Donor recruitment and renewal through giving programmes 1000 Enterprises for Children-in-Need and 1000 Philanthropists, as well as through mailers and appeal letters



Events that could be in socially distanced formats, virtual or even hybrid formats like Tee Up for Our Children (Charity Golf), Virtual Walk for Our Children, 1000 Enterprises for Children-in-Need and 1000 Philanthropists Appreciation Event and Donation Draw



Fundraising campaigns like Virtual Flag Day, Little Kindness, Lots of Joy, Legacy Giving



Crowdfunding campaigns on platforms like our own Give2Children, and third-party platforms like GIVE.asia, Giving.sg and SimplyGiving

Friends of the Society







CaptainSureshMenon







Liked by sgchildrensoc

Captain Suresh Menon, representing Air Line Pilots
Association – Singapore (ALPA-S), joined the Society
as a member of the Children In Care Standing
Committee (formerly known as Convalescent Home
Standing Committee) in 1997. He became a nominated
member of the Board in 2015, and has been a member
of the Board and the Vice Chairman of Children In
Care Standing Committee since 2016. Together with
his associates at ALPA-S, he has organised various
fundraising projects, as well as a variety of activities
and excursions for residents at Sunbeam Place @
Children's Society.

From encouraging an individual child to think about his future aspirations to contributing to developing Home policies, he never fails to extend his care and concern towards both children and staff at Sunbeam Place @ Children's Society. For his exceptional leadership and years of dedicated voluntary service, Singapore Children's Society is honoured to bestow the distinguished Ruth Wong Award on Captain Suresh Menon.



Inaugurated in 1982, the annual Singapore Children's Society Awards formally recognises the dedication and generosity of the many volunteers and donors whose contributions have helped to build a better life for the children under our care. In 2020, 33 awards were conferred to individuals and companies who have contributed to the Society. Warmest congratulations to the recipients.

Ruth Wong Award

Captain Suresh Menon

Gold Service Award

Ms Celine Tay Siew Khim Ms Grace Sim Sok Ling

Platinum Award

Capital C Corporation
Singapore Totalisator Board

Gold Award

AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION – SINGAPORE (ALPA-S) CHARLES & KEITH (Singapore) Pte Ltd

Mr Jason Tang Chuan Ann

Ms Koh Hui-Jian

Lam Research Foundation

MYPX Pte Itd

Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited

Riverland Pte Ltd

Singapore Pools (Private) Limited

The Family of the Late Ms Cecilia Cheong Kow Mui

Silver Service Award

Ms Francine Tan Hui Ting Mr Koh Yeong-Kheng Mr Lua Jian Hui Ms Rie Miura-Lee

Commendation Service Award

Mr Goh Eck Kheng

Silver Award

ALOE Digital Pte Ltd

Gynecology Consultants Clinic & Surgery Pte Ltd

Mr Koh Yeong-Kheng

Lee Foundation

Mr Leonard Sim Tiao Han

Neo Garden Catering Pte Ltd

OBI HOLDINGS PTE LTD

Seed of Life Fertility & Women's Care Medical Centre Pte Ltd

Mr Setin Subramanian Dilip Babu

Singapore Rubber Millers Association

Singapore Sogetsu Association

Dr Suresh Nair

Tai Hing Private Limited





Mdm Nicki*, beneficiary of Yishun Family Service @ Children's Society

Mdm Nicki found out that she was pregnant after her husband was incarcerated in the Drug Rehabilitation Centre. The family did not have a place to stay and had to move multiple times. Her daughter failed her Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) and had to repeat a year. There was also no income for the family.

Being the sole caregiver, Mdm Nicki had to manage all these stressors by herself and she was on the brink of giving up. Instabilities and uncertainties of the family circumstances also strained family relationships.

Mdm Nicki approached Yishun Family Service @ Children's Society to take steps to improve her situation. With assistance from her social worker, Ms Peh Lay Siew, in appealing to the Housing & Development Board (HDB), Mdm Nicki managed to secure a HDB

rental unit, putting an end to their homeless situation. To ease the family's financial situation, her daughter received allowance from The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund. Conversations with Ms Peh also shifted Mdm Nicki's perspectives and they co-created her next steps to take.

A year on, Mdm Nicki and family are now in a much better place with a stable living arrangement and her husband reintegrated back into the society after his release. Her daughter had also passed her second attempt at the PSLE. Looking back, Mdm Nicki shared that she has achieved more than what she expected with the support of Ms Peh and she is confident to take on future challenges.

*Name has been changed to protect the identity of our beneficiary.

Ms Clara Kwek, volunteer of Sunbeam Friends Club at Yishun Family Service @ Children's Society

Joining the Sunbeam Friends Club has been very rewarding as I get to interact with children with different personalities. At the same time, I got to make new friends with other volunteers from all walks of life. The training I received from Children's Society has also equipped me with skills that allowed me to manage children better, taught me values that I can apply in my daily life such as social interactions and time management, as well as how to empathise with others.



Ms Esther, mother of four children aged 19, 18, 15, and 13, thanking Mr Jeremy Heng, Clinical Psychologist at SSFR @ Children's Society

Ms Esther and her family was referred for Functional Family Therapy to preserve the family by addressing multiple presenting issues such as frequent physical and violent conflicts, school absenteeism by children, and unhelpful coping among family members such as self-harm.

The key emphasis at the start was to balance alliance by ensuring each family member had a voice in the therapeutic process while creating a relational focus about the common struggles and strengths. Through a year of intensive home-based intervention and collaboration with community partners, the family was preserved with significant positive shifts. They were equipped with healthier coping and communication skills, use of violence and familial conflicts had reduced and the youth also returned to school and reported regular school attendance. Most importantly, Ms Esther and her family had grown closer.

Although it was not an easy path, it was definitely an awesome one. Without Jeremy's patience, all this would not have been achieved. He understood how everyone felt and taught us to look at things from others' perspectives. Our fights have reduced significantly. Each of us was given a chance to voice our emotions, learn how to handle violence, and overcome feelings of unwantedness.

Mdm Sarasa Seshadri, Tinkle Friend's longest serving volunteer

Mdm Sarasa, Tinkle Friend's longest serving volunteer, who joined the hotline in 1986, has helped scores of children since. Her love for children motivated her to begin her volunteering journey of listening to children who were distressed, lonely, and sometimes, simply bored. She has never looked back since.

Mdm Sarasa's volunteering journey with Tinkle Friend inspired the film, *The Listener*. Produced by filmmaker Kelvin Tong, it is part of the 15 Shorts project, a collaboration between the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre and Blue3Asia.

Scan the QR code to watch *The Listener*.

My volunteering journey with Children's Society has been more than great. The staff members are very approachable, and volunteers are often provided with trainings to improve their skills. I'm also very grateful for my fellow volunteers who never fail to lend a helping hand whenever I needed one.



Mr Mohd Elfie Bongso, a father of youth aged 15, thanking Ms Nurul Ashikin Bte Muhd Lee, Counsellor at Youth Service @ Children's Society

Triple P is an evidence-based parenting and family support programme. It is designed to prevent and treat behavioral and emotional problems in children and teenagers by equipping parents/caregivers with strategies to help them build strong, healthy relationships with their children.

Triple P has helped to improve communication with my son, and I have come to understand him better. Ms Shikin has been a great help to us, giving us suggestions on how to improve and understand the situation we face before reacting to it. This skill has not only helped in improving my relationship with my son, but also in my work as I engage my colleagues and customers better.

Wen Ling, aged 6, a beneficiary of the Children's Medical Fund



Wen Ling receiving a gift from Christmas elf in December 2020.

Wen Ling underwent a major surgery due to her medical condition of multiple scoliosis. The cost of her operation was partly supported by the Children's Medical Fund. As Wen Ling was also unable to attend pre-school regularly, she faced difficulties in reading and understanding English. She got the extra help from Ms Vimala Ragava, Senior Programme Assistant at Student Care @ Children's Society, who conducted weekly lessons for her. The lessons covered phonics, word and alphabet games, as well as activities to learn how to construct sentences. Wen Ling has also built a rapport with Ms Vimala and would often share about her day with her. Wen Ling is now better prepared to enter Primary One in 2021.



Ms Suriana Binte Suhirman, a pre-school teacher at ChildFirst@ Tampines who have attended the course, 'Empowering Children with Body Safety Skills'

'Empowering Children with Body Safety Skills' is a course targeted at pre-school educators to equip them with the knowledge to pass on body safety skills to their young charges.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to attend this course. This course should be mandatory for everyone in the education sector as it will equip us with the relevant knowledge in handling delicate situations such as sexual abuse. This is a great platform to further empower and educate early childhood educators to be more vigilant of signs of sexual abuse and take action.

Facts and Figures



SERVICE STATISTICS

Here is the list of the number of children, youth and adults we reached out to in 2019 and 2020.

SERVICE CATEGORY 1 VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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Chil	aren	in Ca	re Group

Programmes/Services	Centre	2019	2020
Safe and Strong Families - Reunification related work	SSFR @ Children's Society	86	79
Sunbeam Place Residents	Sunbeam Place @ Children's Society	56	56
Sunbeam Place After-care Service	Sunbeam Place @ Children's Society	82	100
	Total	224	235

SERVICE CATEGORY 2 CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES

Children and Youth Services Group

Programmes/Services	Centre	2019	2020
Appropriate Adult Scheme for Young Suspects	Student Service @ Children's Society	1,771	2,084
Vulnerable Witness Support Programme	Student Service @ Children's Society	19	49
ISP related work	Youth Service @ Children's Society		
	Children Outreach @ Children's Society		
	VOX @ Children's Society	375	290
Pre-FGO and FGO related work	Youth Service @ Children's Society	468	314
	Total	2,633	2,737

Children Development Group

Programmes/Services	Centre	2019	2020
Children's Day Celebration	Community Services & Programmes @ Children's Society		
	Student Care @ Children's Society	120	NA
Choo Choo Train#	Community Services & Programmes @ Children's Society		
	Student Care @ Children's Society	612	NA
Community-based support work	Community Services & Programmes @ Children's Society	57	15
KidzSHinE	Community Services & Programmes @ Children's Society	420	40
Storm Riders	Community Services & Programmes @ Children's Society	772	44
Engagement, Casework & Counselling	JYC @ Children's Society (DEN @ JYC)	120	141
Engagement, Casework & Counselling	JYC @ ComLink	NA	35
Afterschool Care	Student Care @ Children's Society	43	46
Sunbeam Friends: Alumni Club	Student Care @ Children's Society	14	15
Tinkle Friend Helpline	Student Service @ Children's Society	1,518	699
Tinkle Friend Online Chat	Student Service @ Children's Society	3,567	5,334
	Total	7,243	6,369

Youth Development Group

Touch Development Group			
Programmes/Services	Centre	2019	2020
Engagement, Casework & Counselling	JYC @ Children's Society (GIG @ JYC)	692	308
Engagement, Casework & Counselling	RoundBox @ Children's Society	192	253
Engagement, Casework & Counselling	The Fort @ Children's Society	334	132
Engagement, Casework & Counselling	VOX @ Children's Society	233	168
Project CABIN	JYC @ Children's Society		
	RoundBox @ Children's Society		
	The Fort @ Children's Society		
	VOX @ Children's Society	4,524	1,570
	Total	5,975	2,431

SERVICE CATEGORY 3 FAMILY SERVICES

Family Services Group

Programmes/Services	Centre	2019	2020
Compulsory Education Casework	Children Outreach @ Children's Society	33	25
Pre-school Outreach	Children Outreach @ Children's Society	742	646
Project LADDER	Children Outreach @ Children's Society	304	219
Project Light	Children Outreach @ Children's Society	7	NA
Project Relate	Children Outreach @ Children's Society	77	NA
Yellow Brick Road	Children Outreach @ Children's Society	43	123
Community work and Group work	Yishun Family Service @ Children's Society	486	38
Referral, Casework and Counselling^	Yishun Family Service @ Children's Society	1042	1092
Financial Assistance: Children's Medical Fund	Yishun Family Service @ Children's Society	18	14
Financial Assistance: The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund	Yishun Family Service @ Children's Society	223	247
Financial Assistance: Casework Fund and other assistance [^]	All Centres	74	859
	Total	3,049	3,263

SERVICE CATEGORY 4 RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

Advocacy and Research Group

Programmes/Services	Centre	2019	2020
Singapore Children's Forum	Community Services & Programmes @ Children's Society		
	JYC @ Children's Society (DEN @ JYC)		
	Student Care @ Children's Society	194	NA
Other Talks/Workshops	Community Services & Programmes @ Children's Society	1,820	130
Bully-Free related work	Student Service @ Children's Society	42,861	19,155
Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention talks/workshops	Advocacy & Research Department	708	NA
KidzLive: I Can Protect Myself and related work	Advocacy & Research Department	1,805	334
Singapore Children's Society Lecture	Advocacy & Research Department	170	NA
	Total	47,558	19,619

Total Beneficiaries	66,682	34,654
Beneficiaries of Direct Services	19,124	15,035
Beneficiaries of Public Education Initiatives	47,558	19,619

Beneficiaries receiving Casework Fund and other assistance are known to Children's Society through its programmes.

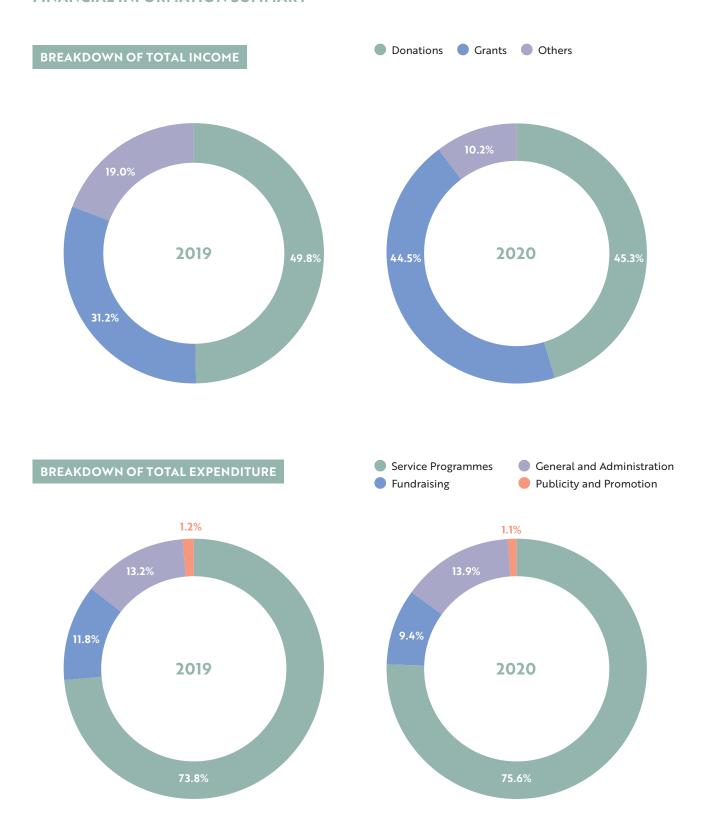
Public Education Initiatives refer to campaigns, roadshows and talks.

Direct Services refer to programmes and casework and counselling.

Choo Choo Train is now offered as a resource available for download on Children's Society's website.

[^] The service statistics reporting for some programmes/services changed in 2020 resulting in a difference in the 2019 figure.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION SUMMARY







BALANCE SHEET

		2019 (\$'000)	2020 (\$'000)
ASSETS	Plant and Equipment	968	1,126
	Right of use – Leased Asset	623	1,358
	Intangible asset – Building use rights	1,115	876
	Financial assets - FVTOCI	8,182	7,912
	Non-current Assets	10,888	11,272
	Financial assets - FVTOCI	2,590	1,425
	Financial assets - FVTPL	24,018	30,079
	Other receivables	2,582	3,061
	Other assets	162	129
	Cash and cash equivalents	53,530	54,503
	Current Assets	82,882	89,197
	Total Assets	93,770	100,469
FUNDS AND RESERVES	General Fund	64,426	68,458
	Other Reserves	93,770 64,426 3,094 67,520	2,386
	Unrestricted Fund		70,844
	Children's Medical Fund (CMF)	20,563	20,979
	Madam Ho Yun Wai Fund	500	500
	Professor S.S. Ratnam Memorial Fund	268	271
	Other Restricted Funds	3	889
	Restricted Fund	21,334	22,639
	Total Funds and Reserves	88,854	93,483
LIABILITIES	Lease liabilities	171	956
	Other liabilities	435	526
	Non-current Liabilities	606	1,482
	Trade and other payables	2,490	3,010
	Lease liabilities	471	423
	Other liabilities	1,349	2,071
	Current Liabilities	4,310	5,504
	Total Liabilities	4,916	6,986
Total Funds, Reserves and Liabilitie	es	93,770	100,469

Reserves Policy:
The primary objective of the Society's reserves management policy is to ensure that it maintains strong and healthy reserves in order to support its current and future operations and potential initiatives. The Society targets to maintain an optimum level of accumulated fund equivalent to five years of its budgeted operating expenditure. This excludes restricted funds.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

			% Breakdown of Receipts	% Breakdown of Receipts
Income	2019 (\$'000)	2020(\$'000)	2019	2020
Donations	10,662	10,979	49.8%	45.3%
Grants	6,668	10,797	31.2%	44.5%
Others	4,070	2,483	19.0%	10.2%
Total Income	21,400	24,259	100%	100%
Expenditure	2019 (\$'000)	2020 (¢(000)	% of Total Income	% of Total Income
	2017 (\$ 000)	2020 (\$'000)	2019	2020
Service Programmes	14,741	14,312	68.9%	59.0%
Service Programmes Fundraising				
	14,741	14,312	68.9%	59.0%
Fundraising	14,741 2,356	14,312 1,781	68.9% 11.0%	59.0% 7.3%
Fundraising General and Administration	14,741 2,356 2,629	14,312 1,781 2,635	68.9% 11.0% 12.3%	59.0% 7.3% 10.9%

For the full audited financial statements, please visit Children's Society's website at https://www.childrensociety.org.sg/news-report

MAJOR FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

In 2020, we received \$2.6 million as part of the Singapore Government's Jobs Support Scheme and we placed an additional \$5 million of funds with independent fund managers.

ANNUAL REMUNERATION DECLARATION OF TOP THREE MANAGEMENT STAFF

Annual Remuneration	No. of Management Staff 2019	No. of Management Staff 2020
\$100,001 to \$200,000	2	3
\$200,001 to \$300,000	1	0

Note:

Includes basic salary, bonuses, allowances and the employer's contributions to Central Provident Fund. None of the Society's staff are close members of the family of the Chief Executive Officer or Board members. None of the three highest paid staff serve on the Board.

FACTS& FIGURES

BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE 2019/2020 Singapore Children's Society is managed by the Board. As the highest policy and decision-making body, the Board has the ultimate responsibility of ensuring that the Society is governed and managed responsibly and prudently.

Members of the Board are volunteers and receive no monetary remuneration for their contribution. Some members of the Board have served more than 10 consecutive years. Members are elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve as office holders on the Board for a term of one year. As it is not easy to find committed volunteers who understand the complexity of the social service sector, Children's Society continuously seeks and identifies suitable volunteers to serve on the Board. It is important to find volunteers who have the right motivations and see it as a privilege to serve and not as sacrifice. Our Board members should be prepared to serve for the long term to ensure continuity and sustainability of Singapore Children's Society.

The Society has in place conflict of interest and whistle-blowing policies in its Code of Conduct. All members of the Board and management are required to declare their interests annually.

There are also five standing committees working hand in hand with the full-time staff in the areas of Children In Care, Community Engagement and Partnerships, Information and Corporate Relations, Research and Advocacy, and Social Work Service. All committee members are volunteers of Children's Society and come from diverse backgrounds such as education, healthcare and business.

The term of 2019/2020 Board was extended due to postponement of our Annual General Meeting. There were seven meetings held for this term. The attendance of the meetings is as shown.

		Attendance
Chairman	Mr Koh Choon Hui	7
Vice Chairmen	Prof Ho Lai Yun	6
	Mr Alex Lee Ka But	7
Honorary Secretary	Assoc Prof Cuthbert Teo Eng Swee	6
Honorary Treasurer	Ms Theresa Sim May Ling	5
Honorary Assistant Secretary	Mrs Maria Shiu - Siu Lai Yee	7
Honorary Assistant Treasurer	Mr David Toh Seng Hong	6
Members*	Mr Ho Lon Gee	4
	Assoc Prof Isabella Wong Yuen Fun	4
	Mr Kurt Wee Chorng Kien	5
	Assoc Prof Lim Lee Ching	6
	Mdm Rashidah Bte Abdul Rasip	4
	Mr Ronald Liew	2
	Capt Suresh Menon	5
	Ms Tan Khiaw Ngoh	5
Co-opted Member	Dr Lena Lee Siow Ling	6
Nominated Members	Ms Koh Hui-Jian	3
	Dr Quah Saw Han	7
	Dr Tan Seok Hui	5

^{*} Members are elected at the Annual General Meeting.





	Key Code Guidelines	Code ID	Compliance
	Board Governance		
1	Induction and orientation are provided to incoming governing board members upon joining the Board.	1.1.2	Yes
	Are there governing board members holding staff appointments? (skip items 2 and 3 if "No")		No
2	Staff does not chair the Board and does not comprise more than one third of the Board.	1.1.3	NA
3	There are written job descriptions for the staff's executive functions and operational duties, which are distinct from the staff's Board role.	1.1.5	NA
4	The Treasurer of the charity (or any person holding an equivalent position in the charity, e.g. Finance Committee Chairman or a governing board member responsible for overseeing the finances of the charity) can only serve a maximum of 4 consecutive years. If the charity has not appointed any governing board member to oversee its finances, it will be presumed that the Chairman oversees the finances of the charity."	1.1.7	Yes
5	All governing board members must submit themselves for re-nomination and re-appointment, at least once every 3 years.		Yes
6	The Board conducts self evaluation to assess its performance and effectiveness once during its term or every 3 years, whichever is shorter.	1.1.12	Yes
	Is there any governing board member who has served for more than 10 consecutive years? (skip item 7 if "No")		Yes
7	The charity discloses in its annual report the reasons for retaining the governing board member who has served for more than 10 consecutive years.	1.1.13	Yes
8	There are documented terms of reference for the Board and each of its committees.	1.2.1	Yes
	Conflict of Interest		
9	There are documented procedures for governing board members and staff to declare actual or potential conflicts of interest to the Board at the earliest opportunity.	2.1	Yes
10	Governing board members do not vote or participate in decision making on matters where they have a conflict of interest	t. 2.4	Yes
	Strategic Planning		
11	The Board periodically reviews and approves the strategic plan for the charity to ensure that the charity's activities are in line with the charity's objectives.	3.2.2	Yes
12	There is a documented plan to develop the capacity and capability of the charity and the Board monitors the progress of the plan.	3.2.4	Yes
	Human Resource and Volunteer Management		
13	The Board approves documented human resource policies for staff.	5.1	Yes
14	There is a documented Code of Conduct for governing board members, staff and volunteers (where applicable) which is approved by the Board.	5.3	Yes
15	There are processes for regular supervision, appraisal and professional development of staff.	5.5	Yes
	Are there volunteers serving in the charity? (skip item 16 if "No")		Yes
16	There are volunteer management policies in place for volunteers.	5.7	Yes
	Financial Management and Internal Controls		
17	There is a documented policy to seek the Board's approval for any loans, donations, grants or financial assistance provided by the charity which are not part of the charity's core charitable programmes.	6.1.1	Yes

Co	de guideline	Code ID	Complied
18	The Board ensures that internal controls for financial matters in key areas are in place with documented procedures.	6.1.2	Yes
19	The Board ensures that reviews on the charity's internal controls, processes, key programmes and events are regularly conducted.	6.1.3	Yes
20	The Board ensures that there is a process to identify, and regularly monitor and review the charity's key risks.	6.1.4	Yes
21	The Board approves an annual budget for the charity's plans and regularly monitors the charity's expenditure.	6.2.1	Yes
	Does the charity invest its reserves (e.g. in fixed deposits)? (skip item 22 if "No")		Yes
22	The charity has a documented investment policy approved by the Board.	6.4.3	Yes
	Fundraising Practices		
	Did the charity receive cash donations (solicited or unsolicited) during the financial year? (skip item 23 if "No")		Yes
23	All collections received (solicited or unsolicited) are properly accounted for and promptly deposited by the charity.	7.2.2	Yes
	Did the charity receive donations in kind during the financial year? (skip item 24 if "No")		Yes
24	All donations in kind received are properly recorded and accounted for by the charity.	7.2.3	Yes
	Disclosure and Transparency		
25	The charity discloses in its annual report — (a) the number of Board meetings in the financial year; and (b) the attendance of every governing board member at those meetings.	8.2	Yes
	Are governing board members remunerated for their services to the Board? (skip items 26 and 27 if "No")	0.2	No
26	No governing board member is involved in setting his own remuneration.	2.2	NA
_	The charity discloses the exact remuneration and benefits received by each governing board member in its annual repor OR		NA .
	The charity discloses that no governing board member is remunerated."	8.3	NA
	Does the charity employ paid staff? (skip items 28, 29 and 30 if "No")		Yes
 28	No staff is involved in setting his own remuneration.	2.2	Yes
29	The charity discloses in its annual report — (a) the total annual remuneration for each of its 3 highest paid staff who each has received remuneration (including remuneration received from the charity's subsidiaries) exceeding \$100,000 during the financial year; and (b) whether any of the 3 highest paid staff also serves as a governing board member of the charity. The information relating to the remuneration of the staff must be presented in bands of \$100,000. OR The charity discloses that none of its paid staff receives more than \$100,000 each in annual remuneration.	8.4	Yes
30	The charity discloses the number of paid staff who satisfies all of the following criteria: (a) the staff is a close member of the family belonging to the Executive Head or a governing board member of the charity (b) the staff has received remuneration exceeding \$50,000 during the financial year.		
	The information relating to the remuneration of the staff must be presented in bands of \$100,000. OR The charity discloses that there is no paid staff, being a close member of the family belonging to the Executive Head or a governing board member of the charity, who has received remuneration exceeding \$50,000 during the financial year.	8.5	Yes
	Public Image		
	The charity has a documented communication policy on the release of information about the charity and its activities		

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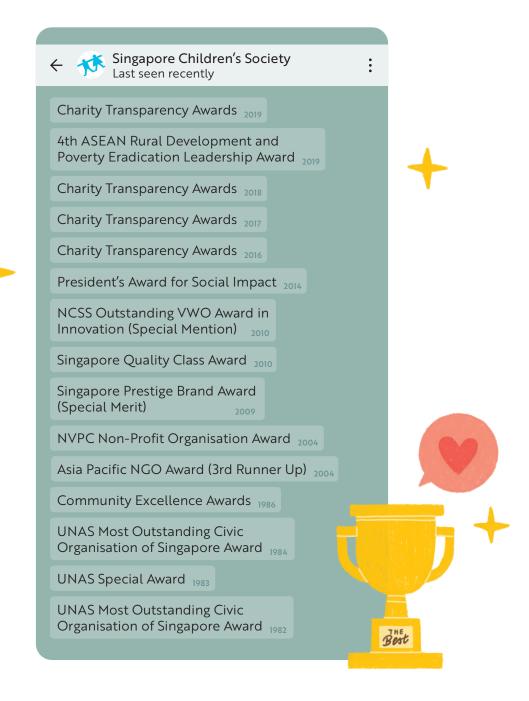
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Our Accolades



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The Fort @ Children's Society

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VOX @ Children's Society

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Youth Service @ Children's Society

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Our service centres are supported by the Advocacy & Research Department.

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Research Unit

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Children's Medical Fund

TEL 6753 7331

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HELPLINE 1800 2744 788
ONLINE CHAT www.tinklefriend.sg

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Our Microsites

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