

FACTSHEET

MSF's Committee of Supply 2025:

"Building a Resilient Future with the Collective Strengths of Today"

MSF is committed to empowering resilient and thriving families. The key principles that guide our efforts allow us to work towards our vision in a concerted manner – our policies are family-centred, strengths-based and proactive, and we adopt a whole-of-society approach to amplify our impact.

Our moves to build a future-directed social service sector include:

- I. Reviewing the NCSS Act to reflect and strengthen NCSS's role;
- II. Introducing a Social Residential Homes Bill to raise standards of care provided to residents; and
- III. Designating 2025 as the Year of Celebrating Social Service Professionals to recognise their contributions.

We will also amplify collective contributions from the community by:

- IV. Launching a \$250 million SG Gives Matching Grant to match donations made through Community Chest, President's Challenge and Collective for a Stronger Society.

I. Review of NCSS Act to Reflect and Strengthen NCSS's Role

- To ensure that the social service sector remains prepared to take on future opportunities and challenges, we must strengthen our ecosystem of partners. This is where the National Council of Social Service (NCSS) plays a vital role.
- Originally established as a membership body and enabler for its member organisations, NCSS has evolved into a strategic sector developer that galvanises the broader social service ecosystem.
- As sector developer, NCSS's focus is on the following key areas:
 - Strengthening user-centric service delivery;
 - Building the organisational and professional capabilities of the entities serving the sector; and
 - Developing a stronger social service ecosystem.

- The proposed amendments to the NCSS Act will further NCSS's role as sector developer and strengthen its governance. This includes ensuring that the Board comprises an optimal mix of skills, knowledge and experience to drive NCSS's strategic direction. Further details on the amendments will be shared in due course.

II. Social Residential Homes Bill

- Social Residential Homes (SRHs) are residential facilities that provide accommodation to persons who require care, support, and/or social intervention such as persons with disabilities and destitute adults.
- SRHs have been operating for some time. Over the years, MSF has worked closely with MSF-funded SRH operators to raise the standards of care provided to residents.
- It is timely to codify the good progress made by the sector in providing care for those in need, which MSF will introduce through the Social Residential Homes Bill (SRHB) in early 2025.
 - Under the SRHB, MSF will **introduce a licensing framework** to uplift the quality of care in SRHs, to improve residents' safety, well-being and welfare.
- MSF will also invest in training and capability building for SRH operators. This initiative will standardise the quality of care across the sector and ensure continuity of care for vulnerable residents.

III. Year of Celebrating Social Service Professionals

- MSF has **dedicated 2025 as the Year of Celebrating Social Service Professionals** to spotlight and commemorate the contributions of more than 20,000 professionals in the sector.
- In the second half of 2025, MSF will launch the Sector Awards for Social Service Professionals to recognise their dedication and impact. These awards celebrate their hard work and meaningful contributions to our communities.
- The awards include:
 - The **President's Award for Social Service Professionals** – the highest accolade in the sector. This award recognises professionals who have

made exceptional contributions and demonstrated outstanding professional qualities.

- **Excellence and Merit Awards for Social Service Professionals** – introduced to acknowledge individuals who have made significant and impactful contributions to the sector.
- **Social Service Excellence Team Awards** – to recognise teams that have excelled in client-centric, cross-profession, and inter-agency contributions.

IV. SG Gives Matching Grant

- As we look ahead, we must continue to leverage the strength and resilience of our society and build on the collective contributions of the community.
- To promote and sustain a strong culture of giving, while amplifying community impact, the Government will **launch a \$250 million SG Gives matching grant** as announced in the Budget 2025 speech. This initiative will match donations made through Community Chest, President’s Challenge, and the Collective for a Stronger Society. The grant comprises:
 - \$1 for \$1 matching for donations to Community Chest, President’s Challenge, and the Collective for a Stronger Society in 2025.
 - \$1.50 for \$1 matching for **large multi-year donations** of at least \$250,000/year over three years (between 2025 to 2027).
- Donated funds will go towards sustaining national social and community programmes, supporting those with more needs in our community, including lower-income families, persons with disabilities, children and youths. Examples of supported programmes include ComLink+ and Kidstart.
- Donations will also benefit ground-up initiatives, which provide additional layers of community support. For example, the Tak Takut Kids Club, run by 3Pumpkins, is a community club concept that supports disadvantaged children living in rental flats. Refer to the supported list of programmes in **Annex A**.

Programmes supported by SG Gives grant

Fundraiser	Supported causes
Community Chest (ComChest)	<p>The Community Chest supports critical social service programmes that empower the lives of adults with disabilities, children with special needs and youth-at-risk, persons with mental health conditions, and families and seniors in need of support.</p> <p>Examples of supported programmes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KidSTART • ComLink+ • Family Service Centres, divorce support programmes • Special Education or SPED programmes • School based programmes for youths-at-risk, including casework and counselling, mentoring and befriending programmes • Counselling services
President's Challenge	<p>President's Challenge is an annual campaign that aims to rally Singaporeans to build a more caring and cohesive society, and to help communities in need. Beyond meeting immediate needs, President's Challenge also aims to achieve sustained social impact by uplifting the aspirations, abilities and potential of those who start with greater odds.</p> <p><i>Details of this year's President's Challenge campaign will be released soon.</i></p>
Collective for a Stronger Society	<p>The Collective for a Stronger Society is a platform that brings together donors, non-profits, public and private organisations to support a series of cross-sector programmes identified to uplift lower-income families in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, skills training and lifelong learning • Health and well-being • Housing • Social and community assistance; and • Work and income security <p>Examples of supported programmes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community space for children and youth – Tak Takut Kids Club (3Pumpkins Limited);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reintegration support for families with incarcerated individuals – Family Strengthening Programme (New Life Stories Limited)• Youth mentoring – Youth Mentorship Programme (Tasek Academy and Social Services Limited)• Academic support – Club Treasure (Calvary Community Care)• Housing assistance – KeyStart (South Central Community Family Service Centre Limited)
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