



3 July 2019

MEDIA FACTSHEET
SG CARES COMMUNITY NETWORK SESSIONS

1 SG Cares Community Network Sessions is a series of large-scale community networking sessions co-organised by the Social Service Offices (SSOs) and SG Cares Office, to bring together social service agencies, Government, community stakeholders and volunteer groups in every HDB town.

The Community Network Sessions seek to:

- Share and tap on the collective knowledge of the community's needs;
- Enable community and volunteers' involvement;
- Explore collaborations to make a greater impact; and
- Align and organise our efforts to better support individuals and families in need.

2 The first round of SG Cares Community Network Sessions started on 2 May 2018 in Bedok, and will be completed on 3 July 2019 in Pasir Ris and Punggol, reaching out to about 3,500 participants from 160 agencies island-wide. (see [Annex A](#) for full list of Community Network Sessions)

3 At each SG Cares Community Network session, participants from various fields and professions (including social workers from Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs), hospitals, schools, officers from such as the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC), and Housing and Development Board (HDB), and representatives from religious organisations, etc..) come together to network, build professional relationships, discuss prevailing issues in the locale and brainstorm ideas on how to better utilise resources when helping residents in need. Following each session, the SSOs will also work with relevant agencies

and community groups to spearhead spin-off projects to deep-dive into social issues specific to the locale that were highlighted during the session. (see [Annex B](#) for examples of spin-off projects)

4 At the 3 Jul session, the SSO, together with a few local community agencies, will be sharing on a local project that exemplifies the importance of strong community partnerships in delivering good outcomes to residents. “Stars of Syawal” is a joint collaboration by North East Community Development Council (NECDC), 3 mosques in the North East District (Masjid Darul Ghufuran, Masjid Al Islah, and Masjid Alkaff Kampung Melayu) and the SSO@Tampines, Pasir Ris and Punggol. The event, which reached out to about 150 isolated seniors, their caregivers, and low income families, addressed concerns of ageing population and isolation among seniors. This collaborative partnership enabled multiple agencies to share resources and leverage on a common platform to address the needs of the community.

5 The second round of SG Cares Community Network Sessions will commence in Q4 2019 and focus on progress sharing, charting the way forward for the next year in terms of community collaborations and spin-off projects and harnessing the potential of volunteers in the community.

Annex A: List of SG Cares Community Network Sessions

1. Bedok (2 May 2018)
2. Jurong East (22 May 2018)
3. Woodlands (20 Jul 2018)
4. Hougang and Serangoon (19 Sep 2018)
5. Kreta Ayer (16 Oct 2018)
6. Bukit Batok (18 Oct 2018)
7. Toa Payoh (29 Jan 2019)
8. Geylang Serai (14 Feb 2019)
9. Tampines (18 Mar 2019)
10. Jurong West (19 Mar 2019)
11. Ang Mo Kio (29 Mar 2019)
12. Bukit Merah (25 Apr 2019)
13. Yishun (29 Apr 2019)
14. Clementi and Queenstown (30 Apr 2019)
15. Sembawang (3 May 2019)
16. Bukit Panjang and Choa Chu Kang (10 May 2019)
17. Seng Kang (14 May 2019)
18. Jalan Besar (23 May 2019)
19. Pasir Ris and Punggol (3 Jul 2019)

Annex B: Examples of Spin-off Projects

Spin-off project/SSO In-Charge	Objectives of Spin-off Efforts	Target Group	Details	Agencies Involved
Tripartite Network @ Jurong East by SSO@ Jurong East	To strengthen social service delivery on the ground to provide more holistic and coordinated assistance for clients-in-need.	Jurong East Town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information is shared actively among members so as to provide timely assistance for non-complex cases e.g. educational support, befriending. • Development of a case conference platform led by Adviser (Project Breakthrough) for cases which requires long-term 'hand-holding' and support. • Upcoming get-together session in July to upskill members' capability or referral for trending social issues such as rough sleepers, mental health and isolated seniors through case studies discussion and infographics. 	Ayer Rajah Division, Bukit Batok East Division, Jurong Central Division, Yuhua Division, Lakeside Family Services
Project Home Alone by SSO@ Hougang	To address the concern of lonely elderly being left at their homes/institutions in Hougang, SSO and the GROs collaborated with Xinmin Secondary School to enlist their student volunteers to provide regular and long-term befriending services to the elderly.	Elderly aged 50 and above who are living alone within Ang Mo Kio-Hougang division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two models of befriending, in the elderly homes, and Thye Hua Kuan Nursing Home. • Befriending commenced in February, with each class allocated a timeslot to visit the beneficiaries once every fortnight. Three rounds have been completed. • The frequency of sessions might increase depending on the number of beneficiaries. 	Xinmin Secondary School, Ang Mo Kio-Hougang Constituency Office (CO), Ang Mo Kio-Hougang Grassroots, Thye Hua Kuan Nursing Home, Silver Circle @ Ci Yuan CC, SSO @ Hougang
Marsiling Welfare Meeting by SSO@ Woodlands & Sembawang	Provide a common platform where complex cases are shared with Adviser and community partners to clearly delineate roles and responsibility of each agency	All low-income residents residing in Marsiling Division	Regular monthly meetings with Adviser and community partners to discuss urgent and complex cases.	AIC Silver Generation Office, Care Corner FSC (Woodlands), Care Corner SAC (Cluster Support) @ Woodlands, Marsiling Welfare Team, MSF SSO @ Woodlands



and Sembawang, North West
CDC, SilverCOVE @ Marsiling,
Sunlove SAC (Marsiling)