



COMMUNITY
CARE
ENDOWMENT
FUND



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OVERVIEW OF COMCARE

OVERVIEW | COMMUNITY CARE ENDOWMENT FUND

The Community Care Endowment Fund ("ComCare Fund") was launched by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on 28 June 2005 as a sustainable source of funds to provide social assistance to low-income Singaporeans. The interest income generated from the ComCare Fund is used to fund ComCare programmes.

The ComCare Fund, established under the Community Care Endowment Fund Act, has the following objectives:

- a. To provide assistance to Singapore citizens and permanent residents of Singapore and their family members living in Singapore who are in financial or other difficulties to enable them to:
 - i. attain sufficient income to meet their basic needs;
 - ii. address the development issues faced by their children;
 - iii. facilitate their integration into society
- b. To develop programmes to enhance the capacity of the community to undertake the three objectives mentioned above.

The ComCare Fund started with an initial capital of \$250 million from the Government. Since then, the Government has made periodic top-ups to the Fund. The fund now stands at \$1.7 billion.

During Financial Year 2014, about \$116 million was disbursed under the various ComCare programmes. Of this, \$68.5 million was funded by the ComCare Fund's interest income. The balance amount was supplemented through the budget of the Ministry of Social and Family Development.





OVERVIEW **COMCARE** ASSISTANCE

01

COMCARE SHORT-TO-MEDIUM TERM ASSISTANCE

- To develop and nurture responsible individuals and families
- To assist clients who are work capable but need assistance while they seek employment
- To assist those who are temporarily unable to work to tide over difficult periods

02

COMCARE LONG TERM ASSISTANCE

- To help those who are permanently not able to work and with little or no family support through formal networks and integration into the community

03

COMCARE ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN

- To provide developmental support through student care and preschool subsidies for children from low income families to help them realise their potential and break out of the poverty cycle

04

COMCARE INTERIM ASSISTANCE

- To enable various community touchpoints (Social Service Offices (SSOs), Family Service Centres (FSCs), Grassroots Organisations, the Community Justice Centre) provide quick financial assistance to tide over families with urgent needs

05

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

- To help the community (grassroots leaders, social enterprises, community organisations) to support the low-income and vulnerable in their midst

OVERVIEW **COMCARE** OVER **THE** YEARS

- FY 2005** • Launch of ComCare 
- FY 2006** • 9 ComCare Local Networks set up
 - ComCare Short Term Assistance introduced
- FY 2007** • ComCare Long Term Assistance rates increased
 - ComCare Call launched
- FY 2008** • ComCare Long Term Assistance eligibility expanded
 - ComCare Child Care and Kindergarten subsidies increased
 - ComCare Short Term Assistance period extended
- FY 2009** • CCC ComCare Fund topped up by \$1.5 mil in 2 years
 - ComCare Long Term Assistance rates increased with additional help for children
 - ComCare child care and Kindergarten subsidies increased
- FY 2010** • ComCare Long Term Assistance eligibility expanded
 - ComCare 5th anniversary appreciation lunch and seminar
- FY 2011** • ComCare Long Term Assistance rates increased
 - ComCare Child, Student Care and Kindergarten subsidies increased
- FY 2012** • ComCare Child Care and Kindergarten subsidies increased
 - ComCare Short and Medium Term Assistance eligibility expanded
- FY 2013** • ComCare Child Care subsidy combined with the universal child care subsidy to form a single subsidy, now administered by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA)
 - ComCare Long Term Assistance rates increased and additional tiers of assistance was introduced
 - ComCare Interim Assistance touchpoints expanded
 - Social Service Offices were set up
- FY 2014** • ComCare Short-to-Medium Term Assistance eligibility expanded to families with a gross household income of up to \$1,900 or per capita income of up to \$650, with more flexibility in the duration of assistance
 - Kindergarten subsidies extended to families with gross household income of up to \$6,000. Quantum of subsidies increased and the maximum fee assistance was raised from \$108 to \$160 per month, now administered by ECDA



COMCARE ASSISTANCE

COMCARE SHORT-TO-MEDIUM TERM ASSISTANCE

ComCare short-to-medium term assistance is targeted at low-income families and individuals who are temporarily unable to work (e.g. due to illness, care-giving responsibilities), those earning a low income and those who are unemployed and need temporary financial support while they seek employment. A Social Assistance officer will work with the family to develop a plan of action to improve their circumstances. The assistance may include cash grant and vouchers.

- 27,461 unique households assisted with ComCare Short-to-Medium Term assistance in FY2014
- 67,926 unique beneficiaries assisted with ComCare Short-to-Medium Term assistance in FY2014
- \$68.67 million disbursed in FY2014

COMCARE LONG TERM ASSISTANCE

ComCare long term assistance is targeted at those most in need who are unable to work due to old age, illness or disability, have limited or no means of income, and have little or no family support. Beneficiaries receive a cash grant for their daily living expenses. They may also be linked up to community-based agencies for other assistance or services, such as home help, befriending and placement in day centres, to support their living in the community.

- 3,846 unique households assisted with ComCare Long Term assistance in FY2014
- 4,134 unique beneficiaries assisted with ComCare Long Term assistance in FY2014
- \$18.7 million disbursed in FY2014

Some who require long term assistance may be supported in MSF-funded homes instead of ComCare Long Term Assistance. In FY2014, there were about 3,000 beneficiaries in MSF sheltered, disability and welfare homes.

COMCARE ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN

ComCare provides subsidies for kindergarten and student care to support families in giving their children an early start to education and providing adequate supervision to primary school children while their parents work.



COMCARE ASSISTANCE (continued)

PRESCHOOL FEE ASSISTANCE

Kindergarten subsidies are targeted at making preschool education accessible and affordable for all families. Kindergarten, nursery and pre-nursery fee subsidies are available for children from low-income families attending eligible, non-profit kindergartens. With effect from January 2015, kindergarten subsidies are administered by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA).

- 7,699 unique households assisted with Kindergarten subsidies in from FY2014
- 8,754 unique children beneficiaries assisted with Kindergarten subsidies in FY2014
- \$7.08 million disbursed in FY2014

COMCARE STUDENT CARE SUBSIDIES

ComCare provides monthly fee subsidies for children aged between 7 and 14 years from low-income families to attend student care centres (SCCs) while their parents are at work. These subsidies are also available to special needs students attending Special SCCs.

- 6,392 unique households assisted with ComCare Student Care subsidies in FY2014
- 8,339 unique children beneficiaries assisted with ComCare Student Care subsidies in FY2014
- \$16.11 million disbursed in FY2014



COMCARE ASSISTANCE (continued)

COMCARE INTERIM ASSISTANCE

ComCare provides support to various community agencies to empower the community to help the low-income in Singapore. The ComCare Fund was established to provide the community with the flexibility to disburse quick financial assistance to individuals and families who require urgent and temporary financial relief. It is provided through 4 community touch points: the Citizens' Consultative Committees (Grassroots), the Family Service Centres, the Social Service Offices, and the Community Justice Centre. The type and amount of assistance rendered depend on the needs and circumstances of each resident. Assistance may come in the form of cash or in kind e.g. food, utilities vouchers.

CITIZENS' CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE COMCARE FUND (CCF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20,546 cases approved for CCF assistance in FY2014 • \$3.6 million disbursed in FY2014
FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE COMCARE FUND (FCF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,233 cases approved for FCF assistance in FY2014 • \$229,416 disbursed in FY2014
INTERIM ASSISTANCE FUND (IAF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,547 cases approved for IAF assistance in FY2014 • \$131,969 of IAF recommendations approved for FY2014
COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTRE COMCARE FUND (CJCCF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 44 cases approved for CJCCF assistance in FY2014 • \$4,680 disbursed in FY2014



COMCARE ASSISTANCE (continued)

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

COMCARE CALL

ComCare Call provides a 24-hour, toll-free service which persons in need and good Samaritans can contact to be referred to appropriate social assistance. This 24/7 information and referral helpline is manned by customer service executives who are conversant in the four main languages as well as common Chinese dialects.

In FY2014, ComCare Call attended to 51,473 calls. The majority of these callers sought financial assistance and social support.

COMCARE SOCIAL SUPPORT PROJECTS FUND (CSPF)

Although there are many programmes in place for the disadvantaged, there might be areas of concern that are not addressed by existing programmes. Organisations that work closely with the community are better able to identify these areas and propose ideas to meet these needs. ComCare provides funding support for organisations whose projects serve to plug existing service gaps, meet an emerging need, or improve on existing programmes. More than \$3.4 mil had been disbursed since FY2007.

COMCARE ENTERPRISE FUND (CEF)

The ComCare Enterprise Fund (CEF) provides funding support for social enterprises which employ the disadvantaged in the community. This includes persons with disabilities, persons recovering from psychiatric illness, ex-offenders, former drug abusers, youth-at-risk, chronically unemployed individuals, and low-income vulnerable families. In Dec 2011, the scope of CEF was expanded to fund existing social enterprises for expansion purposes, in addition to new social enterprises. Approximately \$365,000 was disbursed under CEF in FY2014 to 7 social enterprises, including existing and new grantees.

Since February 2015, the Singapore Centre for Social Enterprise (raiSE) was set up to meet the evolving needs of Social Enterprises across different stages of growth, including developing a wider range of financing options and collaborating with partners from the people, private and public sectors to catalyse the development of the sector.

The centre is formed by the Social Enterprise Association, MSF, Tote Board and NCSS as an enlarged centre to pool resources and efforts from the people, public and private sectors. Moving forward, the centre will administer the CEF. The Fund has also been expanded to support the pre-startup stage of social enterprises, such as proof-of-concept, to encourage more ideas and solutions to support employment opportunities for the community.

CONCLUDING REMARKS



The enhancements in FY2014 will provide more families and individuals with more comprehensive assistance which can be tailored according to their needs. MSF would like to express our gratitude to our ComCare community partners for their hard work and support in helping vulnerable low-income individuals and families in Singapore.

COMCARE STATISTICS FY2014

For the first time, data on the number of unique households and beneficiaries assisted under the various ComCare schemes will be shared in FY2014 to provide a better picture of those helped under ComCare.

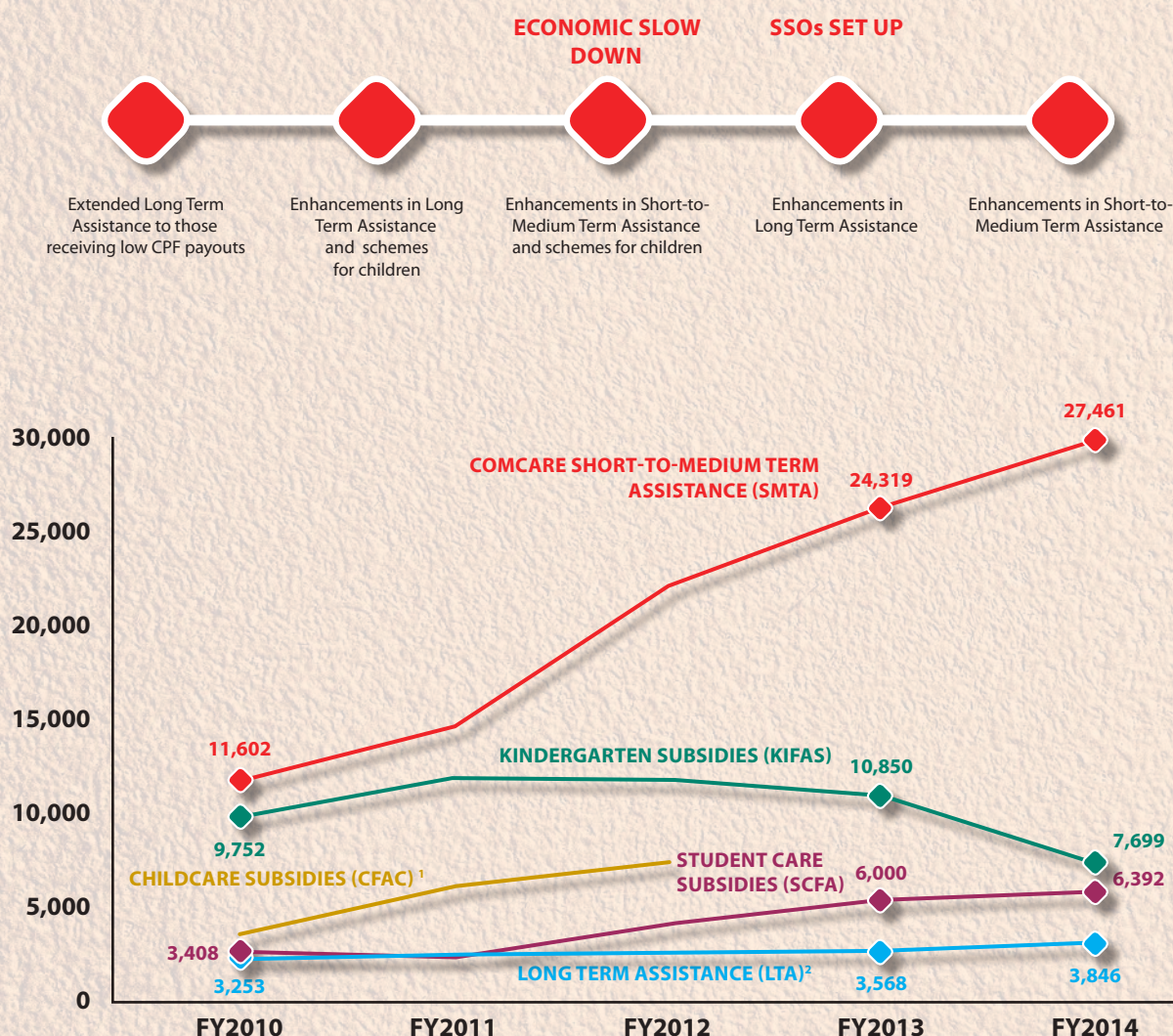
From FY2010 to FY2014, the overall number of unique households and beneficiaries assisted under ComCare increased due to policy enhancements and greater accessibility to help, in the context of economic changes. The greatest increase was observed in the number of households receiving Short-to-Medium Term assistance, which grew 1.4 times from 11,602 unique households in FY2010 to 27,461 unique households in FY2014. The steepest increase was in FY2012, likely due to slower economic growth and greater unemployment, as well as the revision of the income eligibility criteria. The general increase in FY2013 and FY2014 takes place in the context of the rolling out of Social Service Offices across Singapore (hence increasing number of touchpoints and improving accessibility) and the further revision of the income eligibility criteria in FY2014.

In FY2014, the number of KiFAS beneficiaries assisted under ComCare assistance for children saw a decline due to the transfer of kindergarten subsidies to the Early Childhood and Development Agency (ECDA) from 1 January 2015.



COMCARE STATISTICS

FIGURE 1: ComCare trends over FY2010 to FY2014, alongside ComCare enhancements, increased accessibility of help, and economic climate changes



¹CFAC stands for Centre-based Financial Assistance for Childcare. From 1 April 2013, cases requiring childcare subsidies were transferred to the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) to be consolidated with the national childcare subsidy scheme.

²In FY2014, there were another 3,000 beneficiaries supported in MSF sheltered, disability and welfare homes.

COMCARE STATISTICS (continued)

FIGURE 2: Overall unique households assisted³ under ComCare in financial year (FY2010 to FY2014)

Unique Households Assisted under ComCare Short-to-Medium Term, Long Term Assistance, Centre-based Financial Assistance Scheme for Childcare, Kindergarten and Student Care Subsidies

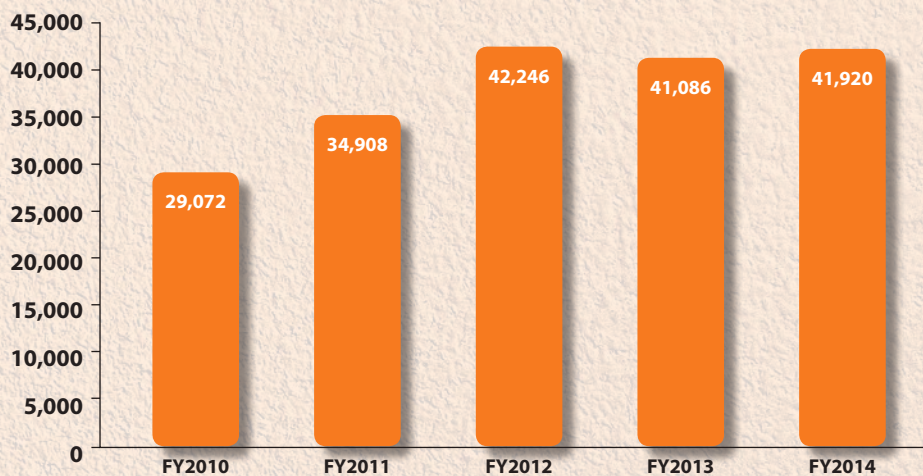
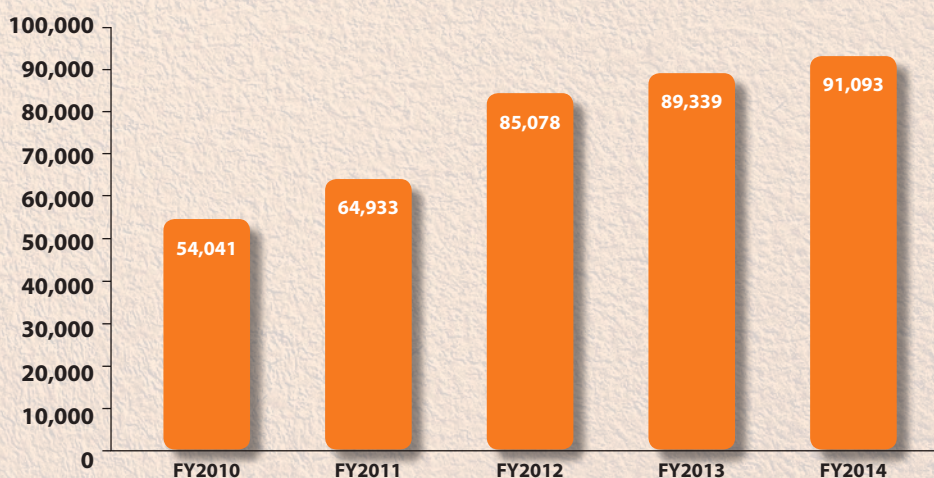


FIGURE 3: Overall unique beneficiaries assisted⁴ under ComCare in financial year (FY2010 to FY2014)

Unique Beneficiaries Assisted under ComCare Short-to-Medium Term, Long Term Assistance, Centre-based Financial Assistance Scheme for Childcare, Kindergarten and Student Care Subsidies



³Assisted refers to households receiving cash payouts during the financial year. FY2013 and FY2014 figures exclude households assisted under the Centre-based Financial Assistance Scheme for Childcare (CFAC) as they were transferred to ECDA with effect from 1 April 2013.

⁴Assisted refers to beneficiaries receiving cash payouts during the financial year. FY2013 and FY2014 figures exclude beneficiaries assisted under CFAC as they were transferred to ECDA with effect from 1 April 2013.

COMCARE STATISTICS (continued)

FIGURE 4: Total number of unique households assisted⁵ in financial year (FY2010 to FY2014) by scheme

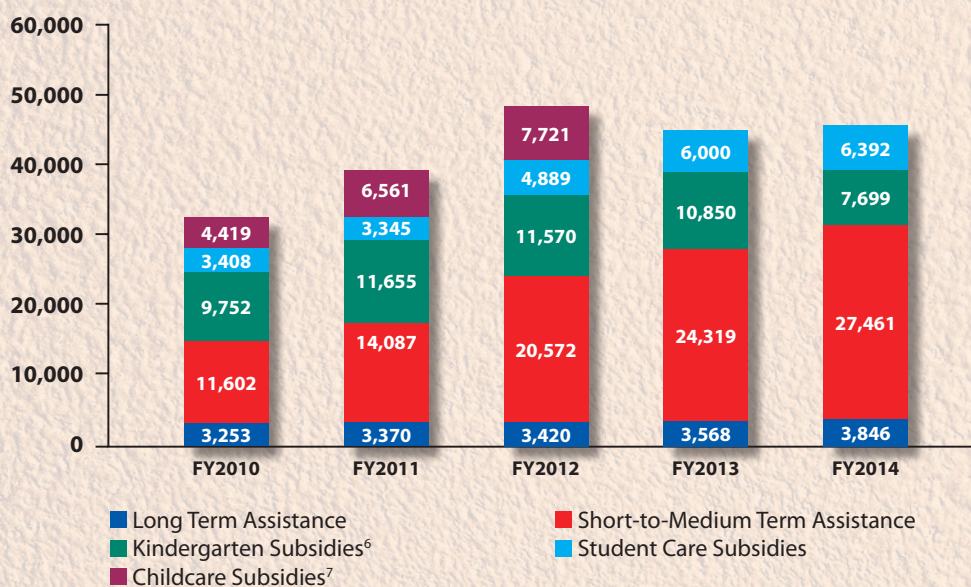
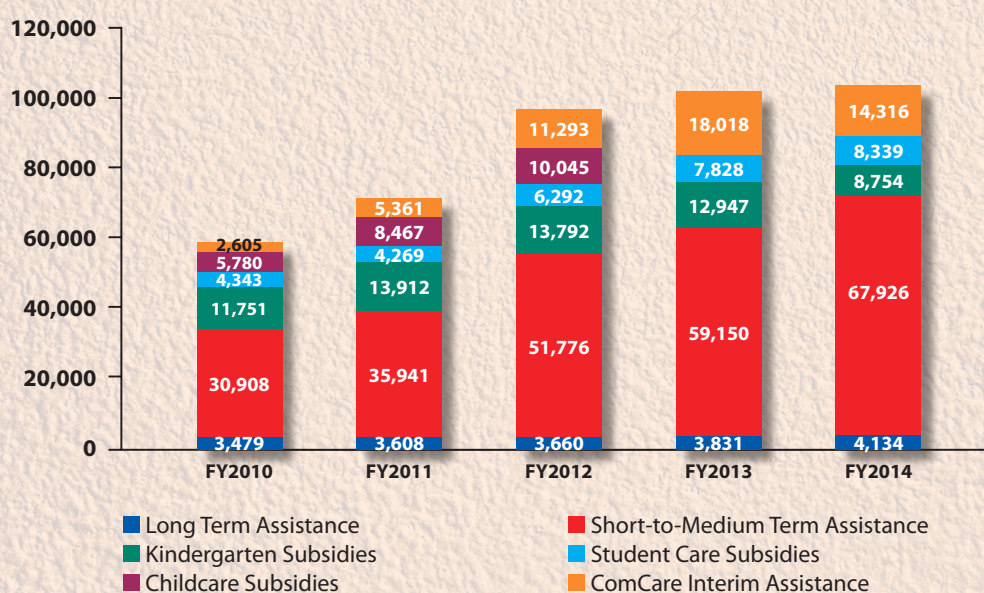


FIGURE 5: Total number of unique beneficiaries assisted⁸ in financial year (FY2010 to FY2014) by scheme



⁵Assisted refers to households receiving cash payouts during the financial year.

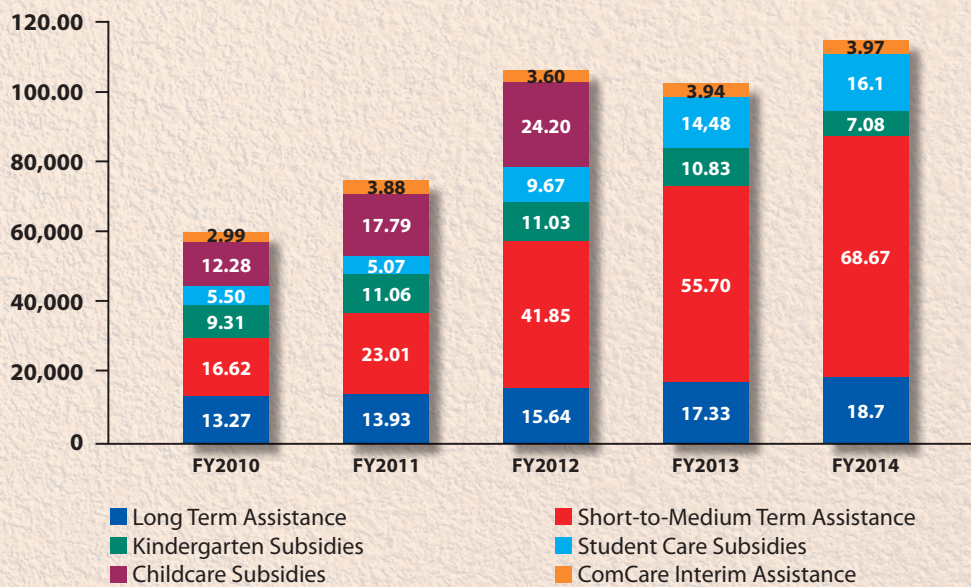
⁶From 1 January 2015, cases requiring kindergarten subsidies were transferred to ECDA.

⁷From 1 April 2013, cases requiring childcare subsidies were transferred to ECDA.

⁸Assisted refers to beneficiaries receiving cash payouts during the financial year.

COMCARE STATISTICS (continued)

FIGURE 6: Amount of ComCare Disbursement from FY2010 to FY2014 (\$, millions)



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY CARE ENDOWMENT FUND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

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Ministry of Social and Family Development
Community Care Endowment Fund
Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore

Statement by Management

We state that, in the opinion of the management, the accompanying financial statements together with notes thereto are drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Community Care Endowment Fund Act 2005 (the Act) so as to give a true and fair view of the state affairs of the Community Care Endowment Fund for the financial year ended 31 March 2015.

The Management,



Chan Heng Kee
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Social and Family Development



Kong Kum Peck
Director – Comcare and Social Support Division
Ministry of Social and Family Development

Singapore, 15 MAY 2015



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**Independent auditors' report
To the Ministry of Social and Family Development**

Report on Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Community Care Endowment Fund, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 March 2015, and the statement of receipts and expenditure statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the provision of the Community Care Endowment Fund Act (the "Act") and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards, and for devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorized and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair profit and loss accounts and balance sheets and to maintain accountability of assets.

The Community Care Endowment Fund's policy is to prepare the financial statements on the cash receipts and disbursements basis. On this basis, revenue is recognised when received rather than earned and expenses are recognised when paid rather than when incurred.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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**Independent auditors' report
To the Ministry of Social and Family Development (continued)**

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of the Community Care Endowment Fund are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Act and on the basis sets out in the preceding paragraph, so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Community Care Endowment Fund as at 31 March 2015 and the receipts and expenditure of the Community Care Endowment Fund for the year ended on that date.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In our opinion:

- a) the accounting and other records required by the Act to be kept by the Community Care Endowment Fund have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act; and
- b) the receipts, expenditure and investment of monies and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the Community Care Endowment Fund have been in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

KONG, LIM & PARTNERS LLP
Public Accountants and
Chartered Accountants

Singapore, 15 MAY 2015



**Ministry of Social and Family Development
Community Care Endowment Fund
Statement of Financial Position**

**Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 March 2015**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>S\$</u>	<u>2014</u> <u>S\$</u>
Accumulated surplus	4	<u>1,712,793,942</u>	<u>1,712,810,714</u>
Total surplus		<u>1,712,793,942</u>	<u>1,712,810,714</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>			
Balance held by Accountant-General	5	<u>1,712,793,942</u>	<u>1,712,810,714</u>
Total assets		<u>1,712,793,942</u>	<u>1,712,810,714</u>

The accompanying policies and explanatory notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

Ministry of Social and Family Development
Community Care Endowment Fund
Receipts and Expenditure Statement

Receipts and Expenditure Statement
For the financial year ended 31 March 2015

	Notes	2015 S\$	2014 S\$
Receipts			
Capital Contribution from the Government	4	-	200,000,000
Donation		869	2,885
Income from investments		68,512,429	67,964,029
		<u>68,513,298</u>	<u>267,966,914</u>
Expenditure			
Grants disbursed	3	(68,530,070)	(70,695,285)
(Deficit)/surplus for the year		<u>(16,772)</u>	<u>197,271,629</u>
Accumulated surplus brought forward		1,712,810,714	1,515,539,085
Accumulated surplus carried forward	4	<u>1,712,793,942</u>	<u>1,712,810,714</u>

The accompanying policies and explanatory notes form an integral part of the financial statements.



**Ministry of Social and Family Development
Community Care Endowment Fund
Notes to financial statements 31 March 2015**

These notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

1. General

Community Care Endowment Fund is incorporated and domiciled in the Republic of Singapore. The address of the Ministry of Social and Family Development (The Ministry) principal place of activity is 512 Thomson Road MSF Building, Singapore 298136.

The Fund is set up by the Singapore Government (Government) under the Community Care Endowment Fund Act 2005 (Act) for the purpose of:

- (a) providing assistance to citizens and permanent residents of Singapore and their family members living in Singapore who are in financial or other difficulties to enable them to:
 - (i) attain sufficient income to meet their basic needs;
 - (ii) address the development issues faced by their children
 - (iii) facilitate their integration into society; and
- (b) developing programmes to enhance the capacity of community to undertake the foregoing objects set out in a (i), (ii) and (iii).

The Fund came into operation on 24 October 2005. Details of the fund are as follows:

	Capital Contribution S\$	Transfer from Community Assistance Fund S\$
24 October 2005	250,000,000	-
February 2006	-	246,641,688
25 July 2006	100,000,000	-
25 April 2008	200,000,000	-
31 May 2011	500,000,000	-
19 April 2012	200,000,000	-
24 April 2013	200,000,000	-
Total	1,450,000,000	246,641,688

The Government may make further payments of capital money into the Fund from time to time.

Only income earned from the Fund will be used.

The fund is deemed to be a Government Fund for the purposes of any written law in Singapore.

2. Significant accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are expressed in Singapore Dollars.

In line with the Government's policy, the cash basis of accounting is adopted. On this basis, receipts are recognised when received rather than earned and expenses are recognised when paid rather than incurred.

**Ministry of Social and Family Development
Community Care Endowment Fund
Notes to financial statements 31 March 2015**

3. Grants disbursed

During the financial year, the Fund made disbursements to the beneficiaries for the following programmes:

	2015	2014
	S\$	S\$
Kindergarten Financial Assistance Scheme (KIFAS)	6,971,847	5,677,555
ComCare Transition (CCT)	7,545,786	18,589,407
Student Care Fee Assistance Scheme (SCFA)	13,781,321	14,770,342
Centre-based Financial Assistance Scheme for Childcare (CFAC)	12,096	2,200,291
Public Assistance Scheme (PAS)	9,587,234	11,779,850
Special Grant (SG)	554,796	647,263
Work Support Programme (WSP)	7,582,677	17,030,577
Short-Medium Term Assistance (SMTA)	22,494,313	-
	<u>68,530,070</u>	<u>70,695,285</u>

4. Excess of receipts over expenditure

	Notes	2015	2014
		S\$	S\$
Capital Contribution from the Government	(a)	1,450,000,000	1,450,000,000
Transfer from Community Assistance Fund	(b)	246,641,688	246,641,688
Net income from investments	(c)	16,135,929	16,153,570
Donations		16,325	15,456
		<u>1,712,793,942</u>	<u>1,712,810,714</u>

- (a) The capital contribution from the Government relates to capital money paid into the Fund by the Government. Under Section 5 (4) of the Act, this amount shall not be used for any purposes other than for investment.
- (b) The transfer from Community Assistance Fund relates to the balance of the monies injected in February 2006 as capital money to the Fund upon termination of the Community Assistance Fund. Under Section 5 (4) of the Act, this amount shall not be used for any purposes other than for investment.
- (c) This relates to investment income earned on the Fund balance. The net investment income is arrived at after deducting grants made and other expenses as approved under the Act.

	Notes	2015	2014
		S\$	S\$
Net income from investments		16,135,929	16,153,570
Past reserves protected	(d)	<u>(5,061,316)</u>	<u>(5,061,316)</u>
Net income from investments available for expenditure	(e)	<u>11,074,613</u>	<u>11,092,254</u>



**Ministry of Social and Family Development
Community Care Endowment Fund
Notes to financial statements 31 March 2015**

4. Excess of receipts over expenditure (continued)

- (d) The balance shown relates to reserves which are protected as a result of Government requirements.

Investment income earned from the Fund previously will be protected when there is a change-over in government. This would ensure that the present government would spend only what it has earned in its term of office.

- (e) The income from investments available for distribution represents investment income earned on the fund balance. The net income from investments is arrived at after deducting expenditure including:

- grants given to individuals or families through organisations;
- grants given to organisations to carry out programmes consistent with the objects of the Fund;
- such other purposes consistent with the objects of the Fund; and
- all expenses incurred in connection with the administration of the Fund as approved under the Act.

5. Funds with Accountant-General

This represents funds held by the Accountant-General on behalf of the Fund.

The Fund is allocated an investment income at the rate of 4.00% (FY13: 4.00%) per annum. The endowment interest rate has remained the same for FY15.

6. Authorisation of financial statements

The financial statements were authorized for issue by the Ministry of Social and Family Development on date of Statement by Management.



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