

DONOR REPORT

FMAS TRAMPOLINE FUND

REPORT **7**

2025 – 2026



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REPORT **7**

2025 – 2026



This was previously the ACI Trampoline Fund which has been renamed to FMAS Trampoline Fund following the change of name of ACI Singapore to **Financial Markets Association of Singapore**. This was announced during the 47th Annual General Meeting held on 14 January 2021.



**FINANCIAL
MARKETS
ASSOCIATION**
of **SINGAPORE**
Affiliated to ACI FMA

About FMAS

Formed in 1972, the Financial Markets Association of Singapore (FMAS) is the standard bearer for financial markets professionals in Singapore. Their history has been inextricably linked to Singapore's emergence as a leading financial centre in the world.

Formerly known as ACI Singapore – The Financial Markets Association, the Association was renamed to Financial Markets Association of Singapore on 31st March 2021, and is affiliated with ACI – The Financial Markets Association, the global body. This Paris-based global body, Association Cambiste Internationale (ACI), has more than 8,000 international members worldwide in over 60 countries, making it the largest international association in the wholesale financial markets. ACI was founded in France in 1955 following an agreement between foreign exchange dealers in Paris and London. Singapore has always been an active participant in the ACI Global arena with elected representatives in the ACI FMA Standing Committees. Our Singapore Committee members have been elected to various global committees over the years and presently to the ACI FMA Board of Education, Working Regulatory Committee, Investment Committee, and Women's Committee hence having the biggest representation from Asia to the ACI working committees.

Since the end of 2009, FMAS, first in partnership with the Singapore Management University, had developed a Financial Markets training roadmap for Financial Markets professionals in the front, middle, and back offices in training in that area. But since 2019, FMAS has

taken the training and development in-house and is now recognised as a key Financial Markets training provider in Singapore. This underpins FMAS's commitment to continuing education and professional development for our members and the financial markets industry in Singapore.

As the industry representative for Financial Markets professionals, FMAS is proud that for the past 32 years to have been able to raise over \$15 million for the less fortunate in our society through our annual Charity fundraising initiatives. All funds raised are distributed from the FMAS Trampoline Fund through a grant call. This charity drive is now well recognised as a fixture in the annual calendar, and is widely and actively supported by our members and the wider financial markets fraternity.

In 2021, FMAS organised the inaugural Asia Financial Markets Forum 2021, an event especially relevant to the treasury and markets function in banks, financial institutions and corporates who face major challenges in how to stay ahead of the ever-changing environment. The headwinds created by the COVID-19 pandemic and the use of artificial intelligence has further accelerated the transition towards a more digital customer base and workforce, leading to a world where growth prospects are highly challenged and this makes it more important to have a forum to share the information and progress in markets with all. FMAS hopes that by establishing this as an annual forum, it would help to bring in the fraternity of top thought leaders and establish lasting networking within our financial markets eco system.

Executive Summary

The FMAS Trampoline Fund is a partnership fund administered by The Majority Trust that supports nonprofit programmes and initiatives that address the longer-term needs of vulnerable families and communities in Singapore.

Since 2020, the FMAS Trampoline Fund has raised **\$3.76 million**, supporting over 90 projects.

In 2025, FMAS raised **\$512,418** at the 2025 FMAS

Charity Golf Fundraiser and Gala, committing **\$362,500** to support 13 grantee partners who have reached 12,803 beneficiaries¹ in the domains of education, employment and community projects.

This report provides an update on all projects since 2024, with a focus on the 2025 grantee partners.

The Fund supports programmes in 3 domains:



Education

Working with children and youth to build key academic and interpersonal skills



Employment

Helping those from disadvantaged backgrounds find better jobs and build careers



Community

Improving our collective wellbeing to support families who are striving to do better

¹As at April 2026.

The FMAS Trampoline Fund is inspired by a metaphor from President Tharman Shanmugaratnam – that social assistance should serve less like a safety net but a trampoline, enabling those in need not just to survive, but to **rebound and thrive**.

This philosophy is rooted in the belief that providing support to those willing to help themselves can foster a transformative culture. It aims to sustain an environment where individuals can take pride in their achievements and attain success on their own terms. Therefore, the Fund focuses on supporting programs that help vulnerable and disadvantaged communities enhance their capabilities to improve their own lives.



President Tharman Shanmugaratnam

St. Gallen Symposium, 2015

“I believe in the notion of a trampoline [...]

If you provide help for someone who is willing to study hard; if you provide help for someone who is willing to take up a job and work at it [...] it transforms culture. It’s not just about transactions. It’s not just about the size of grants. It’s about keeping alive a culture where I feel proud that I own my home and I earn my own success through my job. I feel proud that I’m raising my family. And keeping that culture going is what keeps a society vibrant.”

Trampoline Highlights

INPUT

Funds Raised Lifetime 2020 - 2025

\$3.76M*

Funds Available Grant Round 2025

\$362.5K

Funds Committed Grant Round 2025

\$362.5K (100%)**

*Figures are cumulative from 2020 to December 2025

**Funds committed is based on the total grant amount approved by the 2025 Grant Panel

OUTPUT

Total Grants Awarded
Lifetime 2020 - 2025

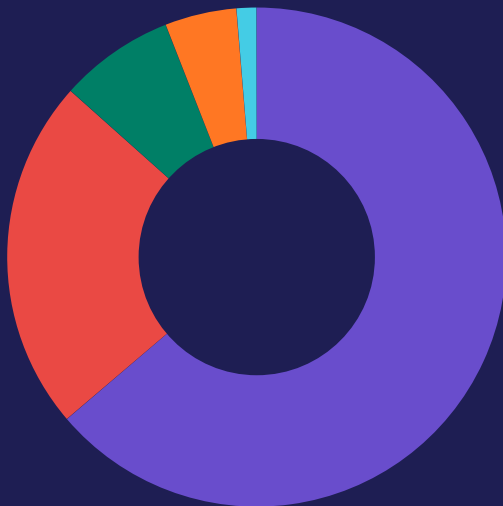
93

Total Beneficiaries Reached
Lifetime 2020 - 2025

172,714

Total Volunteers Rallied
Lifetime 2020 - 2025

44,242



Beneficiaries by Target Group

Seniors	110,141
Communities	39,451
Children and Youth	12,862
Vulnerable Adults	8,016
Families	2,244

Grants Awarded
Grant Round 2025

13

Beneficiaries Reached
Grant Round 2025 - Interim

12,803

Volunteers Rallied
Grant Round 2025

4,495

LEGEND

Funds Committed
Vulnerable Adults
Families

Total amount of grants and designated donations approved by the respective grant panels
Affected adults <65 y/o, ex-convicts, displaced workers, other vulnerable groups
Inclusive of parents

Trampoline Highlights

OUTCOMES

2025 Grant Round

As of April 2026, projects funded under the 2025 Grant Round have achieved the following interim outcomes:



Education

Supported school dropouts and academically vulnerable students to remain in school.



Employment

Supported persons with acquired disabilities in finding employment.



Community

Strengthened community bonds, agency, and wellbeing.

IMPACT

Thriving Beneficiaries

Our grantee partners have helped participants build the **knowledge, skills, attitudes, and relationships** required to face challenging life transitions — helping them bounce back and eventually thrive.

Since 2020, every \$1000 raised by the FMAS Trampoline Fund has supported approximately 45 beneficiaries.



Hear From Our Beneficiaries

Lutheran Community Care Services (LCCS)

Socioemotional support for families with children with ADHD

"I listen to Mommy more. Mommy and Daddy listens to me more. (I am able to) hold some of (my) anger in (my) interactions with Daddy and Mommy."

"The family circles (were) helpful. **This is the first and only programme that seems to do this and get the family to have a heart-to-heart talk.** (We) talked about feelings and emotions which (our) family does not usually do."



Epworth Community Services

Trauma care for youth from lower-income families

Through Epworth's trauma-informed counselling and programme, **the anxiety that once affected Jane's daily life has been significantly reduced.**

Jane started expressing herself with greater confidence. With her mentor's support, she began breaking down her big dream into small, practical steps. Together, they explored simple business ideas, learned basic entrepreneurial skills, and identified the strengths that Jane already possessed.



Wild Rice Ltd

Theatre-making for young adults

"The mentorship and personal development sessions were most meaningful to me — I don't believe there is any other such opportunity to receive personalised feedback and industry knowledge, while also being encouraged to dig deeper and find my true reason for performing or even reason for being.

Those sessions redirected me onto a more clear and firm path in my life journey, while also affirming my unique identity and offering to the world."



2025 Grant Panel



Mr Jimmy Poh

Chairperson of FMAS Charity
Golf and Gala Dinner 2025



Mr Jacky Tai

FMAS President



Mr Leng Hoe Lon

EXCO Member,
FMAS



Mr Kenneth Kan

EXCO Member, FMAS
and Board Member,
The Majority Trust



Ms Eileen Chia

EXCO Member,
FMAS



Mr Martin Tan

CEO,
The Majority Trust

Who Your Funds Support 2025 Grant Round – Grantee Partners

In 2025, FMAS raised \$512,418 at the Charity Golf Fundraiser and Gala, committing \$362,500 across 13 grantee partners. Programmes span a diverse cohort of beneficiaries including school dropouts, persons with acquired disabilities, seniors, formerly incarcerated individuals, and children from low-income households.

2025 Grant Call

Funds Committed	\$362,500 (100%)²
Grantee Partners	13³
Beneficiaries Reached	12,803⁴
Volunteers Rallied	4,495

² Funds committed is based on the total grant amount approved by the 2025 Grant Panel

³ Consisting of 8 grants and 5 designed donations

⁴ As at April 2026 (Interim)

ORGANISATION	PROGRAMME	PILLAR	THEY SERVE	WHY WE FUND THEM
Starfish Singapore	Project Ad Astra	Education	Out-of-school & at-risk youth aged 14–16	Structured academic and emotional bridging re-engages school dropouts and at-risk youth before they fall permanently behind.
ABLE (Abilities Beyond Limitations & Expectations)	Return-to-Work (RTW) Programme	Employment	Adults with acquired physical disabilities	Holistic vocational rehabilitation—combining training, counselling, and caregiver support—supports re-entry into employment for people whose disability disrupted their career.
ART:DIS	Designated Donation	Employment	Adults with disabilities	Interest-led, strengths-based vocational training builds sustainable livelihoods and social confidence for artists with disabilities.
Halogen Foundation	Foundations Forward	Employment	Underserved Polytechnic students	Career confidence workshops and structured mentorship close the gap between underserved students and meaningful employment pathways.
Awful Grace	The Journey Continues	Community	Formerly incarcerated persons & their families	Restorative community-building rebuilds the psychosocial safety nets that make post-release reintegration durable.
Drama Box	Art in the Commons: Cassia	Community	Elderly residents, Cassia Crescent	Participatory arts activate community bonds and build collective identity among seniors navigating displacement and isolation.

ORGANISATION	PROGRAMME	PILLAR	THEY SERVE	WHY WE FUND THEM
Eastern Reds Rugby	Rugby Youth Programme	Community	At-risk youth	Regular sports-based mentorship builds resilience, discipline, and pro-social skills, keeping youth meaningfully engaged in positive activities.
Epworth Community Services	Designated Donation	Community	Children, youth & families from disadvantaged backgrounds	Safe spaces, mentorship, and targeted programmes help individuals build resilience, strengthen relationships, and achieve better life outcomes.
The Foundry	Designated Donation	Community	Smaller social impact organisations	Equipping smaller nonprofits with resources, networks, and collaboration strengthens the ecosystem that serves vulnerable communities.
Lutheran Community Care Services (LCCS)	Project Kaleidoscope	Community	Families with children with ADHD	Family circles and workshops increase the support for families with children with ADHD, and strengthen communication within the family unit.
The Life Review	Last Aid Programme	Community	General community	End-of-life literacy workshops equip communities to support loved ones through serious illness, reducing fear and increasing compassionate care.
New Life Community Services	Designated Donation	Community	Children, youth & families in poverty	Holistic, sustained support across education, family strengthening, and community outreach breaks intergenerational poverty cycles.
REACH Community Services	Designated Donation	Community	Vulnerable families, youth, seniors	Integrated community services provide a sustained safety net for vulnerable individuals across life stages.

2024 Grant Round – Grantee Partners

All 2024 grantee partners have now concluded their programmes. The table below summarises each programme’s design and funding rationale.

2024 Grant Call

Funds Committed	\$323,300 (99%)
Grantee Partners	12
Beneficiaries Reached	1,233
Volunteers Rallied	3,177



ORGANISATION	PROGRAMME	PILLAR	THEY SERVE	WHY WE FUND THEM
Curious Thoughts Giving	CuriousTime @SSAs (Math)	Education	Children aged 4–8, low-income families	Evidence-based numeracy classes close the foundational skills gap for preschool children from under-resourced families before they fall behind in school.
Reading Roots	Project Sprout	Education	Children aged 4–7, disadvantaged families	Structured early literacy with trained volunteers enables children with diverse learning needs to develop reading skills and confidence before primary school.
ART:DIS Singapore	Ceramics Open Studio	Employment	Adults with disabilities (18+)	Year-long vocational ceramics training builds sustainable skills and social confidence for PWDs, fostering independence and an inclusive employment model.
Daughters of Tomorrow (DOT)	Bridges to Employment	Employment	Lower-income women	Combining employer outreach, career coaching, and peer support enables financially vulnerable women to secure and sustain quality employment.
Awful Grace	Family Matters	Community	Incarcerated individuals & families	Restorative trauma-informed family circles rebuild trust and communication between incarcerated persons and their families before and during reintegration.
Epworth Community Services	Project Catapult	Community	Children & youth (7–18) recovering from trauma	Trauma-informed mentorship and talent development programmes help children rebuild their sense of self, aspiration, and confidence to pursue new goals.

ORGANISATION	PROGRAMME	PILLAR	THEY SERVE	WHY WE FUND THEM
Lutheran Community Care Services (LCCS)	Project Kaleidoscope (Pilot)	Community	Families with children with ADHD (11–12 yrs)	Family-centred workshops and facilitated circles build caregiver confidence and foster resilience within families navigating ADHD.
New Life Community Services	Designated Donation	Community	Lower-resourced and at-risk families	A faith-based organisation providing affordable, inclusive and community-based support for under-resourced families.
New Life Stories	Mama Befriending	Community	Incarcerated mothers who have given birth in prison	A befriending and peer support model stabilises the wellbeing of incarcerated mothers during postpartum and reintegration, with cascading impact on child development.
Reach Community Services	Designated Donation	Community	Low-income families and individuals	A social service agency that offers mental health counselling, family, senior and youth care.
The Foundry	Designated Donation	Community	Smaller social impact organisations	Equipping smaller nonprofits with resources, networks, and collaboration strengthens the ecosystem that serves vulnerable communities.
Wild Rice	Young & Wild	Community	Aspiring young theatre professionals (25–35 yrs)	Intensive professional theatre training bridges the gap between emerging and working artists, building industry networks and creative identity.

Outcomes

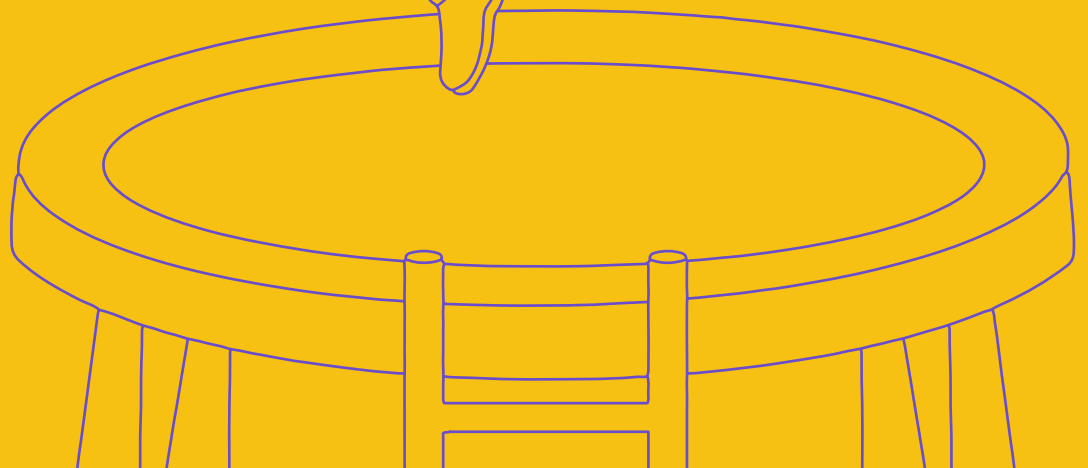
What FMAS Funding Has Made Possible

The FMAS Trampoline Fund supports programmes across three pillars: **Education, Employment, and Community.**

This is rooted in the belief that targeted, capability-building support helps vulnerable individuals and families not just survive adversity, but rebound and thrive.

Across two grant cohorts, our funded programmes intervene at crucial moments of transition — when a child risks falling permanently behind, when a job loss follows an injury, or when a prison sentence separates a mother from her child.

This section provides a snapshot of who your funds have supported, what those programmes are designed to change, and what the evidence so far tells us about their impact.





Education: Building Early Foundations For Long-Term Success and Wellbeing

Our Education pillar programmes start from the recognition that academic underperformance rarely has a single cause. Children who fall behind face intersecting cognitive, emotional, and socioeconomic barriers — and interventions must address this complexity through targeted, sustained, and relationship-driven support.

Effective targeting is essential to reach those who need it most. Starfish Singapore's Project Ad Astra supports at-risk students to stay in school and helps dropouts re-enter formal education. Designed for young people whose pathways out of school were shaped by mental health challenges, family instability, and systemic barriers, Ad Astra is in the early stages of demonstrating outcomes — but its first cohort already reflects the intersectional nature of educational vulnerability.

61% come from families with per capita incomes below \$800, and more than 30% have diverse learning needs including ADHD, autism, and OCD. Reached via referrals from social workers, this cohort suggests the programme is finding exactly the population where early intervention is most urgent.

Research on early educational interventions consistently finds that the quality of instructional relationships is a significant predictor of literacy and numeracy gains — and that children from under-resourced backgrounds stand to benefit most when those relationships are strong.^{5,6}

⁵ Hughes, J. T., Luo, W., Kwok, O., & Loyd, L. K. (2008). Teacher-student support, effortful engagement, and achievement: A 3-year longitudinal study. *Journal of Educational Psychology, 100*(1), 1–14.

⁶ Hamre, B. K., & Pianta, R. C. (2001). Early teacher-child relationships and the trajectory of children's school outcomes through eighth grade. *Child Development, 72*(2), 625–638.

Two of our 2024 grantee partners — Reading Roots and Curious Thoughts — invested significantly in volunteer capability as a core design feature. CuriousTime@SSAs students made measurable gains: Primary 1 students progressed from numbers up to 20 to numbers up to 100; Primary 2 students extended their range from 100 to 1,000.

Keeping class sizes small was essential — the team often had to revisit foundational concepts before advancing, a flexibility that large class settings rarely afford. Teachers could meet children where they actually were, rather than where the curriculum assumed they should be.

Children in Project Sprout similarly made substantial progress with the support of dedicated volunteers and trained staff.

Volunteers adapted to each child's unique developmental needs: one child with global developmental delay and mild ASD, initially requiring one-on-one support, developed the socioemotional skills and foundational knowledge to participate in group learning circles within six months.

Others who entered with limited confidence and poor letter recognition are now blending and segmenting words, reading short sentences, and participating actively in class.

These gains were underpinned by volunteer quality: 70 completed in-house training, with a further 15 attending specialist sessions with a certified trainer.



Key Insight

Foundational improvement in literacy, numeracy, and self-belief is achievable for children from disadvantaged backgrounds when programmes are designed to meet them where they are, sustained over time, and delivered through consistent, trained relationships.



Key Challenge

Irregular participation remains the most significant constraint on learning continuity. For younger children especially, parental time constraints limit attendance. Grantee partners have responded creatively — in some instances arranging for volunteers to provide transport, with parental consent.



Employment: Rethinking What ‘Getting a Job’ Actually Requires

Employment outcomes in the social sector are often measured too narrowly: placement rates tell a partial story, missing the sustainability of work, the quality of the environment, and whether individuals are equipped to stay employed when challenges arise. Our Employment pillar partners work with populations for whom the barriers to work are structural, psychological, and systemic — and their programme designs reflect this.

While most disability employment programmes prepare PWDs for the open job market, ARTDIS’ Ceramics Open Studio created an inclusive work environment from within. ARTDIS PWDs took on large-scale projects — including producing 2,000 ceramic cups for Raffles Hotel — and held 11 pop-up booths and 4 community workshops across Singapore. Their achievements showed that PWDs whose social confidence had been damaged by past negative public experiences could, with structured support, not only participate in complex professional

environments but actively host and engage with new people — markers of restored agency and belonging, which the literature on disability employment identifies as prerequisites for sustainable work.

Successful disability employment also depends on the ecosystem around each PWD. ABLE’s Return-to-Work Programme offers not just skills training but caregiver engagement, post-placement counselling, and employer education. The trajectory from injury to sustainable work rarely moves in a straight line, and ABLE’s 12-month rehabilitation model is designed for exactly that non-linearity. Six months in, RTW has supported 33 individuals with acquired physical disabilities, placing 10 in employment and onboarding four new employer partners committed to inclusive hiring.



Key Insight

The distance between a person and sustainable work is rarely just skills. It is confidence, employer openness, caregiving load, psychological readiness, and post-placement support. Programmes that address any of these in isolation will find that gains do not hold.



Key Challenge

Until inclusive employment becomes mainstream, PWDs will continue to face constrained career choices. Employer outreach and education are essential upstream investments to build an ecosystem where PWDs can build careers, not simply find jobs.



Community: Cultivating Identity, Belonging, and Meaning

The Community pillar is where evidence is hardest to quantify and nuanced interpretation matters most. Our grantee partners work with populations navigating complex transitions: mothers separated from newborns by incarceration, seniors displaced from their communities, young creatives struggling to find professional identity, families carrying the daily weight of raising a child with ADHD, and individuals returning from prison to a society that has moved on without them.

What connects these programmes is not the nature of their activities, but their underlying theory: that belonging — feeling supported and anchored to a community — is itself a wellbeing outcome.

New Life Stories' Mama Befriending programme, which supports incarcerated mothers reintegrating into family and society, is the most clinically grounded example in our portfolio. 57.1% of participants showed improvements in mental wellbeing scores post-programme. The qualitative picture is equally compelling:

“Over time, a significant shift was observed in Mama S's outlook and behaviour. For the first time, she demonstrated motivation to pursue education and stabilise her circumstances. She also reported feeling supported, seen, and encouraged — factors that contributed to increased confidence and a renewed sense of purpose.”

Awful Grace's The Journey Continues illustrates the power of a peer-ownership model that extends impact beyond the formal programme. By cultivating a self-sustaining ecosystem where former participants return as volunteers and assume leadership roles, the initiative has established a durable psychosocial safety net for 19 formerly incarcerated individuals and 27 family members. This regular, safe space addresses what the literature identifies as a critical, and often insufficiently resourced, dimension of successful post-release support.⁷

Project Catapult by Epworth Community Services demonstrates the potential of trauma-informed counselling to help children rewrite their personal narratives. Trauma can be deeply corrosive to a child's self-worth — constraining how they perceive their own potential. Through counselling and one-on-one mentorship, Project Catapult supported 25 children and youth who had faced traumatic experiences.

Post-programme scores revealed a general increase in Meaning In Life in Children Questionnaire (MIL-CQ) scores, reflecting an improved sense of personal future and aspiration. The most meaningful changes were visible through small behavioural and attitudinal shifts that compound over time:

“Jane started expressing herself with greater confidence. With her mentor's support, she began breaking down her big dream into small, practical steps. Together, they explored simple business ideas, learned basic entrepreneurial skills, and identified the strengths that Jane already possessed.”

⁷Boles, W., et al. (2022). Us helping us: The evolution of a peer support group for formerly incarcerated people. *Frontiers in Psychiatry*, 13, 920640.

Wild Rice's Young & Wild programme achieved a 100% overall satisfaction score, with 91% of participants rating themselves as very or extremely satisfied. While these are process measures, they matter: in a competitive and precarious creative industry, a programme that makes young professionals feel seen, challenged, and connected will enable development that the market alone cannot provide.

"I've been freelancing for about 2 years now, and I have been feeling very lost and a little jaded. I joined this programme to remind myself why I loved theatre in the first place, and to learn not just from Edith, but my peers as well."

Finally, Drama Box — a new grantee partner onboarded in 2025 — demonstrates how long-term community-building can begin with something as simple as a needle and thread. In the ageing Cassia Crescent neighbourhood, senior isolation is a key challenge.

Through activities such as crocheting, fashion workshops, and a catwalk, residents have found joy in creativity and connection. Participants report changes that extend beyond the programme: several shared that they have become more open, talkative, and sociable — others that they simply felt happier. These individual qualities — openness, sociability, and neighbourliness — are the preconditions with which strong community bonds flourish, combating senior isolation in the long run.



Key Insight

The Community programmes with the most durable outcomes cultivate ownership rather than dependency — where participants become co-creators, peer supporters, or returning volunteers. The measure of a good community programme is not just what it delivers, but what it enables the community to do for itself once it ends.



Key Challenge

Community work inspires deeply personal changes in how individuals perceive themselves and engage with the world. This demands that practitioners remain responsive to each participant's unique experience — building in time for feedback, observation, and reflection. One size never fits all.

Featured Stories

Starfish Singapore

Creating second chances in education



Scan to
view video

Starfish Singapore provides a second-chance academic pathway for youths who have left the mainstream school system, supporting them to rebuild confidence and re-engage with education.

With FMAS support, Starfish Singapore piloted Project Ad Astra, creating a safe and structured environment for out-of-school youths to regain stability and continue their learning journey.

ABLE*Enabling pathways to meaningful work*Scan to
view video

ABLE Singapore supports persons who have acquired physical disabilities to reintegrate into the workforce through holistic rehabilitation and employment support.



FMAS funding enabled ABLE to deliver a more integrated Return-To-Work programme, supporting both clients and caregivers as individuals rebuild their capabilities and transition back into employment.

Drama Box*Strengthening communities through shared spaces*Scan to
view video

Drama Box engages residents through participatory arts to strengthen community bonds and foster a shared sense of belonging in evolving neighbourhoods.



FMAS funding enabled Drama Box to sustain community activation at Cassia Crescent, empowering residents to take an active role in shaping their environment and rebuilding connections.

FMAS Trampoline Fund Projects

Grantee Partners



Education

01 Starfish Singapore

Project Ad Astra by Starfish Singapore is an 8-month bridging programme supporting out-of-school or at-risk youths aged 14–16 to re-engage in structured learning and rebuild readiness for national examinations. Combining academic instruction with mental wellbeing support, the programme provides an alternative pathway for youths who are not yet prepared for mainstream education or formal qualifications. It serves as an upstream intervention to stabilise learning, restore confidence, and create pathways towards longer-term academic or vocational progression.

Achievements: As a new programme, Ad Astra has demonstrated strong demand and relevance within the ecosystem. The team responded to ground needs by expanding eligibility to include 16-year-olds, following referrals from social workers and social service agencies. Interest from partners was encouraging, with extended admissions required to accommodate enquiries and application support for youths and their families. The programme has also shown flexibility in delivery, including customised arrangements for students concurrently enrolled in school, and serving as a transitional “holding space” for youths awaiting school placements.

Challenges: As a pilot, the programme required ongoing refinements to positioning and processes. The team had to clarify distinctions between Ad Astra and Project Starfish, as some stakeholders initially perceived them as interchangeable. Communication with applicants also required adjustment—particularly around rejection and appeal processes, which younger applicants found difficult to navigate. Operationally, extended admissions timelines were needed to support referral partners, while diverse participant profiles (e.g. students still enrolled in school or awaiting transfers) introduced complexity in programme pathways and progression planning. These challenges reflect the iterative nature of piloting a new model within a nuanced and evolving youth landscape.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$60,000

*Including Designated Donation:
\$10,000*

BENEFICIARIES

22

VOLUNTEERS

6



Learn more at starfishsingapore.org





Employment

02 Abilities Beyond Limitations and Expectations Ltd (ABLE)

ABLE's **Return-To-Work (RTW)** Programme is a structured rehabilitation pathway tailored for adults with acquired physical disabilities, enabling reintegration through an end-to-end approach. RTW aims to serve 30 persons, with disabilities through holistic assessment, tailored work-hardening training, job-matching, caregiver engagement, and post-placement counselling. It addresses the critical gap in long-term employability for individuals recovering from injury or managing acquired disabilities, empowering them to rebuild self-reliance and achieve sustainable employment.

Achievements: To date, the programme has supported 33 individuals, with 10 participants completing at least two training modules. 10 individuals have been successfully placed into employment, reflecting strong conversion from training to job outcomes. In addition, 4 new employers have been onboarded, expanding inclusive hiring opportunities. Overall, the programme is on track to meet its employment targets, demonstrating effective job matching and meaningful outcomes for a high-needs group.

Challenges: Implementation could occasionally be slow due to the breadth of responsibilities across coordination, stakeholder engagement, and operations placed demands on a lean team. Additionally, competing organisational priorities required ongoing recalibration of timelines, impacting the pace of delivery. These challenges underscore the importance of dedicated manpower and agile resource allocation in programme execution.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$50,000

*Including Designated Donation:
\$10,000*

BENEFICIARIES

33

VOLUNTEERS

3



Learn more at able-sg.org



03 ART:DIS DESIGNATED DONATION

ART:DIS empowers persons with disabilities through the arts. It provides pathways for artistic training, professional development, and public platforms, enabling artists to develop their talents, gain recognition, and pursue sustainable careers. Through its work, ART:DIS advances inclusion by showcasing the value and creativity of artists with disabilities.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$6,500

BENEFICIARIES

722

VOLUNTEERS

405



Learn more at artdis.org.sg

04 Halogen Foundation (Singapore) ONGOING

Foundations Forward is a series of pilot workshops that aims to help underserved Polytechnic students gain career confidence, develop soft skills and receive structured mentorship.

Achievements: Halogen Foundation (Singapore) has secured a partnership with Singapore Polytechnic Business School.

Challenges: Foundations Forward was initially targeted to support underserved students from Institute of Technical Education (ITE). However, the Grantee Partner encountered several unforeseen implementation challenges that have materially affected the feasibility of delivering the programme to the originally approved target group, which included changes to the ITE academic calendar that affected programme delivery and timeline. Grant Panel concurrence was obtained to revise target beneficiaries from ITE students to underserved Polytechnic students.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$40,000

BENEFICIARIES

To be reported in the next report

VOLUNTEERS

To be reported in the next report



Learn more at halogen.sg



Community

05 Awful Grace

The Journey Continues is Awful Grace's post-release programme that bridges the critical gap between life inside prison and life in the community. While most reintegration efforts focus on housing or jobs, this initiative tackles the deeper, often overlooked psychosocial needs that make reintegration truly sustainable. Building on trusted relationships formed through in-prison work, Awful Grace creates a restorative community that includes not just the individual, but their family and wider network. Through workshops, mental wellness activities, family outings, and community gatherings, participants heal from trauma, rebuild relationships, and strengthen life skills in a safe, supportive environment.

Achievements: The programme has continued to provide consistent support through regular gatherings, fostering a sense of community and psychological safety among participants. While a formal evaluation has not yet been completed, Awful Grace is currently undertaking a practice research study to assess the programme's efficacy, incorporating insights from past activities through focus groups. Initial findings from this study are expected to be shared at the upcoming Practice Research Conference in July, which will provide more structured evidence on programme impact.

Challenges: Accessibility remains a key challenge. Some participants face physical limitations that make travel to programme venues difficult, while others—particularly individuals residing in halfway houses—are subject to curfews that constrain their participation in evening sessions. To mitigate this, the team has provided transport support (e.g. taxis) where necessary, although this introduces additional logistical considerations. These constraints highlight the need for flexible delivery approaches to ensure continued accessibility for a high-needs group.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$35,000

BENEFICIARIES

46

VOLUNTEERS

21



Learn more at awfulgrace.org

06 Drama Box

Drama Box's **Art in the Commons: Cassia** is a long-term community arts initiative that engages residents of Cassia Crescent—many of whom are elderly and have been relocated from Dakota Crescent—through participatory, arts-based activities. The programme centres residents as co-creators, using creative platforms such as workshops, community events, and artist interventions to foster social connection, strengthen community identity, and build a sense of ownership over shared spaces.

Achievements: The programme has demonstrated strong community reach and engagement, with 161 unique participants and 478 total participation across 16 sessions to date, alongside 32 volunteers trained. Beyond quantitative outputs, qualitative outcomes have been particularly notable—residents reported increased willingness to participate in community activities, greater confidence in self-expression, and stronger social bonds with neighbours. The culmination event, *Styled Together*, brought together 150 residents and showcased participants' creative outputs, reflecting both individual confidence and collective ownership. Importantly, there are emerging signs of organic community activation, with residents initiating contributions, supporting one another, and sustaining interactions beyond programme sessions.

Challenges: Sustaining consistent engagement over a longer-term, co-creative process remains a key challenge, as residents have varying levels of readiness and competing personal priorities. Building trust and encouraging active participation required sustained facilitation and flexibility in adapting activities to participants' interests. Manpower constraints within the core team also posed challenges in delivering regular, high-touch sessions, necessitating reliance on volunteers and highlighting the importance of building a strong volunteer support network. From a sustainability perspective, the resource-intensive nature of community-based arts—particularly the time needed for relationship-building—requires careful balancing of programme ambitions with available resources. Additionally, measuring impact remains an ongoing area of learning, as outcomes such as trust, confidence, and community cohesion are less easily quantified but central to the programme's value.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$45,000

*Including Designated Donation:
\$10,000*

BENEFICIARIES

161

VOLUNTEERS

32



Learn more at dramabox.org



07 Eastern Reds Rugby

Eastern Reds Rugby (ERR) delivers a structured sports-based programme aimed at engaging youths through rugby as a platform for character development, discipline, and social inclusion. The programme provides regular training sessions and mentorship, creating a positive environment for youths to build resilience, teamwork, and confidence while staying meaningfully engaged in pro-social activities.

Achievements: The programme has established a foundation for youth engagement through structured rugby training and mentorship, with early learnings informing improvements to outreach and delivery. ERR has recognised the need to strengthen direct engagement with participants and families, and is taking steps to build more sustainable recruitment channels and programme visibility beyond reliance on partner organisations.

Challenges: Participation levels were lower than anticipated, due in part to an over-reliance on partners for outreach and enrollment, as well as clashes with cultural and religious periods that affected attendance. Scheduling was also at times unclear for parents, creating friction in planning and commitment. Operationally, inconsistencies in volunteer conduct highlighted the need for stronger governance, including clearer programme boundaries, better volunteer screening, and tighter internal processes. Moving forward, ERR plans to strengthen direct recruitment efforts, align programme schedules more closely with school terms, and implement clearer systems to ensure consistency and accountability in delivery.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$20,000

BENEFICIARIES

93

VOLUNTEERS

53



Learn more at easternreds.com



08 Epworth Community Services DESIGNATED DONATION

Epworth Community Services supports children, youths, and families from disadvantaged backgrounds through programmes in education, youth development, and family care. By providing safe spaces, mentorship, and targeted support, it helps individuals build resilience, strengthen relationships, and achieve more positive life outcomes.

GRANT AMOUNT
\$24,000

BENEFICIARIES
3,565

VOLUNTEERS
787



Learn more at epworth.sg

09 The Foundry DESIGNATED DONATION

The Foundry, by The Majority Trust, is a collective impact hub designed to bridge the gap in support for smaller social impact organisations, helping them grow and sustain their work. By fostering collaboration, innovation and donor engagement, The Foundry equips these organisations with the resources and connections needed to better serve vulnerable communities.

GRANT AMOUNT
\$5,000

BENEFICIARIES
160 Residents



Learn more at foundry.sg

10 Lutheran Community Care Services (LCCS)

Project Kaleidoscope by LCCS supports families with children with ADHD and related needs, equipping them with strategies to navigate communication challenges while fostering stronger parent-child relationships. Delivered through facilitated family circles, the programme combines psychoeducation with guided interactions, creating a safe and non-judgmental space for both parents and children. Beyond skill-building, the programme emphasises peer support and community, addressing the social isolation often experienced by these families.

Achievements: The programme has seen strong demand, exceeding initial targets, with 6 and 7 families enrolled in recent runs (against a target of 5 per run), and additional families on a waitlist. This reflects a clear gap in specialised support for ADHD families. Participants have responded positively to the programme, with families reporting practical improvements in communication and valuing the safe space to share experiences. Notably, the programme is evolving beyond structured delivery into a community of support, with parents forming peer networks and families developing deeper connections with one another. The funding has also enabled LCCS to strengthen its collaboration with SPARK, a parent support group for children with ADHD, and build internal capability among social workers to better support this group.

Challenges: High demand has resulted in oversubscription, requiring the team to turn away families and manage larger-than-intended group sizes, which affected the ability to provide individualised attention and maintain an intimate, safe environment. Additionally, feedback from participants highlighted a strong need for more unstructured engagement time and additional family circles, underscoring that community-building is as critical as programme content. Balancing demand with facilitator capacity, while preserving programme quality, remains a key challenge. The team is currently exploring adjustments to intake criteria, session design, and the potential for additional programme runs and post-programme engagement (e.g. dedicated family days) to better meet this need.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$20,000

BENEFICIARIES

36

VOLUNTEERS

9

The logo for Lutheran Community Care Services (LCCS) features the letters 'LCCS' in a bold, red, sans-serif font. The letters are slightly shadowed, giving them a three-dimensional appearance as if they are floating above a white rectangular base.

Learn more at lccs.org.sg

11 The Life Review

Life Review's **Last Aid Programme** aims to improve end-of-life literacy among the community, equipping individuals with the knowledge and confidence to support loved ones through serious illness, dying, and bereavement. The programme is delivered through structured workshops in partnership with community organisations, with trained facilitators guiding participants on practical, emotional, and social aspects of end-of-life care. It contributes to building a more informed and compassionate community around end-of-life conversations.

Achievements: The initial phase (Oct 2025 – Feb 2026) focused on programme planning, facilitator training, and partnership development, in preparation for post-festive period implementation. This approach has positioned the programme for stronger delivery, with 7 out of 8 targeted Last Aid runs already confirmed between now and September 2026. The team has also successfully expanded its network, onboarding new partners such as SG Assist, Wings, and Yong-en Active Ageing Centre. Outreach efforts have been strengthened through both existing networks and a snowball approach, where partners refer to additional organisations.

Challenges: Programme delivery is affected by seasonality, with the year-end to Chinese New Year period presenting challenges for running end-of-life literacy workshops due to lower community engagement. As such, the team intentionally buffered this period for preparation and partnership-building. While this has delayed initial programme runs, it was a necessary strategic adjustment to ensure stronger uptake and readiness. The reliance on partner organisations for programme delivery also requires lead time for coordination and confirmation, necessitating a longer runway for implementation.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$40,000

VOLUNTEERS

5

 Life Review

Learn more at thelifereview.org

12 New Life Community Services DESIGNATED DONATION

New Life Community Services is dedicated to empowering children, youths, and families from disadvantaged backgrounds to break out of the poverty cycle. Through a range of programmes spanning education support, youth development, family strengthening, and community outreach, the organisation provides holistic and sustained support to help individuals build resilience, confidence, and life skills. By working closely with communities and journeying alongside beneficiaries over the long term, New Life Community Services seeks to create lasting transformation and enable families to achieve stability and self-reliance.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$5,000

BENEFICIARIES

2,509

VOLUNTEERS

2,193

NEW LIFE
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Learn more at newlife.org.sg

13 REACH Community Services Limited DESIGNATED DONATION

REACH Community Services Limited supports vulnerable people and families within the community through a range of family, youth, senior and counselling services.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$12,000

BENEFICIARIES

5,456

VOLUNTEERS

981

REACH
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Learn more at reach.org.sg

2024 Grantee Partners at a Glance

In this section, we provide an update on all programmes from the 2024 Grant Call that were not completed as of the last report, but have since concluded.





Education

01 Curious Thoughts Giving Limited COMPLETED

CuriousTime@SSAs (Math) empowers 40 preschool children (4 to 8 years old) from lower-resourced families by equipping them with essential mathematical skills and educational resources. Using the evidence-based Numicon approach, weekly math classes at various SSAs ensure optimal learning outcomes, fostering a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Achievements: Over the course of the year, students who attended consistently showed clear improvements in foundational numeracy. Primary 1 students progressed from counting and applying concepts up to 20, to working with numbers up to 100. Similarly, Primary 2 students strengthened their understanding from numbers up to 100 to working with numbers up to 1,000. These gains reflect the programme's effectiveness in rebuilding foundational skills and supporting students to catch up academically.

Challenge Experienced and Lessons Learned: Students entered the programme with weaker-than-expected foundations, requiring adjustments to both assessment and curriculum, including incorporating lower-level content to rebuild basics. Inconsistent attendance among some students affected their learning continuity and limited the ability to track progress. Additionally, the limited instructional time (one hour per week per group) constrained the depth of teaching and reinforcement possible, impacting overall progress. These experiences highlight the importance of accurate baseline assessment, curriculum flexibility, consistent attendance, and sufficient instructional time to achieve stronger learning outcomes.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$30,000

BENEFICIARIES

14



Learn more at giving.curiousthoughts.sg



02 Reading Roots Limited COMPLETED

Project Sprout is a year-long, evidence-based literacy programme providing tailored interventions for 50 children aged 4 to 7 from under-resourced families, supporting their literacy development before primary school. Designed to address diverse learning needs such as Global Developmental Delay, Speech Delay, ADHD, and selective mutism, the programme ensures early and targeted support for foundational skills.

Achievements: The programme has strengthened both curriculum design and delivery. Structured lesson plans and tiered Reading Journals have enabled more effective teaching and progressive learning for children across different levels. Volunteers are better equipped through a robust onboarding and training process, with over 70 volunteers trained and additional specialised training sessions conducted. The programme has also built a strong pipeline of Lead Teachers through mentorship, ensuring more consistent and high-quality facilitation. Partnerships with agencies, schools, and community organisations have expanded outreach to underserved families, while children have benefited from broader exposure through library visits and diverse reading materials.

Challenge Experienced and Lessons Learned: Ensuring consistent quality across a large volunteer base remains a challenge, particularly in maintaining detailed and useful observations of children's progress. This has required stronger systems, clearer guidance, and more active roles for Lead Teachers. Irregular attendance among some children—often those who would benefit most—continues to affect learning outcomes, despite interventions such as volunteer conprotarts and closer engagement with parents and family coaches. These experiences highlight the importance of strong volunteer management systems, deeper parent engagement, and coordinated support with ecosystem partners to sustain participation and maximise impact.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$35,000

BENEFICIARIES

61

VOLUNTEERS

155



Learn more at [Reading Roots Facebook Page](#)



Employment

03 ART:DIS Singapore COMPLETED

The **Ceramics Open Studio** empowers persons with disabilities (PWDs), aged 18 and above, through year-long vocational training in ceramics, equipping them with sustainable skills for independence while fostering an inclusive, self-sustaining employment model.

Achievements: ART:DIS successfully partnered with Raffles Hotel Singapore to produce 2,000 ceramic cups for a Mid-Autumn Festival corporate product, marking its first large-scale collaboration involving 55 corporate volunteers. The production process proved effective in facilitating teamwork and interaction, creating natural opportunities for engagement between trainees and volunteers. Notably, trainees who were initially hesitant due to past negative experiences have grown more confident and receptive in interacting with new people. The collaboration also enabled cross-learning, with volunteers gaining exposure to the trainees' work while fostering stronger workplace connections within their own teams.

Challenge Experienced and Lessons Learned: Delivering a large-scale production project with corporate volunteers required significant upfront planning and process development, with approximately 8–10 sessions needed to stabilise workflows before volunteers could be meaningfully integrated. Managing a large group within a production setting also required balancing operational efficiency with meaningful engagement, reinforcing the importance of involving volunteers only when processes are well-established. Additionally, trainees were initially hesitant to interact with unfamiliar individuals due to past experiences, but grew more confident over time with structured support. Overall, the experience highlights the importance of operational readiness, clear processes, and intentional facilitation to ensure both quality delivery and positive participant outcomes.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$45,000

*Including Designated Donation:
\$10,000*

BENEFICIARIES

13

VOLUNTEERS

61



Learn more at artdis.org.sg

04 Daughters of Tomorrow COMPLETED

Bridges to Employment Programme aims to engage 30 employers and support lower-income women in re-entering the workforce over one year. It combines employer outreach and workshops on inclusive hiring with tailored support for participants, including personalised career coaching, job exposure through tours, and professional development in areas such as resume writing and interview skills. Through strong employer partnerships, the programme seeks to enable sustainable employment, improved income, and meaningful career progression for women.

Achievements: The programme is grounded in a strong evidence-based approach, with baseline research conducted across 98 women to better understand participants' needs and barriers. Insights show that while many women are already employed, they continue to face financial instability, with an average per capita household income of approximately \$1150 and many serving as sole income earners. The programme has responded by strengthening its focus on job quality, income progression, and post-employment support, ensuring that placements are not only secured but sustained. It also recognises and addresses caregiving constraints, enabling more women to participate meaningfully in the workforce.

Challenge Experienced and Lessons Learned: The programme surfaced persistent structural barriers that extend beyond job placement. While many women are employed, financial instability remains a key challenge due to low wages, irregular work, and limited ability to save, reinforcing that employment quality, not just employment access, is critical. Caregiving responsibilities continue to constrain women's ability to take on or sustain work, highlighting the need for flexible job arrangements and integrated caregiving support. Additionally, limited social support networks and difficulty seeking help underscore the importance of building trust and community alongside employment interventions. These insights point to the need for a more holistic model that combines job placement with post-employment support, income progression pathways, and strengthened support systems to achieve sustained outcomes.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$20,000

BENEFICIARIES

32



Learn more at daughtersoftomorrow.org



Community

05 Awful Grace COMPLETED

Awful Grace's **Family Matters** programme supported incarcerated individuals and their families in rebuilding relationships through a restorative, trauma-informed approach. Through structured sessions, facilitated family circles, and creative therapeutic activities (e.g. pottery and kintsugi), the programme provided a safe space for open dialogue, reconciliation, and the development of shared family plans for reintegration.

Achievements: The programme demonstrated encouraging outcomes in strengthening family relationships, with participants and their family members engaging in facilitated conversations and co-developing plans to rebuild trust and communication. Positive feedback was received, and the programme secured continuation for subsequent runs. Importantly, impact extended beyond the programme itself, with ongoing engagement of families through follow-up activities and the emergence of Empathy in Community, which aimed to sustain connections and support beyond the initial intervention.

Challenge Experienced and Lessons Learned: Participant turnover due to transfers and early releases disrupted programme continuity, with some participants unable to complete key components such as family circles, limiting the depth of impact achieved. This highlighted the importance of selecting participants who could remain engaged throughout the full programme cycle. As a pilot, significant resources were required to develop customised curriculum, evaluation tools, and volunteer training—investments that were critical to programme integrity but not easily replicable without upfront planning. These experiences underscored the need for careful participant selection, built-in contingencies for institutional constraints, and recognition of foundational development costs when piloting complex, relationship-based interventions.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$35,000

BENEFICIARIES

33

VOLUNTEERS

24



Learn more at awfulgrace.org

06 Epworth Community Services COMPLETED

Project Catapult was a 15-month programme that supported 25 children and youths, aged 7 to 18, who were recovering from trauma. The programme aimed to facilitate post-traumatic growth by equipping participants with life skills for better coping, providing opportunities for talent development, and supporting them in setting and working towards new life aspirations. It also encouraged sustained recovery through structured interventions and ongoing support.

Achievements: The programme engaged children and youths in structured activities that supported their emotional recovery and personal development. Participants showed positive progress in building coping mechanisms, developing new skills, and gaining confidence in pursuing their goals. The combination of life skills training and talent development created pathways for participants to rediscover strengths and envision new possibilities for themselves.

Challenge Experienced and Lessons Learned: Working with children and youths recovering from trauma required sustained engagement and careful pacing, as participants progressed at different rates depending on their individual circumstances. Maintaining consistent participation was at times challenging due to external factors in their home and social environments. These experiences highlighted the importance of trauma-informed approaches, flexibility in programme delivery, and sustained support systems to enable meaningful and lasting recovery outcomes.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$35,000

*Including Designated Donation:
\$20,000*

BENEFICIARIES

13

VOLUNTEERS

10



Learn more at epworth.sg

07 Lutheran Community Care Services (LCCS) COMPLETED

Project Kaleidoscope was a year-long pilot initiative by LCCS and Society for the Promotion of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Research and Knowledge (SPARK) to target 10 families with children aged 11 to 12 years old who have been diagnosed with ADHD. The programme aims to boost caregiver confidence in caring for children with ADHD, to foster resilience within the family unit, and to create a supportive environment for their children.

Achievements: The pilot enabled LCCS to refine a structured, family-centred intervention model for ADHD families. Adjustments across runs—such as smaller, facilitated family conversations and better alignment of workshop materials—improved the quality of engagement and depth of discussions. The introduction of individualised facilitation created a more supportive environment for meaningful parent-child conversations. The programme also concluded on a stronger, more hopeful note, with participants drawing encouragement from shared experiences, including lived perspectives from adults with ADHD.

Challenge Experienced and Lessons Learned: Time constraints within a tightly packed one-hour session created challenges in delivering content while accommodating late arrivals and early departures, requiring the team to streamline activities and adapt session structures. Feedback also highlighted the importance of programme design, particularly the need to balance deeper, sometimes difficult conversations with opportunities to end on a positive and affirming note. As a pilot, the experience underscored the value of iterative design, refining facilitation approaches, optimising session flow, and ensuring alignment across programme components—to better support families navigating ADHD.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$14,000

BENEFICIARIES

32

VOLUNTEERS

11



Learn more at lccs.org.sg

08 New Life Stories COMPLETED

Mama Befriending was a 12-month post-natal pilot programme (July 2025 – January 2026) supporting incarcerated mothers who have given birth in prison. Through a befriending approach, it complements existing prenatal services by providing a safe space for trust-building, guidance, and support in navigating attachment, loss, and post-natal challenges. The programme experienced a delay in the roll out due to reorganisation at Singapore Prison Service.

Achievements: The programme demonstrated meaningful impact in stabilising wellbeing among a highly vulnerable group. Across participants with two assessment points, more than half (57%) showed improvements in mental wellbeing, while overall group wellbeing remained broadly stable despite significant life stressors. This is notable given the volatility of the population, who were simultaneously navigating postpartum recovery, separation, and reintegration challenges. Qualitative outcomes were particularly strong, with mothers reporting increased confidence, hope, and sense of support. Case evidence further illustrated positive behavioural shifts, including re-engagement in education, strengthened caregiving intentions, and sustained participation in peer support networks. The programme functioned effectively as a stabilising bridge, providing continuity of care during a critical transition period.

Challenge Experienced and Lessons Learned: Engagement was shaped by institutional constraints and life transitions, with limited time for interaction during incarceration and fluctuating participation post-release due to competing priorities. Mental wellbeing trajectories were often non-linear, reflecting overlapping stressors such as childbirth recovery, separation, and reintegration. Delayed referrals reduced opportunities for early rapport-building, while the one-year pilot timeframe limited the ability to support longer-term change. These experiences highlighted the importance of early engagement, sustained throughcare beyond release, and flexible programme design to accommodate changing needs. Crucially, the programme reinforced that consistent, trust-based relationships and peer support grounded in lived experience are key to stabilising mothers and supporting longer-term recovery outcomes.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$55,000

Including Designated Donation:
\$20,000

BENEFICIARIES

7

VOLUNTEERS

11



Learn more at newlifestories.org.sg

09 Wild Rice Limited COMPLETED

Young & Wild is a comprehensive 10-month acting programme for 14 to 17 aspiring actors aged 25 to 35, equipping them with the skills needed for a career in the creative industry. The programme bridges the gap between amateur productions and the professional theatre world, providing hands-on training and industry exposure.

Achievements: The programme successfully delivered a comprehensive theatre education experience, with participants collaboratively creating and staging an original full-length production, *Murder in the Waiting Room*, which reached over 1,400 audience members at 83.6% capacity. Participants reported increased confidence, stronger communication skills, and a deeper appreciation for storytelling and collaboration. All participants rated the programme highly and demonstrated growth in creative thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork. The programme also strengthened participants' sense of belonging and cultural connection, while providing exposure to professional theatre practices and industry networks.

Challenges Experienced and Lessons Learned: As a highly collaborative and intensive programme, participants had to navigate differing perspectives, communication styles, and creative disagreements, which required strong facilitation and guidance. The time and commitment required—particularly during rehearsal periods—also posed challenges in balancing school and programme demands. These experiences reinforced the importance of structured facilitation, supportive environments, and intentional skill-building in collaboration and resilience. The programme also highlighted the value of experiential learning in developing both artistic and social-emotional competencies among youths.

GRANT AMOUNT

\$15,000

BENEFICIARIES

12



Learn more at wildrice.com.sg

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