

# **Christian Counselling Services**



## **Annual Report 2024**

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

My journey with Christian Counselling Services (CCS) began in 2010 when I was invited to serve as a Committee Member under the leadership of Brother Patrick Chow. In 2016, I was elected as President, and by God's grace, I have had the privilege of serving in this role for the past eight years. With CCS in good stead, I will be stepping down as President of CCS at the end of this term.

First and foremost, I want to give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His healing and sustenance. Despite undergoing three major surgeries and having seven body organs removed, His love and grace have carried me through. Because of His strength, I have been able to continue serving Him and sharing my healing testimony in various churches and platforms such as Salt & Light.

On behalf of CCS, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Singapore Prison Service (SPS) and all its officers, both leadership and rank-and-file, for their unwavering support, cooperation, guidance, and assistance. During my tenure, and with God's grace, mercy, and help, CCS was blessed with new opportunities to serve in A1 CU3, Cluster B2, S1, and S2. We are deeply grateful to SPS for entrusting us with the chance to support and assist the inmates in these institutions.

In 2024, CCS launched its Family Care Services, beginning with support for families of inmates from A4. This new initiative marks another step forward in our mission to serve and uplift those in need. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to all CCS volunteers and partner organizations: those serving desistors, halfway houses, shelters, and other support networks. Our collaboration with these organizations has been instrumental in fulfilling the vision and mission of CCS.

We praise and thank God for His provision in 2024. With His help, we have expanded our outreach to more philanthropic organizations, enabling us to diversify our donor base and secure vital funding. We are deeply grateful to these new supporters for their generosity.

With the strong backing of the CCS Executive Committee, we remain committed to improving our services for the desistor community and enhancing the experience of our dedicated volunteers.

In 2025, our focus areas will include:

- Training and aftercare support for women ex-offenders
- Bridging training gaps to better equip volunteers for service
- Preparing more volunteers for aftercare work
- Strengthening collaborations with social service agencies and fellow organizations working with ex-offenders

I am profoundly grateful to all who have walked this journey with CCS. My heartfelt thanks go to the management and officers of the Singapore Prison Service for their trust in CCS, our devoted volunteers for their tireless service, our donors and supporters for their generosity, and our partner organizations for their invaluable assistance.

Above all, we give thanks to our God for His grace and provision, which have made all these achievements possible. We trust that He will continue to guide CCS in transforming lives for His glory.

To God be the glory for all the great things He has done!

Philip Lim  
President (2016 – April 2025)

## **CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING SERVICES**

**(UEN: T12SS00078B)**

### **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (Year 2023 to 2025)**

<b>LIM POH SOON PHILIP</b>	<b>PRESIDENT</b> <b>(Appointed on 25 April 2023)</b>
<b>REV DARREN LIM SOO KUAN</b>	<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b> <b>(Appointed on 25 April 2023)</b>
<b>DAVID DANIEL SIOW PENG GUAN</b>	<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b> <b>(Appointed on 25 April 2023)</b>
<b>TEO BOON TECK TERRENCE</b>	<b>HONORARY SECRETARY</b> <b>(Appointed on 25 April 2023)</b>
<b>LEOW CHEOK HWA EILEEN</b>	<b>HONORARY TREASURER</b> <b>(Appointed on 1 February 2024)</b>
<b>LEOW CHECOK HWA EILEEN</b>	<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b> <b>(Appointed on 25 April 2023)</b>
<b>JIMMY TNG CHYE YONG</b>	<b>COMMITTEE MEMBER</b> <b>(Appointed on 25 April 2023)</b>

# CCS Activities Report 2024

## Volunteers

In 2024, CCS has 105 volunteers actively serving out of a total of 250 volunteers on record. There were 15 new volunteers who joined CCS in 2024.

## In-Care

CCS collaborated with Loving Hand Fellowship (LHF) for Project 9 Yards at Selarang S1 in April, and Watchman's Home Community (WMH) for 12 Steps Life Recovery Project at Selarang S2 in October. Both are secular programmes. The objective of both projects provides a platform for inmates to receive guided prosocial support in a group, share common reintegration challenges and learn new ways to cope. This allows volunteers to build rapport with inmates and to journey with them to stay drug free when they return to the community.

As part of A4's continuous effort to engage volunteers, the superintendent of A4 invited active volunteers serving in Cluster A4 to SPS's Dialogue & Sharing Session on 7 May 2024, held at SPS Headquarters. Volunteers had a good sharing led by SPS Correctional Rehabilitation Specialists (CRS) on Gender Responsive Approach in Handling Female Offenders. CRS are SPS counsellors working closely with the women officers at Institution A4 on gender responsive initiatives for effective assessment and interventions. SPS also invited different social service agencies to share their work, to create awareness and explore possible collaboration.



A4 Dialogue Session on 7 May 2024 at SPS

In 2004, CCS volunteers served across Clusters A1, A4 (women's), B2, S1 and S2 which include BOTH faith based and secular programs. Faith based programs currently include Chapel Service and Bible Study. Secular programs include 12 Steps Life Recovery, Project Nine Yards and ukelele lessons for inmates.

In April 2024, SPS rolled out Replacement of Access Management System (ROAMS) passes for all volunteers entering the Changi Prison Clusters. ROAMS passes capture the biometrics (which includes facial recognition/iris features) of the volunteers to access all institutions.

In 2024, CCS continued to collaborate with Prison Fellowship Singapore (PFS) in Angel Tree Project (ATP), distributing Sheng Siong shopping vouchers to the inmates' families to promote family reconciliation. A total of 850 families benefited from this project.

### **AfterCare**

In 2024, CCS volunteers participated in SPS' Befriending and VCO program. These programs require volunteers to engage with desistors individually before and after release. CCS has 24 volunteers signed up as Volunteer Case Officers (VCO). Simultaneously, there were also 34 volunteers signed up as Befrienders of which 17 cases had been assigned to work with the befriendees. An estimated 81 desistors are currently receiving aftercare support from CCS volunteers.

CCS continued to participate in events organized by Desistor Network and AMASE. Desistor Network aims to bring together both desistors and the social agencies supporting them as one community to work together in ex-offender rehabilitation. They partnered with many agencies (Agape, FITRAH, IMH, SACA, XOF, HIM, etc) for sharing different topics at various locations, allowing desistors and volunteers to come together for learning and fellowship. AMASE is another group of likeminded SPS volunteer organisation working to support, help, guide and mentor persons with in-prisons experience.

CCS also started its first Family Care Support Group in September 2024, led by A4 volunteer Priscilla Mok and supported by other A4 volunteers. The theme for the group was "Rebuild and Renew Relationship With The Love of God". The group started with distribution of Angel Tree Project (ATP) vouchers to 31 inmates' families and followed up with regular visitation subsequently.

Faith fellowship continued with desistors gathering on a bi-weekly basis at Rejoice Community Baptist Church, held every second and fourth Thursday of the month.



**A4 Women Support Group**



**Faith Fellowship**

### **Training**

To avoid duplication of resources, CCS continues to leverage off SPS sponsored training conducted by Blended Concepts and Singapore After-Care Association (SACA). CCS instead aims to focus more on training through digital medium such as short learning video clips that addresses situational scenarios which all volunteers may encounter. CCS started Connect & Learn (C&L) series for the intention of networking and some learning benefits for the volunteers and desistors.



### **Publication / Publicity**

CCS continued to invest in IT infrastructure with the goal of further digitalization of its operations, which will include more media communications to all interested parties through various multi-media channels. Project is still work in progress.

### **Other Notable Events in 2024**

CCS continued its series of Connect & Learn (C&L) events in 2024.

C&L aims to bring together volunteers helping desistors to share their own learning experiences with one another. It also provides an opportunity for volunteers to network with each other. CCS held two C&L events in February and August with more than 80 participants joining the event.



Presenters for February's C&L



Group discussion at C&L

SPS long service awards were granted to several volunteers for their dedication as prison volunteers. Benedict Kumar received his 15 years award, whereas 12 other volunteers received their 10-year awards. Additionally, 16 volunteers received 5-year awards, and 21 volunteers received 3-year awards. Jenny Lim was nominated the Throughcare Hero Award for her dedicated service to ex-offenders. CCS congratulates them and appreciates their dedication in helping the ex-offenders.



Jenny Lim received her ThroughCare Hero Award

Richard Wun, Freddy Chng, Alfred Lim, Joseph Peck (top clockwise to bottom) receiving their 10 years Long Service Award at SPS event held at Singapore Expo in August 2024.



CCS volunteers also participated in Yellow Ribbon Run 2024, which coincided with the Yellow Ribbon Project's (YRP) 20th anniversary celebrations. YRP aims to create awareness of second chances and inspire community action to support the rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates and ex-offenders, working towards an inclusive society.



Volunteers participated in YR Run 2024



CCS volunteers at the YR Run 2024  
Tobin Toh, Philip Lim, Jason Low, Lim Siew Mei  
(left to right)



## **NOTE FROM TREASURER**

The results of CCS for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 with a net surplus of \$44,766. against the previous year's net surplus of \$99,830. Some funds were raised from donors in 2024.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, the accumulated fund totaled \$321,550.

### **Donations**

For the year 2024, total cash contributions from direct donors including collections received from CCS fellowship activities amounted to \$144,380.

### **Expenditure**

Total expenses amounted to \$99,614 for 2024.

As the core services of CCS are focused on counselling activities through the effort and time of CCS volunteers, expenses were mainly incurred in administrative operations.

Such administration work involves co-ordination of various programs between prison, volunteers and ex-offenders undergoing rehabilitation.

For 2024, total expenditure was in line with the previous year.

Please refer to the '**Summary of 2024 Expenditure**' for more details.

### **Reserve Policy**

CCS reserves target is at least 1 year of total operating expenditures.

As of 31st December 2024, the reserve ratio was 2.26.

## Summary of 2024 Expenditure

### General Administration \$84,540

Rental, staff costs and telecom services make up the bulk of general administrative expenses. CCS employed one full-time staff for the entire year whose responsibilities include co-ordination of various programs between prison, volunteers and ex-offenders undergoing rehabilitation, as well as all other administrative work required in the running of CCS operations.

### Indirect / Administrative Expenses \$4,061

Expenses incurred for subscription, web hosting, auditors and professional fees.

### In-care \$3,730

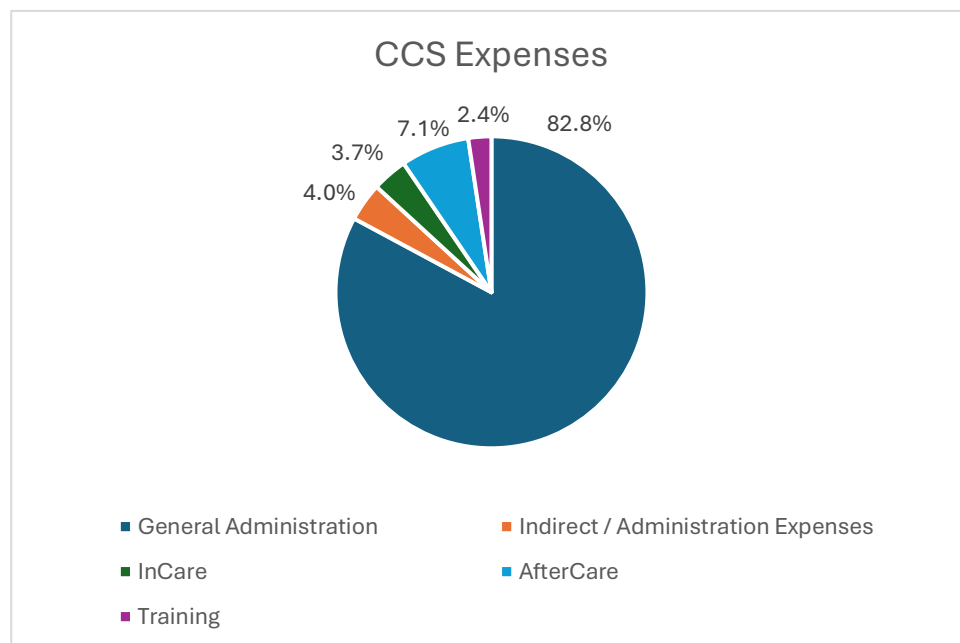
In-care expenses include instructional materials for prison inmates. This year, snacks packs for special events held inside prison were sponsored by SPS. We support the supply of Our Daily Breads, printing of material and partial Christmas gift pack (vouchers) to the inmates family.

### After-care \$7,273

Expenses to conduct bonding and counselling activities between ex-offenders and volunteers, including rental of premises.

### Training \$2,440

DORP (Development Framework for Offender Rehabilitation Personnel) and Singapore After-Care Association (SACA) continue to provide training on pro-bono to CCS volunteers at the courtesy of Singapore Prison. CCS implemented Connect & Learn (C&L) series for volunteers and desistors to learn from one another.



Honorary Treasurer  
Eileen Leow