

# ✦ BUILDING READINESS IN ESG



In April 2023, the Charity Council issued a revised Code of Governance which recommends that charities conduct their activities with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors in mind and communicate these activities to stakeholders.

To ensure ongoing accountability, SCS set up an ESG task force in November 2023 to coordinate our ESG efforts, align them with the organisation's strategic plans and operations, as well as stay abreast of governance guidelines.

SCS is committed to keeping our activities environmentally friendly and sustainable; to maintaining and further cultivating strong connections with our stakeholders and upholding the highest governance standards. We do this through our key focus areas of Cancer Control and Prevention, Cancer Care and Support, and Rallying the Community in the fight against cancer.

## Environmental Sustainability



Environmental sustainability is a cornerstone of our ESG efforts. SCS plays our part in reducing our carbon footprint through careful use of resources and a concerted reduction in overall consumption. We use energy-efficient technologies such as auto on-off light sensors and green-rated equipment. As SCS resides within the NCCS building, we collaborate with NCCS and leverage NCCS's GreenGov.SG initiatives. One way is through electricity conservation by maintaining indoor temperatures at 25 degrees Celsius or higher through the NCCS central air-conditioning system.



SCS has reduced paper usage by digitising event materials, such as providing electronic Notices, documents, and reports during the Annual General Meeting. Our flagship events and programmes also encourage paperless online registration.



In addition, we aim to reduce collateral wastage for our key events, the Singapore Cancer Society - TalkMed Relay For Life and the Singtel - Singapore Cancer Society Race Against Cancer, by allowing participants to opt out of collecting a race pack or t-shirt. We discourage the use of plastics by asking participants to bring personal water bottles, complemented by providing environmentally friendly paper cups.

## Social Impact

### Cancer Control and Prevention Community Health

SCS continues to expand public education outreach and enhance cancer awareness. Throughout the year, we launched a series of cancer awareness campaigns, each a beacon of hope meant to enhance the community's knowledge on the types of cancers and encourage the public to go for relevant screenings. This forms part of our strategy to minimise the occurrence of cancer.

SCS has partnered with government agencies like People's Association (PA), Community Development Councils (CDCs), Active Aging Centres (AACs) and Muis, MENDAKI and MESRA (M3), as well as hospitals and social service organisations like Ain Society as part of our public engagement.

We believe early detection is key to combating cancer. This drives our commitment to prevention efforts, equipping Singaporeans with the tools and knowledge to safeguard their health and highlighting the benefits of regular cancer screening for early detection and improved survival rates.

We are heartened to share that, following engagements with SCS, an average of 95% of participants expressed intentions to either participate in cancer screening and/or recommend it to their social networks.



### Cancer Care and Support Cancer Rehabilitation Services

SCS strives to ensure our beneficiaries experience improved quality of life through our services, aiming to maximise lives.

95% of our Cancer Rehabilitation Services patients reported that they are happy with the services received, with 80% expressing increased confidence in applying self-management strategies at home due to SCS's rehabilitation services.



“The SCS Return to Role programme is a lifesaver. I experienced very bad aches and pain after chemotherapy, surgery, and radiotherapy. The team at SCS helped me with exercises and treatments which helped tremendously. I can now resume many of my day-to-day activities. Thank you, SCS!”

- Ms Hannah Seow

### SCS Financial Care Services

SCS strives to help Singaporeans and Permanent Residents from low- and middle-income families by providing a range of welfare and financial assistance. We understand that medical expenses can be a heavy burden, so we aim to alleviate those costs at every stage of treatment. SCS's assistance includes providing milk, diapers, medical dressing, stoma bags, and other medical equipment.

90% of our beneficiaries feel less financially burdened and anxious due to the financial assistance provided, enabling them to cope better with the support from SCS.



“The diagnosis of kidney cancer was frightening enough, but the financial stress added another layer of difficulty. Thankfully, SCS stepped in, providing a treatment subsidy under the Cancer Treatment Fund, which is an essential support that eased my burden immensely. The subsidy has allowed me to go through the necessary treatment without having to worry about costs. I'm eternally grateful for their kindness and compassion.”

- Mr Lai



Michelle's friendly demeanour, understanding nature, and compassionate heart made each session a source of comfort and encouragement during my cancer journey. She provided enormous support for my emotional wellbeing, demonstrating remarkable patience and empathy. Michelle offered strategies to help me navigate grief, overcome emotional pain, and ultimately, guide me towards achieving a balanced and healthy lifestyle. Her support played a significant role in my healing process, and I am immensely grateful.

- Madam Teresa Tay

### Psychosocial Support Services

SCS's Psychosocial Support Services provides counselling, therapeutic interventions and various support for our patients, their families, and caregivers. 94% of beneficiaries attributed SCS for making a positive difference in them and/or their families' situation.

### Hospice Care Services

The SCS Hospice Care Services team strives to render quality and dignified care to all our patients, including their families, in the last lap of their cancer journey. A multi-disciplinary team of nurses, doctors, social workers, counsellors, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists provide quality and holistic clinical care for terminal stage cancer patients who have chosen to remain at home in the final stages of their lives.

According to SCS's Survey for Families of Palliative Care Patients (Bereaved), 100% of beneficiaries reported that the Hospice Team provided comfort and dignity to the patient at the end of life. Additionally, 99% stated that the clinical team offered emotional support to both the patient and their caregiver.



Mr Tan Hok Nai, diagnosed with advanced cancer in June 2024, passed away peacefully at home in October 2024, cared for by his daughter, Ai Yen. Honouring Mr Tan's wish to remain at home, Ai Yen managed his high care needs with support from a migrant domestic worker and night home-based respite carers. The SCS Home Hospice team prepared Ai Yen well for potential challenges like managing massive bleeding as Mr Tan was experiencing intermittent bleeding through his tracheostomy tube. The Home Hospice team also helped Ai Yen recognise the signs of deterioration and the terminal phase, which allowed her to notify family members in time to visit Mr Tan during his final days. Ai Yen expressed gratitude for the team's support in fulfilling her father's final wishes.

### Rallying the Community

#### Community Partnership

Our flagship events, Singapore Cancer Society - TalkMed Relay for Life (RFL) and SingTel - Singapore Cancer Society Race Against Cancer (RAC) aim to rally communities together in the fight against cancer.

The RFL 2024 event saw more than 9,000 participants, comprising cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, volunteers and members of the public, with over \$1.71 million raised in support of SCS programmes and services.

2024 marked the 16th year of the RAC, with over 7000 participants, over 194 volunteers, 100 SCS staff and over 121 SCS beneficiaries joining our festivities. The RAC 2024 raised over \$1.36 million for our programmes and beneficiaries.

Both events demonstrate the unwavering public support for the cancer community and indicate the increasing support by the community towards our common fight against cancer.

#### Singapore Cancer Society - TalkMed Relay For Life



more than  
**9,000**  
individuals



over  
**\$1.71 million**  
raised

#### Singtel - Singapore Cancer Society Race Against Cancer



over  
**7,000**  
participants



over  
**\$1.36 million**  
raised

### Governance Excellence

SCS strives to constantly maintain and strengthen its Governance Structures and Internal Controls through periodic reviews and updates of policies and processes, ensuring alignment with best governance practices.

SCS' commitment to high standards in governance and transparency is evidenced by our attainment of the coveted **2023 Charity Governance Award** and the **Charity Transparency Awards** for four years, between 2019 and 2024.

SCS ensures board diversity within the SCS Council, drawing expertise from areas such as healthcare, finance, IT, legal, and governance to provide effective oversight and strategic direction. Council members have clear Terms of Reference and undergo onboarding, with regular reviews to ensure effectiveness. Additionally, the rotation of Council members supports proper board renewal and succession planning, in line with the Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs.

SCS ensures transparency, accountability, and reporting by maintaining open communication with stakeholders and providing regular, comprehensive updates on our financials, governance, and activities through platforms such as our website, social media channels, and Donor Impact Reports.

