COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Assisting · Bonding · Connecting

Annual Report
Financial Year 2010

The CDCs promote community bonding and social cohesion through active partnership with grassroots organisations and community agencies…

… and provide various community, social and job assistance services for the residents.

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Chairman's Foreword

2010 was a good year for us. Our economy, hit by the global recession in 2009, rebounded strongly. But the buoyant economy was not uniformly felt by all segments of the population. Various groups of people were still weighed down by financial disabilities. Accordingly, the CDCs re-doubled its efforts to reach out to these needy groups of people in the community. New schemes and programmes were introduced, and new partners were engaged, with the sole purpose of expanding outreach to those who require help.

Ever since the economic crisis began, CDCs' responsibilities have grown to keep up with the evolving needs and higher expectations of residents. Being closer to the ground, residents expect more from the CDCs, and rightly so. Our persistent challenge is, "How, and what can we do better?" To deal with this challenge, the CDCs would need to have a good understanding of the needs of their own district and be able to tap on the expertise, experience and zeal of all partners, grassroots, volunteers, co-workers and residents. This is what the CDCs will need to focus on all the time.

The current uncertainty in the global economic climate makes the work of the CDCs even more relevant. We must be ready to react, and act decisively if the current economic situation worsens. We must do whatever it takes to fulfil our mission of helping the vulnerable in our midst and strengthen social cohesion. We must also send this clear message to our residents – that the CDC's have both the will and the means to do this but can only succeed if they take ownership of the challenges with the more able helping the less able amongst them.

I want to thank all our partners, sponsors, District Councillors and volunteers for their tireless contributions to the CDCs. Let us not be weary in striving towards our Community 2015 Vision of Building a Great Home and a Caring Community.

Dr Amy Khor Lean Suan
Mayor of South West District
Chairman, Mayors' Committee

*"In spite of the recovering economy, the five CDCs continued their quest of promoting and building a cohesive and compassionate community, guided by their strategic thrusts of **A**ssisting the Needy, **B**onding the People, and **C**onnecting the Community."*

Dr Amy Khor Lean Suan
Mayor of South West District and
Chairman of Mayors' Committee

Vision & Mission

Vision

A Vibrant Community

Mission

To Assist the Needy, Bond the People and Connect the Community

Strategic **T**hrusts of CDCs

ASSISTING
the Needy
· ComCare
· Job Assistance
· Local Schemes

BONDING
the People

CONNECTING
the Community
· Grassroots Organisations
· Corporate Partners
· Many Helping Hands

Building a Great Home and
a Caring Community

Our Mayors

Swearing-in Ceremony of Mayors 28 June 2011

From left: Mayor Mohd Maliki Osman, Mayor Teo Ser Luck, Minister Lim Swee Say, Deputy Chairman of People's Association Board of Management, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Chairman of People's Association Board of Management, Mayor Amy Khor, Mayor Teo Ho Pin and Mayor Sam Tan.

CDC Overview

SOUTH WEST
Community Development Council

MAYOR
Dr Amy Khor Lean Suan

South West CDC
The JTC Summit
8 Jurong Town Hall Road
#03-11 Singapore 609434
Tel: 6316 1616 Fax: 6316 7251

NORTH EAST
Community Development Council

MAYOR
Mr Teo Ser Luck

North East CDC
300 Tampines Ave 5 #06-01
NTUC Income
Tampines Junction
Singapore 529653
Tel: 6424 4000 Fax: 6424 4077

NORTH WEST
Community Development Council

MAYOR
Dr Teo Ho Pin

North West CDC
900 South Woodlands Drive
#01-04 / #06-01
Woodlands Civic Centre
Singapore 730900
Tel: 6767 2288 Fax: 6219 1176

SOUTH EAST
Community Development Council

MAYOR
Dr Mohd Maliki Osman

South East CDC
10 Eunos Road 8 #02-01
Singapore Post Centre
Singapore 408600
Tel: 6243 8753 Fax: 6243 3130

CENTRAL SINGAPORE
Community Development Council

MAYOR
Mr Sam Tan

Central Singapore CDC
HDB Hub Bizthree
490 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh
#07-11 Singapore 310490
Tel: 6370 9901 Fax: 6370 9928
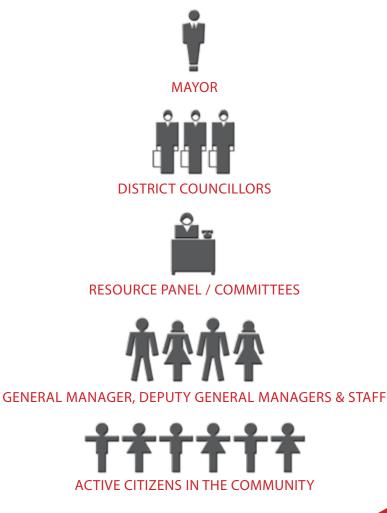
Community Development Councils

- South West CDC
- North West CDC
- Central Singapore CDC
- North East CDC
- South East CDC

Structure of

Community Development Councils

The Community Development Council (CDC) is managed by a Council comprising the Mayor and members. The Council is appointed by the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the People's Association Board of Management. The CDC is governed by the Community Development Council Rules.

MAYOR

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

RESOURCE PANEL / COMMITTEES

GENERAL MANAGER, DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGERS & STAFF

ACTIVE CITIZENS IN THE COMMUNITY

Management of
Conflict of Interest

A member of the Council or the sub-committee who is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a transaction or project or other matter of the Council or sub-committee shall disclose the nature of his interest at the first meeting of the Council or sub-committee at which he is present after the relevant facts have come to his knowledge.

A disclosure shall be recorded in the minutes of meeting of the Council or sub-committee and, after the disclosure, that member:

(a)   shall not take part in any deliberation or decision of the Council or sub-committee with respect to that transaction or project; and

(b)   shall be disregarded for the purpose of constituting a quorum of the Council or sub-committee for such deliberation or decision.

Funding of
Community Development Councils

ANNUAL RESIDENT GRANT

Each Community Development Council (CDC) is provided with an annual grant of $1 per resident living in its District for funding its programmes.

MATCHING GRANT FROM GOVERNMENT

The CDC can also raise funds for its programmes. For every $1 donated to the CDC, the Government will match it with $3. To encourage regular donations, the Government gives a higher matching grant of $4 for every $1 raised through GIRO contributions by local residents and businesses. The matching grant for the CDCs is capped at $24 million annually.

OPERATING GRANT

The Government funds the operations of the CDC offices.

Reserve Policy

Our Reserves Position:

	Current Year (S$)	Previous Year (S$)	% Increase / (Decrease)
Unrestricted Funds (Reserves)	**51,012,385**	**51,576,827**	**-1.09%**

Restricted / Designated Funds:

- Building Fund	NA	NA	NA
- Education Fund	NA	NA	NA
- Others	NA	NA	NA
Endowment Funds	NA	NA	NA
Total Funds	**51,012,385**	**51,576,827**	
Annual Operating Expenditure	**42,472,742**	**38,917,005**	
Ratio of Reserves to Annual Operating Expenditure	**1.20**	**1.33**	

The reserves that CDCs have set aside provide financial stability and the means for the development of CDCs' programmes and services. The Councils carry out quarterly reviews on the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that these are adequate to fulfill their continuing obligations.

AB**C** of Community Bonding

The CDCs promote community bonding and social cohesion through active partnership with grassroots organisations (GROs) and community partners, and provide various community, social and job assistance services for residents. The key thrusts of the CDCs' roles are encapsulated in the "ABC" of Community Bonding, that is Assisting the Needy, Bonding the People and Connecting the Community.

Assisting the Needy

The CDCs continue to deliver its resources both in social and employment areas in a prompt and efficient manner.

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

In FY10, the CDCs processed more than 54,200 applications for social assistance under the National ComCare schemes. Compared to 2009, there was an 11.7% decrease in the number of applications received with 96.0% of the applications processed within six weeks. The total social assistance disbursement in FY10 was $75.3million.

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

Job Fairs organised by CDCs

Similarly for employment assistance, the CDCs saw a 26.0% decrease in the number of job seekers registered, down from 32,700 in FY09 to about 24,100 in FY10. Over 69.0% of job seekers were 40 years old and above, 78.0% had secondary or below education, while 14.0% job seekers were Professionals, Managers, Executives and Technicians (PMETs). Corresponding with the decrease in the number of job seekers, the CDCs successfully placed more than 12,900 job seekers in jobs, down from 21,600 in FY09 with the average job placement rate at 60.0%. The job seekers were also referred for training to acquire new or upgrade their skills.

LOCAL INITIATIVE

Besides the national social assistance (ComCare) and employment assistance schemes funded by the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS) and Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) respectively, the CDCs also complemented with their local programmes and schemes.

*Participants of
North East's New Moon Big Walk*

Such initiatives to cater to the residents' need include Central Singapore Nurture Programme where it aims to give the children from low-income families a good head start in life by improving their English literacy and exposing them to learning opportunities that their families might not have the means to provide them with.

With the funding support from Credit Suisse from 2008, the Nurture Programme has grown from 11 regular volunteer groups to 17 groups benefiting 600 children in FY10.

North East CDC, in partnership with Goh Joo Hin Pte Ltd, organised the 'New Moon Big Walk 2010' on 1 August 2010. The event, attended by about 5,000 participants, was successful in raising more than 500,000 bowls of rice worth $85,000 for the needy families in North East district. North East CDC together with Goh Joo Hin Pte Ltd also set up a $200,000 Seniors Healthcare Fund aimed at helping needy seniors in the district.

Cantribute @ North West is an annual project targeted to raise in-kind donation for the North West Food Ration Programme. During the launch in November 2010, 300 food ration packs worth $10,000, donated by Sheng Shiong Supermarket, were raised for the needy. North West CDC's youth volunteers spearheaded the collection of canned food from the schools, soon after the launch. Lee Foundation donated $50,000 to match each canned food. A total of 50,000 canned food were raised by about 15,000 primary and secondary school students during the month-long campaign.

To equip low-income families with life skills to help them achieve self-reliance, South East CDC organised a series of MoneyWise workshops. The programme was extended to children from low-income families to inculcate good saving habits. South East CDC helped 50 students open a savings account with $100 as initial deposit. For those who did not make any withdrawal at the end of the programme, their account will be topped up by a further $100. The total savings could be withdrawn to pay for the next year's schooling needs. About 70% of the students managed to save the $100 without making any withdrawals during the period.

Assisting the Needy

Food Connect @ South West is a new charity platform by South West CDC and the Singapore Food Manufacturers' Association to help needy families and vulnerable elderly by providing them with monthly supplies of groceries. The programme also provides a platform for corporations and individuals to pledge monthly GIRO donations to the CDC's charity programmes. More than 300 beneficiaries, identified by GROs in South West District, receive free monthly groceries, worth about $50 for a one-year period.

North West's YLC members packing canned food

48 members of Singapore Food Manufacturer's Association pledging their support

Bonding the People

The CDCs organise events and programmes to reach out to the residents and bring out the vibrant community buzzing with action and excitement. In FY10, the 1,300 programmes and activities organised attracted a participation of about 1.1 million. As compared to FY09, participation rate increased by 29.0% from about 850,000 in FY09. These events are important as they create a platform for residents to make friends, meet regularly and expand their social network.

ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY CDCs

Central Singapore CDC's CLAP (Community Life Arts Programme) for instance, is the CDCs' flagship programme to make arts accessible to the heartlanders as a means to bond people together. Started in 2001, it had since developed into a regular arts-based programme to engage the residents, as well as to support and celebrate community initiatives, such as 2010's Singapore Youth Olympic Games and International Day for Disabled Persons. Similarly, a signature programme by North West CDC, Brisk Walking, is an integral part of the district's aim in promoting a healthy lifestyle while increasing bonding among members. To date, North West CDC has 134 brisk walking clubs with more than 50,000 members. This initiative was replicated across the CDCs and recognised as a National programme.

CLAP! Goes to the Heartlands

The North East Run saw over 5,000 participants from both private and public estates ranging from 4 to 75 years old running across all three GRCs within the district. A segment to raise awareness of heart diseases in women was also incorporated.

For South East, their 3M Skipping Challenge @ South East was aimed in involving the entire community to bond and skip for a good cause through sports and in so doing, simultaneously assisting the needy in the district. In total, 6.3

Participants of South East Skipping Challenge

million skips were gathered from almost 50 roadshows conducted, resulting in an overall donation of 580 sets of 3M Health and Safety packs to more than 500 needy elderly in the district.

IntegrateSingapore Quiz @ South West is the first game show-style Quiz on Singapore and Singaporeans by South West CDC and supported by PA Integration Division and National Integration Council. Its aim was to facilitate shared experiences, deepen community belonging and identity among residents. 22 teams took part in the Quiz and 400 community stakeholders and residents were engaged over a 3-month period to contribute 1,600 questions for the Quiz. The Quiz subsequently went online on ClicktoAid.SG to reach out to the wider community and rallied netizens to answer the questions and help raise $30,000 for needy residents in the district.

In addition, the CDCs also supported national-level programmes such as the Singapore Youth Olympic Games 2010, the District Arts Festival, the Active Ageing Roadshows and the National Orange Ribbon Celebrations.

Finale of the National Orange Ribbon Celebrations

Connecting
the Community

The final strategic thrust thrives where the CDCs strive to work with their partners and volunteers to widen their outreach, thereby enabling residents to become aware and involve themselves in programmes organised by the CDCs and the services that the CDCs have to offer. In FY10, the CDCs organised more than 900 joint projects, in collaboration with its community and corporate partners.

ENGAGING PARTNERS

The CDCs continue to engage its corporate and community partners for various objectives such as fund-raising drives or in kind sponsorship to help low-income families. These included Central Singapore's Lend a Helping Hand, North East's New Moon Big Walk, North West's Qigong Shi Ba Shi collaboration, South East's Thinking Day and South West's Adopt-A-Rental Block. In total, more than $11 million was contributed to the CDCs from individuals and its project partners in FY10.

Mass Qigong Display

ENCOURAGING VOLUNTEERISM

The CDCs also encourage volunteerism among its partners by creating platforms for them to participate. In addition, CDCs actively engaged residents to serve the community either as District Councillors or volunteers in CDC programmes. In FY10, the CDCs roped in about 10,000 active volunteers that were involved in the planning, organising and running of CDC activities. During the same period, there were more than 300 volunteer-initiated community projects.

Examples of such programmes include Bright Homes in Central Singapore CDC, where volunteers organise outings, food distribution and block activities for elderly to interact with one another. In North East CDC, the PC Family programme saw 153 active group of volunteers stepping forward to share their time and knowledge by providing training to pre-schoolers from less-privileged families, to kick-start their IT learning cycle. These volunteers not only train the children but also the parents who attended the training together with their children. The Seniors Learning Camp is South East CDC's means to promote active ageing and interest the seniors to be involved in community projects. Knowledge and skills are imparted to the seniors to encourage them to lead a more meaningful, self-reliant and active lifestyle which encourage them, in turn, to volunteer and reach out to the less able in the community through community projects.

Over at North West CDC under the SMRT Care & Repair programme, more than 850 SMRT and ITE College Central staff and student volunteers conducted surveys with the needy residents to find out their household repair needs. Thereafter, these volunteers would go down to the households to do the necessary repairs and installations. The South West-Chevron Energy Quest is a programme for schools in South West district to roll out energy efficiency activities while rallying the community to do their part for the environment and help the less fortunate in the community. The drive, participated by student volunteers from 47 schools helped raised part of the \$135,000 Enrichment Programme Bursary for 1,500 needy students.

*Participants of Seniors Learning
Camp hard at work*

CONCLUSION

Overall, the CDCs have made good progress in all three strategic thrusts of **A**ssisting the Needy, **B**onding the People and **C**onnecting the Community while simultaneously supporting PA's strategic thrusts. The CDCs will continue its efforts towards building social capital and will set out to achieve the Community 2015 Vision of Building a Great Home and a Caring Community.