

FACTSHEET

LOCAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

1. Overview

The Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) works closely with government agencies, community partners, grassroots organisations, as well as health and social care partners to form a Local Community Support Network (LCSN) to better support and engage each constituency in managing residents who may have or at risk of mental health issues.

The support network discusses the cases encountered in the neighbourhood, identifies care needs, and refers residents to appropriate services.

2. Aims

- Raise mental health awareness of grassroots leaders and community partners and empower them to recognise residents at risk and better support them in the community.
- Work with multiple agencies to link residents who have more complex needs with appropriate resources and services so that they can access help earlier.
- Enhance the integration of mental health care and social services by collaborating with partners to provide holistic care to residents. The partners include Community Development Councils, Town Councils, Social Service Offices, Senior Activity Centres, Family Service Centres, Public Hospitals, Housing Development Board, Singapore Police Force and National Environment Agency etc.

3. Services

- These community partners are equipped with mental health awareness knowledge and skills such as communications skills and understanding of self-care. Customised workshops are conducted to meet the community partners' specific needs for understanding of mental health issues.
- Multi-agency meetings are held to discuss identified resident's needs and to co-create solutions to provide holistic care.
- The network partners are also supported with resources to facilitate their support to the residents. For example, AIC works closely with the network partners to develop and implement a structured process of identifying and categorising care support needs. This will help to expedite referral to appropriate service providers.

- The community partners are supported by IMH's Mental Health Helpline and AIC's Community Care Coordinators who will provide quick triaging and support. For clients with more severe or complex needs, and who may require home assessment and hospitalisation, AIC will work with IMH to expedite admission so that they can seek early treatment.

4. Updates on Development

Presently, AIC has outreached to 89 constituencies to provide support for residents who may have or are at risk of mental health conditions.

To date, more than 800 grassroots leaders and community partners have undergone educational and training workshops. Over 900 residents have benefitted from the support provided.

Recently, together with MOH, AIC has launched the Dementia-Friendly Community initiative to support the ageing population. LCSN will support and complement this initiative to support residents with dementia and their caregivers in ageing at home and in the community.