**Annex B: Support for Persons with Disabilities and their Caregivers**

This factsheet provides an overview of the support available to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and their caregivers in Singapore. Our efforts span financial assistance, care services, peer support, resources, and long-term planning.

1. **Financial Support and Subsidies**

We strive to keep the costs of disability support services affordable for PwDs and their families across various domains:

Education Support

* **Early Intervention (EI):** Monthly fees for Singapore Citizen children range from $5 to $430, depending on the programme. Subsidies are reviewed regularly to remain affordable.
* **Schooling Years:**
	+ Maximum monthly fees across all special education (SPED) schools reduced from $150 to $90 by mid-2025.
	+ Financial assistance through the MOE Special Education Financial Assistance Scheme fully covers school fees, textbooks, attire, subsidises school meals, and public transport costs.
	+ Reduced out-of-pocket expenses for Special Student Care Centres (SSCC), benefiting middle-income families with up to 40% reduction.

Employment Support

* **Employment Support Programmes:** PwDs can access employment services (e.g., Job Placement and Job Support, Place-and-Train) at low or no cost. Approved training courses offer subsidies of up to 90%.
* **Income Support:** Lower-wage PwDs benefit from schemes like the Workfare Income Supplement and Workfare Skills Support. Tax reliefs are available for PwDs and their family members.

Care and Living Expenses

* **ComCare Assistance:**
	+ **Short-to-Medium Term:** Monthly cash grants, rental, utilities, medical assistance, and employment help.
	+ **Long-Term:** Comprehensive support for PwDs permanently unable to work, including free or highly subsidised social services and medical treatment.
* **Home Caregiving Grant (HCG):** Monthly cash payouts of up to $400 for individuals requiring some assistance with at least three activities of daily living (ADL) to defray caregiving costs.
* **Migrant Domestic Worker (MDW) Levy Concession for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs):** Families employing an MDW to care for a PwD can benefit from a reduced monthly levy of $60. Eligibility includes certification of the PwD's need for assistance with at least one Activity of Daily Living (ADL). This concession allows caregivers to access affordable domestic support while ensuring that PwDs receive adequate care at home.

Care Services

* For PwDs with higher support needs enrolled Day Activity Centres, families receive means-tested subsidies.
* Since October 2021, a fee cap has been implemented for clients from households with a gross per capita household income of $2,800 a month or less. After subsidies, fees range from $20 to $710 per month, with lower income families paying less.

Assistive Technology and Transport

* **Assistive Technology:** Means-tested subsidies of up to 90% for equipment costs, capped at $40,000 per lifetime.
* **Transport:** PwDs can access subsidised transport through the public transport concession cards. PwDs who require dedicated transport to attend early intervention services, SPED schools, special student care centres, sheltered workshops, and day activity centres may be eligible for Enabling Transport Subsidy of up to 80% of transport fees.
1. **Enhancing Peer Support Networks**
* **Project 3i:** A caregiver-led initiative by CaringSG to build community support:
* Over 130 grassroots volunteers and caregivers trained as CAREkakis and CAREbuddies, reaching nearly 3,910 caregivers.
* Expansion to five new constituencies by 2025, with 180 more volunteers trained.
* **Caregiver Empowerment Fund (CEF):**
* Up to $5,000 funding for initiatives that strengthen social networks, provide resources, and enhance caregiving skills.
1. **Providing Access to Information and Resources**
* **Caregiver Learning Roadmap (SG Enable):** Launched in November 2023 to guide caregivers at different caregiving stages.
* **Post-18 Resource Kit and Interactive Guide:** Offers insights into post-education care, employment, and community programmes for SPED graduates.
* **Caregivers Training Grant:** Provides access to training for better support of PwDs and caregivers themselves.
1. **Future Care Planning**
* **Special Needs Trust Company (SNTC):** Provides affordable trust services and financial planning for dependents with special needs.
* **Assisted Deputyship Application Programme (ADAP):** Supports caregivers in applying for deputyship for dependents with no mental capacity.
1. **Respite Care and Other Services**
* **Take-A-Break (TAB):** Subsidised respite care to provide temporary relief for caregivers.
* **Enabling Services Hub (ESH):** Regional hubs offering information, referral services, and recreational activities for PwDs and caregivers.
1. **Recent Announcements / Upcoming Plans**

Supporting Independent Living for PwDs

The Enabling Masterplan 2030 Taskforce on Community Living recommends the following initiatives to support PwDs in achieving greater independence and provide caregivers with respite:

* **Continuous Development Pathways**: Enhance programmes such as Home-Based Behavioural Intervention Services (HBIS), Day Activity Centres (DACs), and Sheltered Workshops (SWs) to help PwDs with higher support needs acquire and maintain independent living and vocational skills.
* **Enabled Living Programme (ELP):** Pilot a programme to enable PwDs with low to moderate support needs to live independently in the community for as long as possible.
* **Person- and Family-Centred Planning:** Develop a framework to provide tailored, life-stage support for PwDs and their caregivers.

Promoting Inclusive Employment Practices

The Enabling Masterplan 2030 Taskforce in Inclusive Employment recommends the following initiatives such as:

* Encouraging inclusive hiring champions.
* Enhancing employer support for inclusive practices.
* Developing professional career pathways for job coaches.
* Supporting PwDs in short-term assignments (“gig jobs”).

Caregivers of PwDs can contact SG Enable at caregivers@sgenable.sg for assistance and resources. The government is committed to ongoing collaboration with partners to adapt or develop services to better meet caregivers’ needs.

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