



# SSVP NEWS

ISSUE  
No. 15,  
JUN 2026

<https://ssvpsingapore.org>

MDDI (P) 037/09/2025

We helped

**> 4,000**

Friends in Need (FINs) from **2,000** households.



**\$6.2 million**

expenditure on FIN-related aid, programmes and activities including:

Cash	<b>\$3.7m</b>
Rations	<b>\$400k</b>
Milk & Diapers Programme	<b>\$765k</b>
Supplementary Needs Action Programme	<b>\$135k</b>
Education-related aid	<b>\$200k</b>



## SSVP serves over 4,000 Friends in Need

### Snapshot: Impact of 29 Conferences and National Programmes across Singapore\*

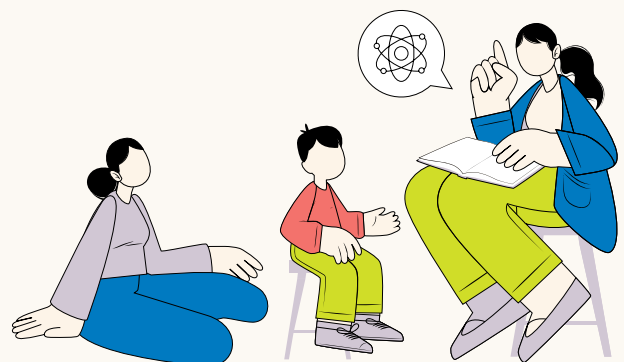
**> 1,000** Vincentians and

**500** volunteers helped our FINs as well as managed our programmes and activities.



“THE POOR ARE AT THE HEART OF THE CHURCH. FAITH CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM LOVE FOR THE POOR.”

POPE LEO XIV, DILEXI TE



Continued from Page 1

In response to the increasing needs of our Friends in Need (FINs), SSVP expenditure on most FIN-related aid, programmes, and activities has been maintained or increased in 2025.

Ms Cher shared during the Society's Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 5 June that SSVP Ltd is now a fully owned subsidiary of the Society.

As One SSVP, we will move forward united in purpose: together, we grow in holiness through loving and serving those in need.

Mr Steven Tan, SSVP's first General Manager, was also introduced during the AGM.

Mr Tan will play a critical role in executing SSVP's strategic priorities, strengthening governance, and improving organisational efficiency.

SSVP is unique in that support for more than 4,000 FINs is carried out almost entirely by some 1,500 Vincentians and volunteers.

Ms Cher expressed her gratitude to His Eminence William Cardinal Goh, parish priests, the Catholic community, our donors, and collaborators.

Without their continued support, SSVP would not be able to carry on its mission.



“THE LANDSCAPE OF NEED HAS GROWN COMPLEX AND THE FUTURE CHALLENGING AND UNCERTAIN.

WE SEEK MEANINGFUL IMPACT IN EVERY ENCOUNTER WITH OUR FINs.

WE ARE CALLED TO BE THE SALT OF THE EARTH.”

**MS LUCY CHER,**  
PRESIDENT OF  
SSVP NATIONAL COUNCIL AND  
CHAIRPERSON OF SSVP LTD

# A Vincentian reflection

BY FR JEROME LEON, SJ,  
SSVP NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

## Serviens in Spe

An old adage that I think many are familiar with goes something like this: “God helps those who help themselves.” I have heard this statement many times over the years, especially when I was much younger and needed a pep talk.

Parents, teachers, mentors and even friends would counsel me using these words when I was low on energy, found wanting in spirit, and lacking motivation.

For many, it is clear that this saying asserts the importance of taking initiative and working hard. It speaks of taking matters into one's own hands. In other words, I think, it promotes the notion of “self-help”.

Indeed, “self-help” is prevalent in the zeitgeist. This is evident in the constant and oversupply of self-improvement books and seminars available for public consumption, and the easy accessibility to coaching, counselling and therapy.

All these contribute to the multi-billion dollar “self-help” industry. While the moderate use of these tools and services can help one grow and live a healthier and more balanced life, over-indulgence in them, in my opinion, can possibly have the opposite effect.

But the saying “God helps those who help themselves” can be understood in a radically different way. It is not a promotion of “self-help” but rather a divine mandate for us to be helpful – God helps those who, themselves, help others! In the “Parable of the Sheep and Goats” or the “Judgement of Nations” discourse (Matthew 25:31-46), the virtuous asked the king, “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?”

And the king replied, “I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.”

Just as we help our FINs by affirming their dignity and bringing God's love to them, we must also be grateful for the fact that through the people whom we serve, we too, encounter God's loving presence. Serving our FINs also helps us grow in faith, hope and charity.

My dear Vincentians, be thankful to our FINs for giving us the opportunity to know and to help them, and be grateful to the Lord for giving all of us the privilege to serve in hope, and share in his mission of love and salvation.



“THE SAYING “GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES” CAN BE UNDERSTOOD IN A DIFFERENT WAY. IT IS A DIVINE MANDATE FOR US TO BE HELPFUL – GOD HELPS THOSE WHO HELP OTHERS!”

FR JEROME (SECOND FROM LEFT) AT THE SOCIETY'S RECENT AGM



# Good finds, good buys, good deeds



The new SSVP Shop Katong combines a fresh, contemporary look and a significantly larger retail space with the same warmth and vibe.\*



If you love thrifting and vintage finds, you can chase the thrill of finding unique affordable gems at the two SSVP Shop outlets – Katong and Geylang.

SSVP Shop Katong has been relocated to the exciting new community space The Anchor at the Marine Parade MRT Station.

Opening its doors this July, the new outlet combines a fresh, contemporary look with a significantly larger retail space.

Designed to make shopping more enjoyable, the outlet will feature a carefully curated selection of quality thrifted finds, all set within a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere.

“This move marks an exciting new chapter for the shop.

Beyond creating a brighter and more inviting space for shoppers, every item donated, every purchase made, and every shopper who walks through our doors contributes to helping low-income and vulnerable individuals and families.

“We are grateful for the fantastic support and especially to Fr Adrian Yeo, the youth community and parishioners these past two years,” Jacqueline Kuek, President of SSVP

“I'M SO EXCITED AND CAN'T WAIT FOR THE WORD 'GO!' THE SHOP IS GOING TO LOOK FANTASTIC AND WE'LL HAVE MORE SPACE TO SHOWCASE AND SELL MORE ITEMS!”

ANNE GAN, A PIONEERING VOLUNTEER AT SSVP SHOP KATONG

Conference of the Holy Family and leads the SSVP Shop Katong Committee.

Back in December 2025, SSVP Shop Geylang unveiled a refreshed look after six weeks of renovations.

Think brighter spaces, better displays, and a more seamless browsing experience while keeping

the cosy neighbourhood vibe that regular shoppers know and love.

Both outlets offer vintage gems, stylish fashion finds, and one-of-a-kind treasures for the home. Every treasure is handpicked from quality donated items. Enjoy amazing buys, spark joy, and bring hope to communities in need and the planet.

**SSVP Shop Katong [To open mid-July]**  
Marine Parade MRT Station,  
101A Marine Parade Road, #B1-24,  
Singapore 449972  
[Between Exits 4 and 6, near Exit 5]

Operating hours (tentative):  
Tuesday to Thursday (10am – 4pm)  
Friday to Sunday (10am – 5pm)  
Closed on Mondays and public holidays  
WhatsApp: +65 9347 6330

Get the latest shop updates on our social media channels!



**SSVP Shop Geylang**  
501 Geylang Road, Singapore 389459  
(5-min walk from Aljunied MRT Station)

Operating hours:  
Tuesday to Sunday (10am – 4pm)  
Closed on Mondays and public holidays  
Tel: +65 6974 2480



\*AI-generated impressions for illustration only.

# Lenten and Easter festivities with our Friends in Need



## SSVP Conference of Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM)

On 8 March, the SSVP Conference of IHM, together with the parish's Level 8 catechism students, embarked on a meaningful Lenten outreach to three rental flat blocks.

About 60 students packed ration bags at the parish before visiting nearly 500 flats, where they interacted with residents and some of our FINs who live there.

The encounters left a deep impact on the students. They experienced what it means to bring Christ's love and presence to those who may be poor, lonely, or marginalised. These outreach initiatives also bring us to the doors of those who may need our help.



"I ENJOYED MY TIME SPENT DURING THE SSVP OUTREACH PROGRAMME. WHEN WE BEGAN DELIVERING FOOD, I FELT VERY GLAD TO SEE THAT I HAD MADE PEOPLE HAPPY. A SMALL GESTURE CAN MAKE SO MUCH DIFFERENCE TO SOMEONE'S LIFE. I AM GRATEFUL TO HAVE HAD THE EXPERIENCE."

**BRANDON CHAN, 14-YEAR-OLD PARTICIPANT**

## SSVP Conference of Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL)



Students from Catholic Junior College's Genesis Catholic Community have been organising an Easter party for our FINs from the SSVP Conference of OLOL annually since 2024.

Every year, the students would carefully plan the party ensuring it would be a day well-enjoyed by our FINs. This year on 4 May, the celebration was held at the parish hall for our FINs.

Our FINs always love spending time with the youth and appreciate the activities and entertainment prepared for them.

## SSVP Conference of St Peter (SP)



On 12 April, Vincentians and volunteers from the Conference of SP brought 59 FINs on an outing to the Flower Dome at Gardens by the Bay to enjoy the Floral Fantasy displays.

As many of the FINs are elderly, transport was arranged to ensure even those who were wheelchair-bound could join in the outing.

Over the years, the FINs have formed deep friendships with one another and with the Vincentians, making it a wonderful morning of companionship amidst the beautiful floral displays.

The outing continued with a delicious lunch at Yan Palace Restaurant, with warm interactions and lively conversations amidst smiles and laughter.

It was heartening to see the joy throughout the day, with many FINs expressing how much they have enjoyed the experience.

## SSVP Conference of Holy Trinity (HT)

On 2 May, the SSVP Conference of HT added a special Easter touch to Rations Day with a lively mini carnival at the parish hall, organised by the conference youth under the guidance of two Vincentians.

Over several weeks, the SSVP youth enthusiastically brainstormed ideas, purchased materials and prizes, and created the games from scratch. Their dedication and teamwork made the event meaningful and memorable for the FINs, who enjoyed a morning filled with fun, games, and fellowship.

Each FIN received a game card and redeemed a prize or earned a chance to win in the lucky draw after completing the games. The FINs were so engaged that many hoped the activities could continue even after the carnival ended. The morning concluded with a sumptuous buffet lunch. It was heartwarming to see the joy and happiness shared by all.



## SSVP CONFERENCE OF CHRIST THE KING (CTK)

The SSVP Conference of CTK showcased the talents of 88 Friends in Need (FINs) on 18 April at a special Easter Funfair at Caritas Agape Village.

Themed "Christ has Risen! A Celebration of Joy!", Vincentians and over 20 student leaders from CHIJ Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) transformed the space with six game booths that tested the throwing, shooting, and memory skills of the FINs.

"This is really love in action which ties into what we want them (the students) to experience in school," said Ms Grace Tan, Principal of CHIJ OLGC.

"When the students see all the volunteers, it really makes it come alive." Parish priest Monsignor Stephen Yim blessed the buffet meal after which the FINs enjoyed a Talentime segment where nine FINs wowed the audience with their vocal performances, in outfits to impress for the occasion.

"To have the students come and mix with us and help them learn about social work is very good. This is more meaningful than when we go out," said 54-year-old Peter Ong, who won the Talentime with his rendition of the Hokkien classic "心爱的甬哭".



# Introduction to SSVP Youth

Do you know what we do?

## Faith

Activities to grow our Vincentian Spirituality



## Fellowship

Getting together to bond and connect

## Formation

Building our ties with SSVP Conferences and Friends in Need (FINs) through works of mercy

## How Faith, Formation and Fellowship come together



– at our SSVP Youth flagship events, of course!

Annual Youth Camp themes:

**2024**  
Living Water – Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst again.

**2025**  
Hearts Opened In Love – Answer the Call to Unconditional Love.

**2026**  
Relentless Seeking – The Good Shepherd does not stop at the 99. He goes until he finds the lost one.



## Annual Youth Camp

- Brings youth from different parishes together to grow in faith and fellowship
- The youth are immersed in our SSVP community and explore the mission we are called to serve as Vincentians with visits to our FINs
- To have fun and make friends who share a similar interest and heart for the poor

## Freddie Day

- An experiential day packed with activities for the youth to be introduced to SSVP
- A “low barrier to entry” event to encourage the youth who are unsure about joining a ministry
- An opportunity for SSVP youth to invite a friend to experience the Lord’s love through the work SSVP does

## Mythbusters! Assumption vs Reality



“I am too young”

Age does not limit the ability to love and care. We help poor and marginalised individuals and families from all religions, ethnicities and nationalities, young and old!

“SSVP is a ministry for retired, older people”

No one is too young to love their neighbour! Many of the elderly FINs enjoy meeting young people and having conversations “different from their usual crowd”.

“SSVP just visits elderly”

People of different ages bring different skills and experiences together, bound by a common love for the poor.

Q: What makes the youth so special?  
A: They bring a different energy to the interaction!

## #JoinSSVP - Youth edition

- #1 Build your relationship with the Lord
- #2 Explore the gifts and talents that the Lord has given you (especially if you are trying to figure out what career might be suitable for you)
- #3 Meet people from different walks of life
- #4 Gain a deeper understanding of the social issues and challenges we face in Singapore
- #5 Expand your network and learn from the experiences of others
- #6 Try something new or learn a skill in the process of helping others
- #7 Make new friends!

## SPOT A POTENTIAL SSVP YOUTH!

An SSVP Youth:

- is a good listener and desires to hear about the lives of people around them
- is loving and a natural at caring for others
- chatty and can hold a good conversation
- has a burning passion for social justice and protecting the dignity of the marginalised
- is always interested in the people around them
- makes others feel comfortable around them regardless of age

Know someone who desires to love the Lord through His people? And has a natural empathy for the poor?

Share this with them!

Connect with us at [youthexco@ssvpsingapore.org](mailto:youthexco@ssvpsingapore.org)



# Meet the SSVP Family

Did you know that the Society has 1,000 Vincentians across 29 conferences in five Particular Councils?

Come meet our Vincentians who are the bedrock of the Society, serving some 4,000 low-income and marginalised Friends in Need, meeting them every month, extending friendship, assistance and care!

Interested to join the SSVP Family or know someone who needs help? Connect with the SSVP at your parish, go to [ssvpsingapore.org/contact/](http://ssvpsingapore.org/contact/) for more information.

## Particular Council Serangoon Conferences



Conference of the Transfiguration



Conference of St Anne's



Conference of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Conference of St Francis Xavier



Conference of St Louise de Marillac



Conference of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

## Particular Council West Conferences



Conference of the Blessed Sacrament



Conference of the Holy Cross



Conference of St Ignatius



Conference of St Mary of the Angels



Conference of Our Lady of Fatima

## Particular Council City Conferences



Conference of Our Lady of Lourdes



Conference of the Sacred Heart



Conference of St Bernadette



Conference of St Peter



Conference of St Michael



Conference of St Teresa

## Particular Council East Conferences



Conference of the Holy Family



Conference of Divine Mercy



Conference of Our Lady Queen of Peace



Conference of St Stephen



Conference of the Holy Trinity



Conference of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

## Particular Council North Conferences



Conference of the Risen Christ



Conference of St Anthony



Conference of the Holy Spirit



Conference of Our Lady Star of the Sea



Conference of St Joachim



Conference of Christ the King

# Bringing hope, restoring dignity

The Society's fully owned subsidiary, SSVP Ltd, was established to manage and develop programmes that address gaps in social assistance and support beneficiaries that are under the radar or overlooked. SSVP Ltd is an Institution of a Public Character (IPC)

and helps more than 1,500 Friends in Need find dignity and hope for a better life through key initiatives such as the Milk & Diapers Programme, EduFriends, Supplementary Needs Action Programme, and the Community Services Office.



Linda (left) and Doreen (right) sharing a meal at their favourite coffee shop.

## Supplementary Needs Action Programme (SNAP)

**Provides specialised nutrition, incontinence and hygiene supplies to almost 300 elderly and persons with special needs.**

65-year-old Linda's life took a new turn when she was noticed by parishioners while selling tissue papers outside Novena Church. Through a simple act of kindness she was referred to the SSVP Conference of Our Lady of Lourdes. Linda has lived a life marked by both hardship and resilience.

Years of heavy drinking, smoking, and drug use had taken a significant toll on her physical and emotional well-being. The family required financial assistance, and Linda longed to

encounter Christ. With perseverance and the steady support of many Vincentians who journeyed with her, especially her Godmother Doreen See, Linda was baptised in 2017. However, Linda has had heart and stomach related ailments and her weight plunged to 38kg.

In 2025, she began receiving Ensure milk through SNAP and her health has started improving. She is elated that she can now leave home to attend church. From standing alone outside a church to becoming part of a caring community within it, her story reminds us how acts of compassion can open the door to transformation and hope.

LINDA HAS HAD HEART AND STOMACH RELATED AILMENTS. IN 2025, SHE BEGAN RECEIVING MILK THROUGH SNAP AND HER HEALTH HAS STARTED IMPROVING.

## EduFriends Programme

**Provides online enrichment in English and Maths as well as mentoring support to help more than 40 students from disadvantaged backgrounds reach their fullest potential.**

Today, laughter and playful chatter fill Ryden's home – a stark contrast to life just three years ago when there was much uncertainty and instability. The emotional strain greatly affected Ryden back then, who struggled silently in school.

Although initially finding the EduFriends' sessions intimidating, Ryden has gained confidence through the guidance and engaging support of the tutors. The improvement has been evident; from failing English examinations the previous year, he passed in 2025. Suzan Ling, a Senior Befriender said, "Ryden genuinely wants to improve and is motivated to achieve better results."

Ryden describes his Youth Befriender Ashley Tay – "She's kind-hearted and very good, but she will also correct me when I'm wrong."

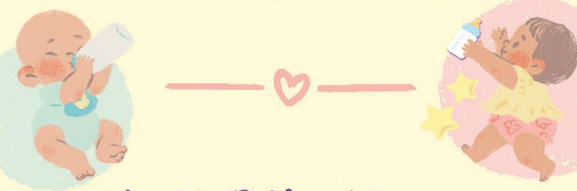
This year, Ryden joined the EduFriends Mathematics enrichment programme and enjoys the interactive learning methods. With support and financial assistance from the SSVP Conference of Christ the King, the family is anticipating brighter possibilities ahead.

**"COMPREHENSION IS DIFFICULT FOR ME, BUT THEY TAUGHT ME TO READ IT PART BY PART..."**



Youth Befriender Ashley Tay, Ryden, and Senior Befriender Suzan Ling.

# LOVE THY LITTLE NEIGHBOUR: OUR MILK & DIAPER HUG



The SSVP Milk & Diapers Programme supports low-income families with babies & toddlers under 3 years old across Singapore.

Your donation ensures 500 babies receive essential items for daily nourishment and hygiene every month.



**\$150 supports  
1 baby for a month.**

Wrap them in warmth,  
donate to our hug!



giving.sg



CREDIT/DEBIT CARD, AMEX  
GRABPAY, QR PAYMENT  
(DBS PAYLah, UOB, OCBC)

give  
asia



PAYNOW,  
CREDIT/DEBIT CARD  
AMEX

PAYNOW

UEN : 201906514DMND



PLEASE PROVIDE  
NRIC/UEN/FIN AND MOBILE  
FOR TAX DEDUCTION

ISSUE CHEQUE TO: **SSVP MILK AND DIAPER PROJECT**  
MAIL TO: 7A LORONG 8 TOA PAYOH #03-07 SINGAPORE 319264  
KINDLY INDICATE NAME, MOBILE & NRIC/UEN (FOR TAX DEDUCTION)  
ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THE CHEQUE

#### BANK TRANSFER

**BANK NAME : UOB BANK**  
**A/C NAME: SSVP MILK AND DIAPER PROJECT**  
**BANK A/C NO: 358-3232-107**  
KINDLY PROVIDE MOBILE & NRIC/UEN (FOR TAX DEDUCTION)



## Milk & Diapers Programme

Provides monthly essential nutrition and basic hygiene support to almost 500 babies and toddlers up to three years old.

In 2024, Lalaine was struggling to cope after her Singaporean husband left home without explanation, leaving her alone to care for their one-year-old daughter, Sofia. Despite working shifts as a retail assistant, she faced mounting financial pressures from everyday expenses, while also supporting Sofia, who was showing signs of developmental delay.

At her lowest point, the Social Service Office (SSO) referred her to the Milk and Diapers (MaD) Programme.

"I was crying at SSO because I was so devastated that I couldn't get financial assistance," shared Lalaine.

Since then, Lalaine has taken on a better-paying job at a Japanese restaurant and has managed to clear her rental arrears. Sofia is in a special intervention programme and is engaging more actively with others.

Though challenges remain, Lalaine continues to press on with resilience and hope, grateful for the support she has received and looks ahead to a more secure future.



"WHEN JANET, A VOLUNTEER FROM SSVP GAVE ME THE GOOD NEWS THAT SSVP WOULD HELP, I WAS SO HAPPY AND FELT SO LUCKY. THE MILK AND DIAPERS COST \$300 EVERY MONTH AND IT'S A RELIEF."

**LALAINE (PICTURED ABOVE WITH SOFIA)**

### SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS IN NEED WITH A DONATION

SSVP Ltd is fully owned by the Society to further its mission by addressing the specific needs of our low-income and marginalised Friends in Need.



**CHEQUE to: SSVP LTD**

Mail to: 7A Lorong 8  
Toa Payoh #03-07  
Singapore 319264



**BANK TRANSFER**

Bank Name: UOB BANK

A/C Name: SSVP LTD  
Bank A/C No: 358-3232-085



**PAYNOW to: SSVP LTD**  
UEN: 201906514D



#### Publisher:

Society of St Vincent de Paul  
(National Council of Singapore)  
7A Lorong 8 Toa Payoh,  
#03-07, Singapore 319264

#### Enquiries:

6801 7480  
enquiry@ssvpsingapore.org

#### Printed by:

E-Press Printing Services

#### Follow us on:



@SSVPSingapore  
@SSVPShop\_SG  
@SSVPShopKatong  
@SSVPYouthSG

[www.ssvpsingapore.org](http://www.ssvpsingapore.org)