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# Joining Hands To Grow the Fostering Community

A Partnership with Community Partners



**HOME**  
**FOR GOOD**  
SINGAPORE

SUE CHANG-KOH

Executive Director Home for Good, Singapore

6 November 2024, Asian Family Conference

# Home for Good, Singapore

A Loving Family for Every Child in  
Need

“

HFG-SG is a network of foster parents, adoptive parents and volunteers passionate about helping vulnerable children and youths. We are a family for foster families.

”



# Mission



## Reach Out

Raise awareness about fostering and adoption by speaking at corporate and community events



## Raise Up

Raise up more foster parents to meet the needs of children and youths in out-of-home care



## Resource

Share information, tips and items of daily use



## Reunify

Support families with children and youths in out-of-home care to reunify and reintegrate



# Our Journey

## 2013

Started as an informal support group with four core families



## 2023

Registered as a charity on 28 February

## 2024

**270** HFG-SG members

**80** Foster Families

**100** Children Fostered



# Creating a Greater Impact With Stakeholders



## **Government** .....

Ministry of Social and Family Development



## **Business/Social Enterprise** .....

Eaglewings Cinematics  
Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay



## **Donors/Philanthropists** .....

UBS Optimus Foundation  
Other Donors

# Creating a Greater Impact With Stakeholders



## Social Service Agencies .....

Boys' Town

Epworth Community Services

Muhammadiyah Association

PPIS

The Salvation Army

Heartbeat Project

Homeless Hearts of Singapore

The Open Home Network

The Safe Place

Other civic groups (e.g., churches, student clubs)



## Volunteers .....

Befrienders

Volunteers

Respite carers

Buddies/mentors



# Activities in 2023 and 2024



Partner fostering agencies to speak at Fostering Information Sessions and Befrienders for Families



Speak at various types of events to advocate for fostering and family-based care for vulnerable children and youths



Collaborate with partners to organise workshops, gatherings, family activities and more



# Activities in 2023 and 2024





# Theory of Change

## RESOURCES

- ❖ Foster parents, respite carers, befrienders and volunteers
- ❖ Donors/ Philanthropists
- ❖ Social Service Agencies
- ❖ Technology
- ❖ Community management tools



## ACTIVITIES

- Fostering info sessions
- Diverse types of outreach events
- Online media presence
- Provide practical info and emotional care
- Sharing of resources
- Organise training programmes and recreational activities
- Buddy/Mentor for new foster parents and foster children and youths
- Befrienders programme



## SHORT TERM

- More reached through diverse outreach events
- More foster parents, respite carers, befrienders, and volunteers join the community
- More donors/sponsors to support family-based care
- More foster parent support groups formed
- More foster families participate in community activities
- More foster families benefit from programmes offered by network of partners
- More buddies/mentors and befrienders step up to partner new foster parents, foster children and youths



## MID TERM

- Increased knowledge of fostering amongst general population
- Increased willingness to foster
- Increased perception of support received by foster parents
- Increased caregiving satisfaction
- Reduced caregiving stress
- Reduced number of foster placement breakdowns
- Increased satisfaction and opportunities for respite carers, befrienders and volunteers to support foster families
- Progression of respite carers, befrienders and volunteers to become foster parents



## LONG TERM

- ✓ More foster parents recruited
- ✓ Higher fostering rate
- ✓ Increased awareness and acceptance of fostering by the public
- ✓ Foster parents feel adequately supported
- ✓ Increased retention rate of foster parents
- ✓ Increased willingness to accept new placements
- ✓ Increased well-being of foster family and foster child



# Building HFG-SG's Model

## Peer Support Groups

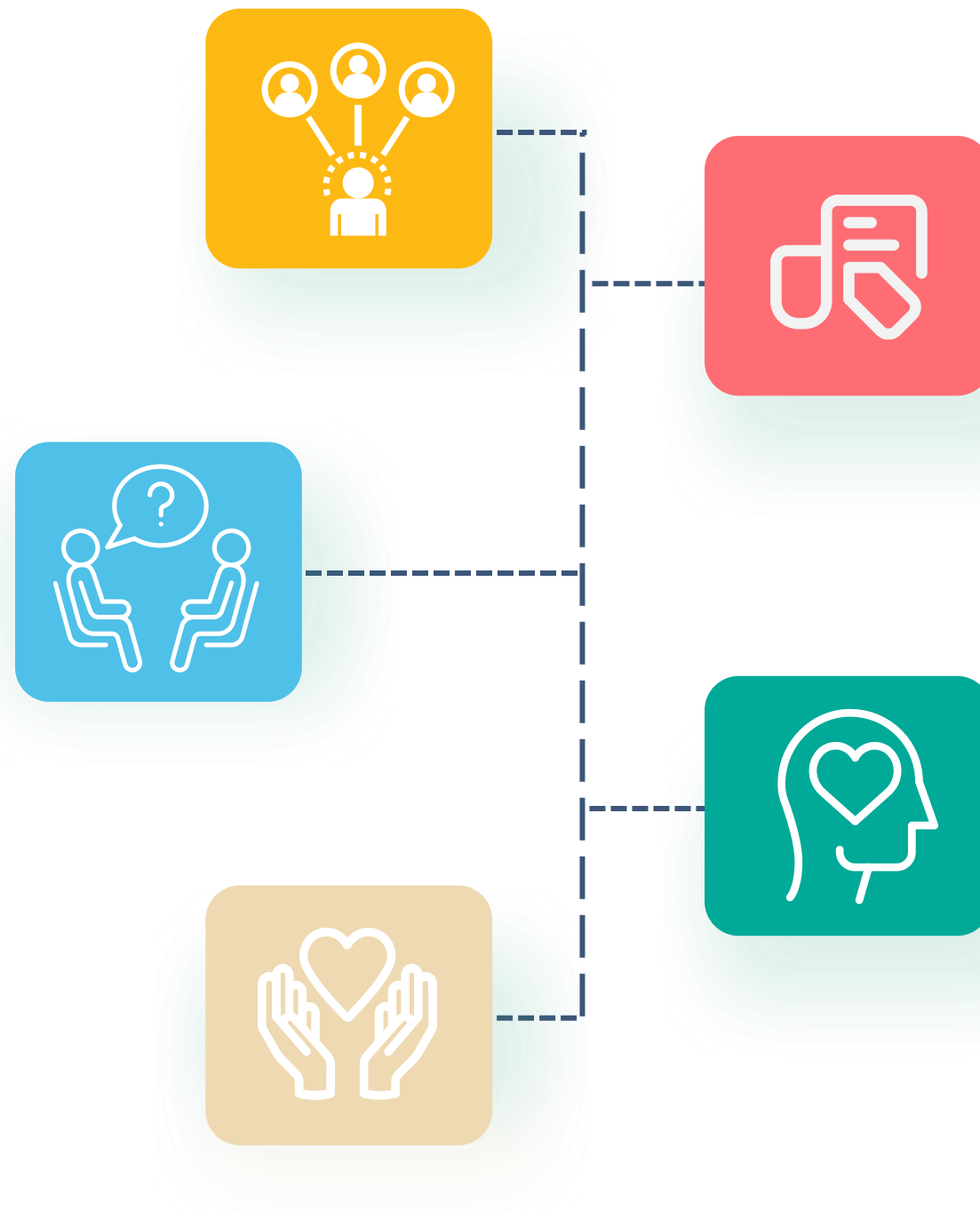
- Group chats via WhatsApp
- Zone sub-groups for F2F meet ups
- Special topic groups (e.g., Special Needs/Neurodiversity, Adoption, Homes for Homeless, Befrienders etc.)

## Information Sessions

- Foster parents share to dispel myths, challenge assumptions, and raise awareness of the value of family-based care for vulnerable children and youths.

## Find Foster Families for Children

- Assist child protection specialist agencies, Family Service Centres, or Child Protective Service to find foster parents for temporary care



## Tips and Resources

- Share information and tips (e.g. contractor to install window grills)
- Share items of daily and essential use (e.g., crib, stroller, books, toys, clothes, milk powder, bed etc.)
- Provide camaraderie and care
- Share volunteering opportunities
- Befrienders programme
- Support for informal fostering and families

## Build Awareness

- Speak at events to advocate for foster care and build mindshare
- Share activities and reflections on Facebook and LinkedIn
- Launched new website with content contributed by foster parents
- Refreshed brand logo with a community identity



# Going Forward

It takes a village to raise a child

It takes a network of villages to support foster parents, foster children and youths

Grow the eco-system of care with partners to not only support reintegration of foster children and their own families, but also support foster parents to build resilience and reduce placement breakdowns

01.

Work with stakeholders to strengthen the capabilities and resilience of foster parents, foster children and youths. Increase well-being with community resources and activities

02.

Commence a 22-month study to evaluate the impact of a peer support network for foster parents

03.

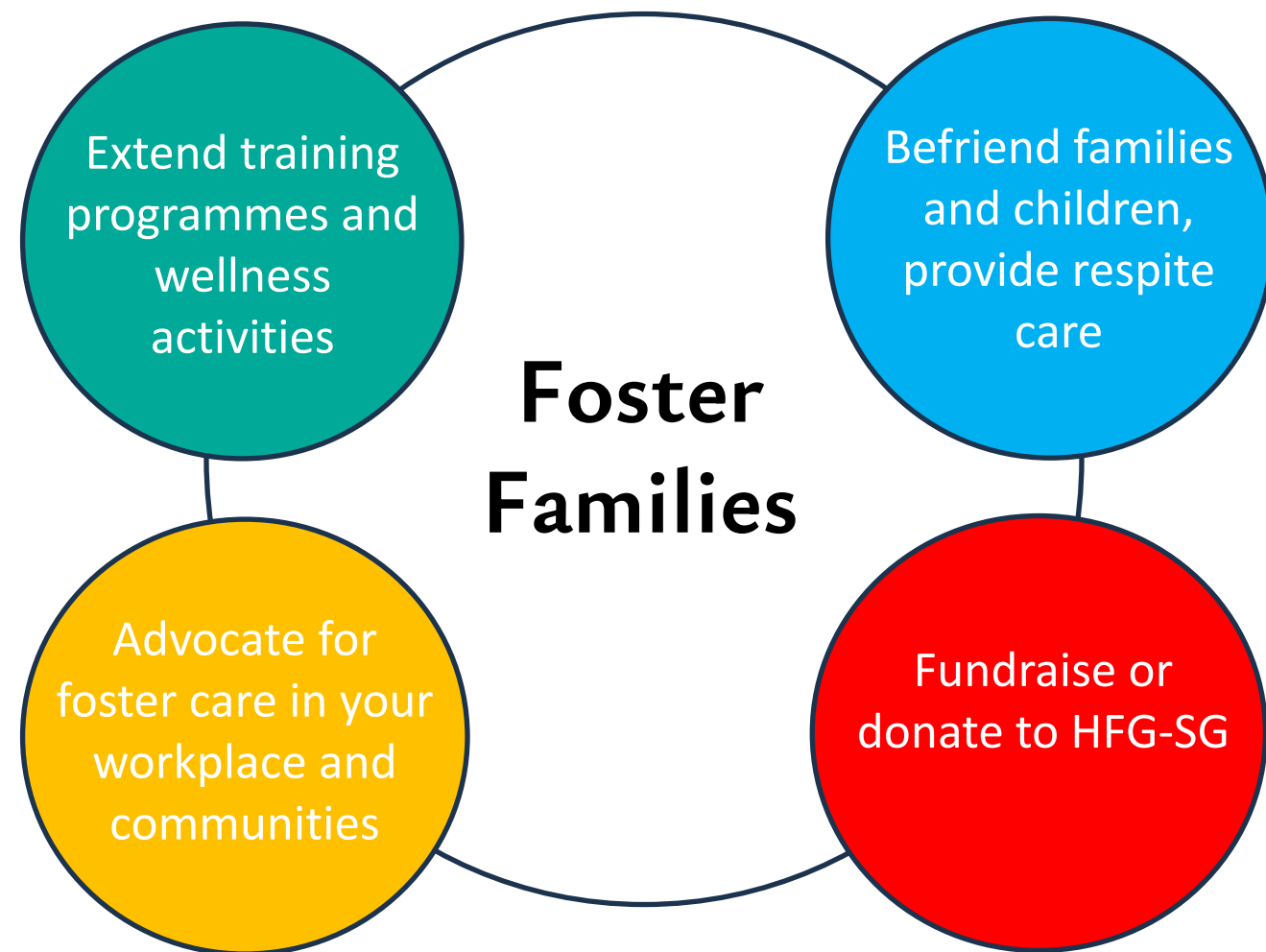
Engage stakeholders such as business/social enterprise, foundations and donors to build the charity's operating sustainability to support delivery of programmes



# How You Can Partner With Us



# Collaboration Suggestions



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# Thank You!



Find out more about Home for Good, Singapore

Contact: Sue Chang-Koh, Executive Director

Email: [sue.chang-koh@hfg.org.sg](mailto:sue.chang-koh@hfg.org.sg)

Website: [www.hfg.org.sg](http://www.hfg.org.sg)