Singapore’s Approach
To Address Challenges on Drug Treatment and Health Services
Singapore’s Approach Towards Drug Rehabilitation

- Comprehensive 3 pronged Harm Prevention Approach

- Preventive Drug Education
- Deterrent Laws and Robust Enforcement
- Evidence-informed Drug Rehabilitation and Aftercare
Singapore’s Evidence-based Rehabilitation

Drug treatment is more than just treating the symptoms

Drug treatment is also about finding and addressing the root cause/s of drug-related abuse, addiction and deaths

Implementation science is a cornerstone of our approach
Singapore’s Evidence-based Rehabilitation

The principles of Implementation Science, which is the scientific study of methods to promote the integration of research findings and evidence-based interventions into policy and practice, are a cornerstone of our approach.
A Differentiated Approach Towards Drug Rehabilitation

- Differentiate programme based on person’s drug severity and risk of drug and criminal offending
- Address person’s needs that make him or her vulnerable to drug consumption
- Consider factors that affect response

Factors to consider:
- Presence of Drug Permissive and Antisocial Cognitions
- Issues of School or Work
- Engagement in Prosocial Recreational Activities
- Peer Relationships
- Stress Coping and Problem Solving Abilities
- Motivation to change
- Gender and Age
- Literacy
A Differentiated Approach Towards Drug Rehabilitation

Young Drug Abusers

- Implemented the Youth Enhanced Supervision Scheme (YES Scheme)

Counselling & Casework

Support from Families
A Differentiated Approach Towards Drug Rehabilitation

**Women Drug Abusers**

- Gender-specific rehabilitation approach focused on emotional well-being, community and family support

**Training of staff on Gender-specific skills**

- Gender-specific Counselling & Casework
- Self: Emotional Well-being
- Community & Family Support
Community Involvement and Re-integration: Yellow Ribbon Project

- To create community **AWARENESS** of importance of Giving Second Chances to ex-offenders
- To generate **ACCEPTANCE** of ex-offenders and their families in the community
- To inspire community **ACTION** to support the rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-offenders
Yellow Ribbon Project Initiatives

- Yellow Ribbon Project Initiatives
- Yellow Ribbon Prison Run
- I Believe in Your Second Chances
- On the Road to Acceptance 10 Yrs and Running
- Yellow Ribbon Community Art & Poetry Exhibition
- Yellow Ribbon Song-Writing Competition

Help Unlock the Second Prison
Community Involvement and Re-integration

- Yellow Ribbon Singapore (YRSG) entity established under Ministry of Home Affairs to drive reintegration of ex-offenders into society

- Drug Rehabilitation Centres (DRCs) and YRSG partner to enhance drug abusers’ employability through job training and placement
Community Partnership
Singapore’s Approach Towards Drug Rehabilitation

Conclusion

- Singapore views the drug problem as a multi-dimensional one, to be dealt with on all fronts.

- Comprehensive harm prevention approach seeks to achieve a drug-free society by proactively addressing the drug problem through targeted prevention, robust enforcement, and evidence-based rehabilitation efforts.

- Heavy investment of resources, people, and expertise by Government, in partnership with the community.
Singapore’s Approach Towards Drug Rehabilitation

Conclusion

▪ Differentiated approach to meet the needs of different groups of drug abusers

▪ Promote active community involvement for re-integration

▪ Singapore would be happy to share more on our rehabilitation strategies