

NCSS Pumps Additional \$4.4 million Into The Sector

Subsidies for Children Under the Early Intervention Programme for Infants and Children (EIPIC)

Working closely with the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS), Community Chest will be providing about 36% increase in EIPIC services funding from FY2009. To help families defray the cost of care, MCYS will provide a \$300 monthly EIPIC subsidy for every citizen child in the programme.

The increase funding by MCYS and Community Chest, the fund-raising arm of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS), will ensure that EIPIC services are affordable and that no child will be deprived of early intervention services due to financial reasons. MCYS and NCSS will work with the Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs) that are providing these services to review their fee structure.

[More information on the initiatives is available online.](#)



Higher Salaries to Attract and Retain Social Workers

In line with MCYS, the salaries of social workers employed by VWOs in funded programmes will be increased by 14% to 16%, from 1 April 2010. This revision will result in an additional \$3.9 million of Government funding and an additional \$2.6 million from Community Chest to the social service sector.

The revision is to recognise the crucial roles that social workers play in the community. With this revision, the salaries of social workers in the VWOs will be competitive with their counterparts who are working in other organisations.