

snapshot

# Singapore

## Red Cross Society

May 2017

### Key Information

#### Date Established

30 September 1949

Incorporated by an Act of Parliament: 06 April 1973

#### Funding

The Singapore Red Cross raises funds independently and does not rely on government support.

#### IFRC Country Delegation

No

#### Key Persons

Chairman: Mr TEE Tua Ba

Secretary General & CEO: Mr Benjamin WILLIAM

#### Legal Status

Incorporated under the Singapore Red Cross Society Incorporation Act, (Chapter 304) on 6 April 1973. First established as the Singapore Branch of the British Red Cross on 30 September 1949.

#### Major Partners

Lao Red Cross, Malaysian Red Crescent Society, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Philippine National Red Cross, Viet Nam Red Cross, Red Cross Society of China, Thai Red Cross Society, Timor–Leste Red Cross Society

#### Volunteers

Total 'Ordinary Members': 1,188

Total 'Youth Members': 10,834

In addition, Singapore Red Cross is supported by: 2,853 volunteers who assist with events

805 'General Volunteers', above 35 years old (non-members)

\*As of 31 December 2016



### Background

The work of the Red Cross in Singapore began in 1949 as a branch of the British Red Cross.

Today, the Singapore Red Cross dedicates itself to protecting human life and dignity, relieving human suffering and responding to emergencies. The blood donor mobilisation programme, home for the disabled, transport aid, food aid, elder aid, community first aid and training derive from its mission to serve the vulnerable. Among the ongoing priorities is to help the vulnerable community members who have fallen through the cracks of social service - the elderly, the disabled, the single-parent families, and working poor.

Internationally, the Singapore Red Cross mobilises and translates contributions from Singaporeans to relief and recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, with the aim of helping the communities devastated by disasters.

### Programme Overview

**Blood Donor Recruitment Programme:** Singapore Red Cross is the National Blood Donor Recruiter in the National Blood Programme. It plays an integral role in recruiting, retaining and recognising blood donors as well as community bloodmobile organisers to ensure a safe and constant supply of blood to meet national blood transfusion needs at all times.

**Red Cross Home for the Disabled:** Provides long-term residential, respite and day care services for adults and children with multiple disabilities.



**TransportAid:** Helps the elderly or the disabled from low-income homes get to and from their medical treat-ments, rehabilitation and day care centres.

**FoodAid:** Provides nutritious food to disadvantaged members of the community.

**ElderAid:** Mobilises community volunteers in caring and building resilience of the vulnerable, in an increasingly ageing population, for a community ageing-in-place.

**Community FirstAid:** Provides first aid coverage at national and community events as well as a 'First Aider on Wheels' service at East Coast Park every weekend and public holiday.

**Volunteer and Youth Development:** Prepares all volunteers including Red Cross Youth volunteers to be human-itarian leaders of tomorrow through structured training and community programmes.

**Singapore Red Cross Academy:** Conducts courses in first aid, humanitarian law and humanitarian aid to prepare the community for emergencies.

**Red Cross Youth:** Provides opportunities for young people aged 9-25 years to participate in Red Cross activities and contribute to improve the lives of the less fortunate at home and abroad. Red Cross Youth - Chapters is an enhanced co-curricular activity in post-secondary/tertiary institutions, targeting those aged 17 to 24 years old. Through the RCY - Chapters, the Singapore Red Cross aims to build a community of young leaders who are achievers, socially responsible and who embrace huma-nitarian values.

**Civil Emergency Response:** Enhances community preparedness, builds resilience and responds to emergen-cies in support of the Singapore Government. While Singapore is not exposed to

the natural disasters that neighbouring countries are, the small island city-state faces particular challenges related to a highly urbanised and aging population.

**International Services:** Provides assistance to those affected by disasters and crises through relief and deve-lopment work, and helps survivors find their lost family members with the Restoring Family Links programme. During peacetime, it deploys youth volunteers for Overseas Humanitarian Programme to improve the lives of people in need. It also advocates international humanitarian law

## Recent Disasters

While Singapore is not exposed to the natural disasters that neighbouring countries are, the small island city-state faces particular challenges related to a highly urbanised and aging population.

**Recent disasters include:**

- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) Epidemic 2003

## Disaster Law

Singapore Red Cross has been involved in a number of regional disaster law events, including seminars on the role of customs in natural disaster relief, and discussions about legal preparedness for pandemic and epidemic response. While there are no specific disaster law activi-ties currently underway, they continue to engage in discussions as part of peer-to-peer initiatives (e.g. the Regional Community Safety and Resilience Forum) and other regional dialogues.



### For further information about the Singapore Red Cross

#### Headquarters Address & Contact Details

Red Cross House, 15 Penang Lane, Singapore 238486  
Tel: (65) 6664 0500,  
Fax: (65) 6337 4360  
Email: [enquiry@redcross.org.sg](mailto:enquiry@redcross.org.sg)

#### Online Profiles

Website <http://redcross.org.sg>  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/sgredcross>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/SGRedCross>  
Instagram <http://instagram.com/sgredcross/>  
Linked In <http://www.linkedin.com/company/singapore-red-cross>  
YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/user/redcrosssg>

#### Recent Appeals

A list of all appeals the Singapore Red Cross Society has submitted is available on the IFRC website here: <http://www.ifrc.org/en/publications-and-reports/appeals/>

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