



PRESS RELEASE

SIM People Development Fund and Yellow Ribbon Singapore Partner to Enhance Supervisees' Employability

25 supervisees who completed Yellow Ribbon Singapore's pilot programme will receive the SIMPDF Progression Award.

SINGAPORE, 19 DECEMBER 2025 – The SIM People Development Fund (SIMPDF) has signed a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Yellow Ribbon Singapore (YRSG) to commit up to S\$150,000, through the SIMPDF Progression Awards, in support of supervisees on Community-based Programme¹. The partnership commemorates SIMPDF's 5th anniversary and reinforces its commitment to supporting the dependent, disabled, disconnected, and displaced, through strategic collaboration, access to learning pathways, and employment opportunities.

2. Acting Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs and Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs, Assoc Prof Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim witnessed the signing of the MoU by Mr Patrick Tay, Chairman of SIMPDF and Mr Sunny Lee, CEO of YRSG.

Enhancing Employability Through Skills Training

3. Under the MoU, which is valid from 2026 to 2028, SIMPDF will disburse the Progression Award, valued at \$600 per recipient, to supervisees who successfully complete skills training in sectors including but not limited to retail, food services, beauty and wellness, and environmental services and upon their eventual job placement.

4. Chairman of SIMPDF, Mr Patrick Tay, said, "Our collaboration with Yellow Ribbon Singapore reinforces our mission to help Singaporeans realise their full career potential through access to learning pathways, experiences, and employment opportunities. The SIMPDF Progression Award encourages continuous learning and skills development and is a stepping-stone for supervisees to rebuild their lives and careers. By supporting their commitment for growth and resilience, we foster an inclusive community where every individual has an opportunity to reintegrate, build sustainable livelihoods and eventually contribute to society.

¹ Inmates may be emplaced as supervisees for Community-based Programmes (CBP) towards the tail end of their sentence. For more information on CBP, visit www.sps.gov.sg/learn-about-corrections/community-transition/cbp.



5. At the event, 25 supervisees received the SIMPDF Progression Awards after completing the pilot SkillsFuture Career Transition Programme (SCTP) in Environmental Services Specialist, developed and delivered by Temasek Polytechnic (TP). Conducted from May to December 2025, the pilot adopted a hybrid model, where training began within correctional facilities at Changi Prison Complex and continued at TP's campus, while supervisees resided in halfway houses or were under community supervision.

6. This marks YRSG's first use of such a hybrid approach, which enhances training quality by enabling hands-on practice with equipment not available in prison facilities. It also shortens the course completion time in the community from about three months to three weeks. The programme equips supervisees with industry-relevant skills and on-the-job experience, supporting their transition into the environmental services sector. It also creates new opportunities for both technical roles and leadership positions, such as cleaning supervisors and team leads. At a recent job fair organised by TP and the Environmental Management Association of Singapore, 19 supervisees were offered employment.

7. "Dave", one of the recipients of the SIMPDF Progression Awards said, "I enrolled on this course because I am interested in environmental services. Despite having no background, I have gained industry-relevant knowledge that would help in my career. Receiving this award is deeply meaningful, as it recognises my commitment and effort. I am grateful for this opportunity because it supports my career aspirations."

8. CEO of YRSG, Mr Sunny Lee, said, "With this hybrid training model, it, reinforces our commitment to providing meaningful opportunities for upskilling. By incorporating community-based training, supervisees gain the skills and experience needed to re-enter the workforce seamlessly. This approach also strengthens their resilience to thrive beyond a structured environment. I am very heartened to see this inaugural batch receiving the award and wish them success in their journey ahead."

Expanding Training Pathways from 2026

9. From April 2026, YRSG will expand its training pathways, enabling more supervisees to pursue opportunities in their preferred sectors. The courses will include SCTP programmes and other offerings delivered by Continuing Education and Training Centres, including Institutes of Higher Learning such as Polytechnics.

10. The SCTP programmes, along with existing publicly available courses, provide both depth and breadth of the required skills for supervisees to enter their desired industries. These programmes have been carefully selected to help learners acquire industry-relevant skills for a smoother transition back into the workforce. Upon successful completion of the programme and placement in the relevant industry, they will receive the SIMPDF Progression Award.

11. This collaboration between YRSG and SIMPDF strengthens efforts to help supervisees develop higher-level skills, positioning them for better career opportunities during their reintegration journey. The initiative will benefit close to 80 supervisees yearly.



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ABOUT SIM PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT FUND (SIMPDF)

The SIM People Development Fund (SIMPDF) was set up to support Singaporeans from all walks of life in upskilling through access to learning pathways and experiences to enhance employability. SIMPDF has been a registered charity with Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status since March 2021.

Their donors are given tax deductions for their donations to SIMPDF. They are governed by a diverse and independent board of directors.

Please visit <https://www.simpdf.sg> for more information.

ABOUT YELLOW RIBBON SINGAPORE (YRSG)

Yellow Ribbon Singapore (YRSG) is a statutory board under the Ministry of Home Affairs. It was established in 1976 as the Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises (SCORE) and rebranded as YRSG on 1 May 2020.

YRSG adopts a multi-faceted approach to prepare ex-offenders for reintegration into society and re-join the national workforce. These include initiatives to help them develop skills and long-term careers through partnerships with industry, as well as initiatives to garner community support and acceptance of ex-offenders.

YRSG works with more than 7,000 like-minded partners. Our collective efforts have contributed to the low and stable recidivism rate in Singapore.

YRSG advocates for second chances for ex-offenders, raising awareness of the challenges they face, and galvanising society to uplift ex-offenders through skills and career development, co-creating opportunities for their successful reintegration and contribution back to society.

For more information, refer to YRSG's website at www.yellowribbon.gov.sg.

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