

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release

Dementia Singapore Opens Its First Voices for Hope Centre in Toa Payoh

The centre aims to be a dedicated space where persons living with dementia and their caregivers can continue to connect, contribute and thrive as a community

SINGAPORE, 3 October 2026 — Dementia Singapore today officially opened its Voices for Hope Centre, its first dedicated centre of its kind, marking a significant milestone in the organisation's decades-long journey to foster a more dementia-inclusive society.

The Centre was officially opened by Mr Chee Hong Tat, Minister for National Development and Adviser to Bishan-Toa Payoh GRC Grassroots Organisations, at an opening ceremony held today.

Located at Toa Payoh Central Community Club, the Voices for Hope Centre provides a dedicated space for persons living with dementia, their caregivers and families to share experiences, pursue their interests, and take an active role in the community.

The Centre builds on Dementia Singapore's Voices for Hope (VFH) empowerment programme that brings persons living with dementia and their caregivers on a journey of self-advocacy. Since its pilot in 2019, the 10-week programme has equipped 184 participants with the confidence and skills to share their stories, needs and views, with the aim of changing societal attitudes, reducing stigma and improving how persons living with dementia and their caregivers are perceived and supported.

Upon completion, participants become VFH alumni and continue their journey through peer support, learning opportunities, wellness activities and advocacy initiatives. The new Centre provides a physical home for this growing community.

From a shared need to a community

Building on the success of the programme, alumni identified a growing need for more non-pharmacological and community-based approaches to dementia support. This need was particularly evident among younger persons living with dementia, including those with young-onset dementia, who were seeking greater opportunities for meaningful engagement, social connection and purposeful participation beyond conventional care settings.

In response, alumni caregivers began piloting relevant activities and organising sessions for fellow caregivers, creating opportunities for peer support, shared experiences and practical ways to navigate the caregiving journey.

What began as small, ground-up initiatives gradually grew into a supportive community. The activities expanded to include regular social gatherings, wellness programmes and advocacy efforts, alongside the formation of a choir that provided members living with dementia another avenue for self-expression, building confidence and fostering connection.

The Voices for Hope Centre was established in response to this need — a place centred on abilities, purpose and hope.

Mr Bryan Tan, Chief Executive Officer, Dementia Singapore, said: “Dementia Singapore's Voices for Hope Centre is more than a place to gather. It is a space shaped by the experiences and aspirations of our friends living with dementia and their caregivers. It provides opportunities for us to continue building friendships, staying engaged in meaningful activities, sharing our voices and contributing to the community around us.

“We hope the Centre will also encourage the wider community to see the person behind the dementia diagnosis — to appreciate the abilities, aspirations, and contributions of anyone living with dementia, and to create more opportunities for them to remain connected in Singapore.”

The Centre does not provide day-care services. Instead, it serves as an educational, activities, social and advocacy hub that promotes meaningful living beyond diagnosis. It also aims to foster collaborations with community partners to reduce stigma surrounding dementia and promote greater inclusion and dignity for persons living with dementia.

A hub for meaningful living beyond diagnosis

The Voices for Hope Centre is a community-based engagement and advocacy space established together with persons living with dementia, for persons living with dementia and their families.

It offers opportunities for:

- Social interaction and peer support
- Music, choir and creative arts activities
- Talks, workshops and educational sessions
- Wellness and movement programmes
- Caregiver support
- Community outreach and public awareness initiatives
- Advocacy projects led by persons living with dementia and caregivers
- Intergenerational and volunteer engagement
- Access to dementia-related resources and services

While the Centre serves the VFH programme and alumni community, it is envisioned as an inclusive community space rather than a closed, members-only facility. Selected programmes and events will be open to members of the public, community partners, students, volunteers and organisations interested in dementia awareness and inclusion. Registration may be required for selected activities due to programme and space requirements.

Building a community of understanding and inclusion

The Centre welcomes persons living with dementia, caregivers and family members, community volunteers and partners, as well as members of the public who are interested in dementia awareness and inclusion.

Through its programmes and activities, Dementia Singapore hopes to create more opportunities for people to connect across generations and backgrounds, and for the wider community to better understand what it means to live with dementia.

Ultimately, the Centre seeks to reinforce a simple but important message: A diagnosis of dementia does not mark the end of a person's contributions, relationships or sense of purpose.

The Voices for Hope Centre is co-sponsored by Keppel Care Foundation and Andal Cares Fund.

[Click here for photos](#)

About Dementia Singapore

Dementia Singapore was formed in 1990 as Alzheimer's Disease Association to better serve Singapore's growing dementia community, increase awareness about dementia, and reduce the stigma surrounding the condition. As Singapore's leading Social Service Agency in specialised dementia care, Dementia Singapore aims to advocate for the needs of people living with dementia and their families; and empower the community through capability-building, knowledge, and consultancy; as well as deliver quality person-centred care innovations. For more information, visit www.dementia.org.sg.

About Voices for Hope

Voices for Hope is an empowerment and advocacy programme under Dementia Singapore that aims to bring persons living with dementia and their caregivers on a self-advocacy journey.

Piloted in 2019, the 10-week programme equips participants with relevant skills and fosters their confidence to share their stories, needs and views publicly. Through their voices and lived experiences, participants seek to change societal attitudes, reduce the stigma associated with dementia and improve the landscape of how persons living with dementia and their care partners are perceived and supported.

Upon completing the programme, participants graduate and become members of the Voices for Hope alumni community. They continue their journey through peer-to-peer support, subject-based learning, wellness activities and participation in advocacy platforms.

The Voices for Hope programme is supported by corporate partner Keppel.

VOICES FOR HOPE CENTRE

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