

Unusual TIMES

We're happy to announce for this issue of **B.Unusual Times** that MSF received an inaugural award by the JohnPraed Foundation for our innovative national implementation of the Child Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) and the Family and Adult Support (FAST) tools at the 12th Annual TCOM Conference in November 2016.

- **Ms Vivienne Ng (D/OCP), Ms Jennifer Teoh (D/CFPS), Ms Denise Low (D/SDMD) & Dr Victor Goh (D/SSI)**



Award-winning Integrated Tools for Social Services



FAST Workgroup members

The CANS and the FAST were developed to facilitate a common language between clients, professionals, organisations and systems in support of our shared vision in transforming the lives of children, individuals and families.

Family and Adult Support (FAST)

The FAST, used to integrate information about the needs of families, is increasingly being used by many professionals (e.g. Family Service Centres, Probation & Community Rehabilitation Services, Divorce Support Specialist Programmes, NCSS, MOE) providing help to at-risk families. About 1000 users have been trained and ongoing supports provided in the use. An Implementation Guide was also developed to provide a framework for effective implementation.



Kevin Tan from OCP and Wilson Mack from SDMD with developer Dr John Lyons at 12th TCOM Conference, New Jersey, 2016 (left to right)



Since 2014, FAST has been integrated and implemented in the casework process of Family Service Centres (FSCs) as part of the FSC Code of Social Work Practice (FSC-CSWP). FAST is used to communicate the needs and strengths of families, to monitor the case progress and to strengthen collaboration between stakeholders. Today, more than 900 FSC Social Work Practitioners are certified in the use of FAST and continue to receive ongoing coaching and support.



FAST Refresher Session for FSC Social Work Practitioners at Enabling Village in Oct 2016

Child Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)

The *Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)* is a sister tool to the FAST. It facilitates communication of an assessment of a child's needs and strengths for service planning. In collaboration with SSI, the CANS team provides training, consultations and performance reviews to the 22 Voluntary Children's Homes (VCHs) and RPG-partner agencies. To date, the team has impacted at least 250 professionals in the social service sector through training and consultations.

The CANS team also participates in a CANS Community of Practice (CoP) group comprising of ground workers and MSF officers, translating into more streamlined feedback channels and faster turnaround times. Together with the CoP members, an Intervention Toolkit for social service practitioners, which lists resources from 117 social service agencies was launched in Aug 2016.



CANS Workgroup Members

