

Implementing Geographically-Based Community Nursing in SingHealth

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Aims

SingHealth Regional Health System (RHS) embarked on the RHS-led Community Nursing Pilot to:

- Understand the population profile and respond to needs of the population appropriately
- 2 Increase accessibility to care for residents
- Proactively identify residents with care needs for timely intervention in order to prevent/delay deterioration of conditions
- Build rapport with residents to empower them with ability to maintain and improve health
- Provide personalised, coordinated care in partnership with community partners

Methodology



Deploy geographically-based community nursing teams

SingHealth RHS divided its assigned service boundary into smaller geographical regions, or Communities of Care (COCs). Community nurses were organised into teams and were assigned to cover a specific COC. This deployment approach enables the community nurses to:

Gain in-depth knowledge about community resources in the region

Build close working relationship with community partners in the region

Build familiarity and rapport with residents living in the region



The concept of Asset-based Community Development was adopted in service development. Community nursing teams aimed to holistically address the needs of community dwelling seniors and wider determinants of health in supporting seniors to age in place. This was done through:

- ✓ Identifying and tapping on assets, resources and capabilities that are already available in the community; and
- ✓ Collaboration with the available social and community care partners.



Set up of Community Nurse Posts (CNPs)

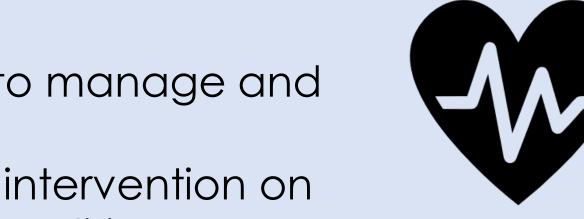
CNPs were set up at places in the community which were co-located in community partners' premises (such as Senior Activity Centres, Community Centres and Places of Worship) and accessible to residents.

Community nurses deliver care through regular individualised nurseconsult sessions, group education activities and home visits. They also work closely with community partners to outreach to residents in the vicinity and for co-management of care needs.

Community Nurse Post Services

CNP services focus on:

- 1. Empowering seniors with the ability to manage and improve their health; and
- 2. Early assessment, identification and intervention on chronic diseases and age-related conditions.



Service scope encompasses:

- Health and geriatric assessments
- Health coaching for disease prevention
- Chronic disease monitoring and self-management education
- Medication self-management support and education
- Care referral and coordination

Results / Outcomes

Since December 2017, **43 Community Nurse Posts**, all co-located within community partners' premises, have been set up in **10 Communities of Care** within the service boundary of SingHealth RHS. Community Nurse Posts operated by CGH and SGH Community Nursing teams are shown in Figures 1 and 2 respectively.

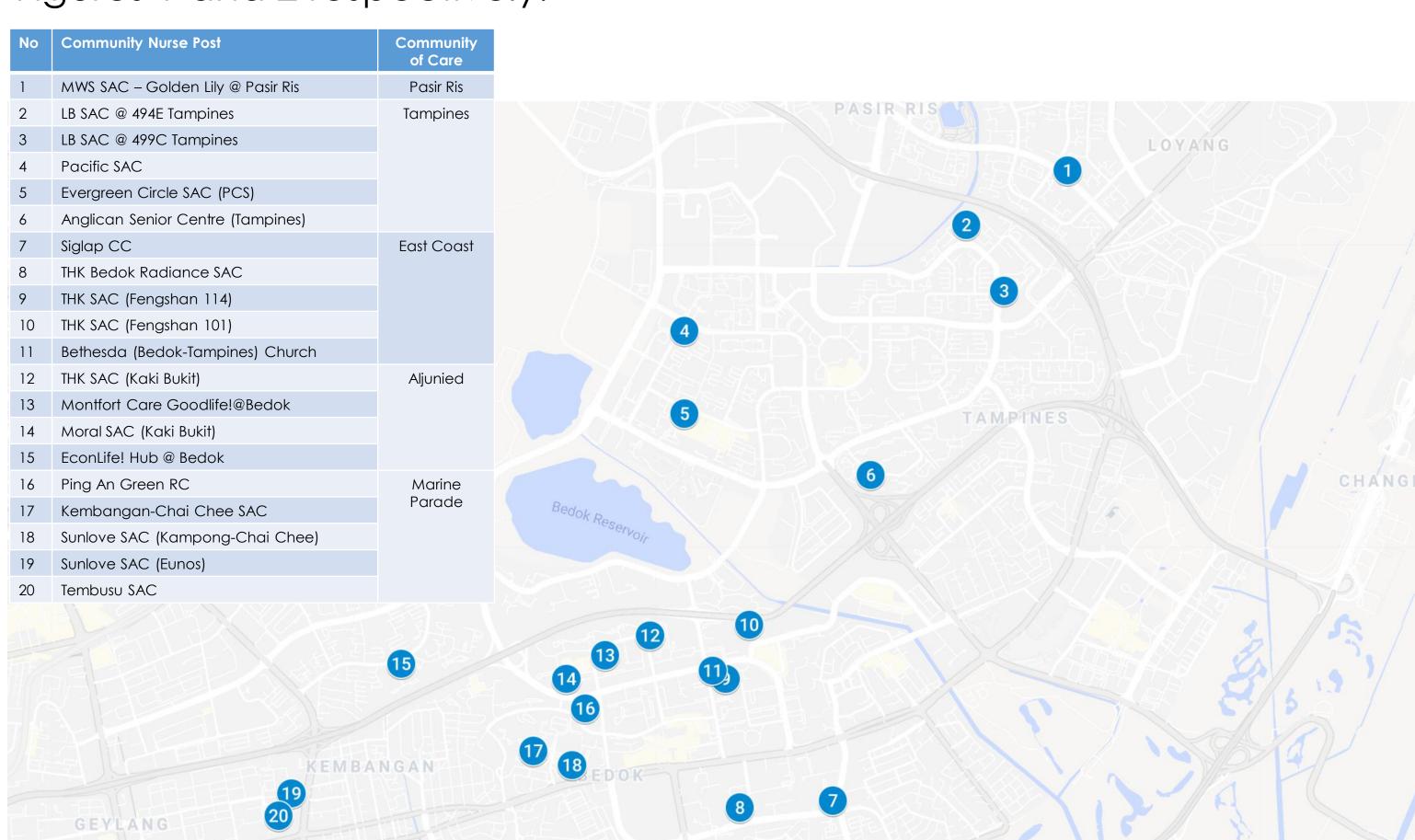
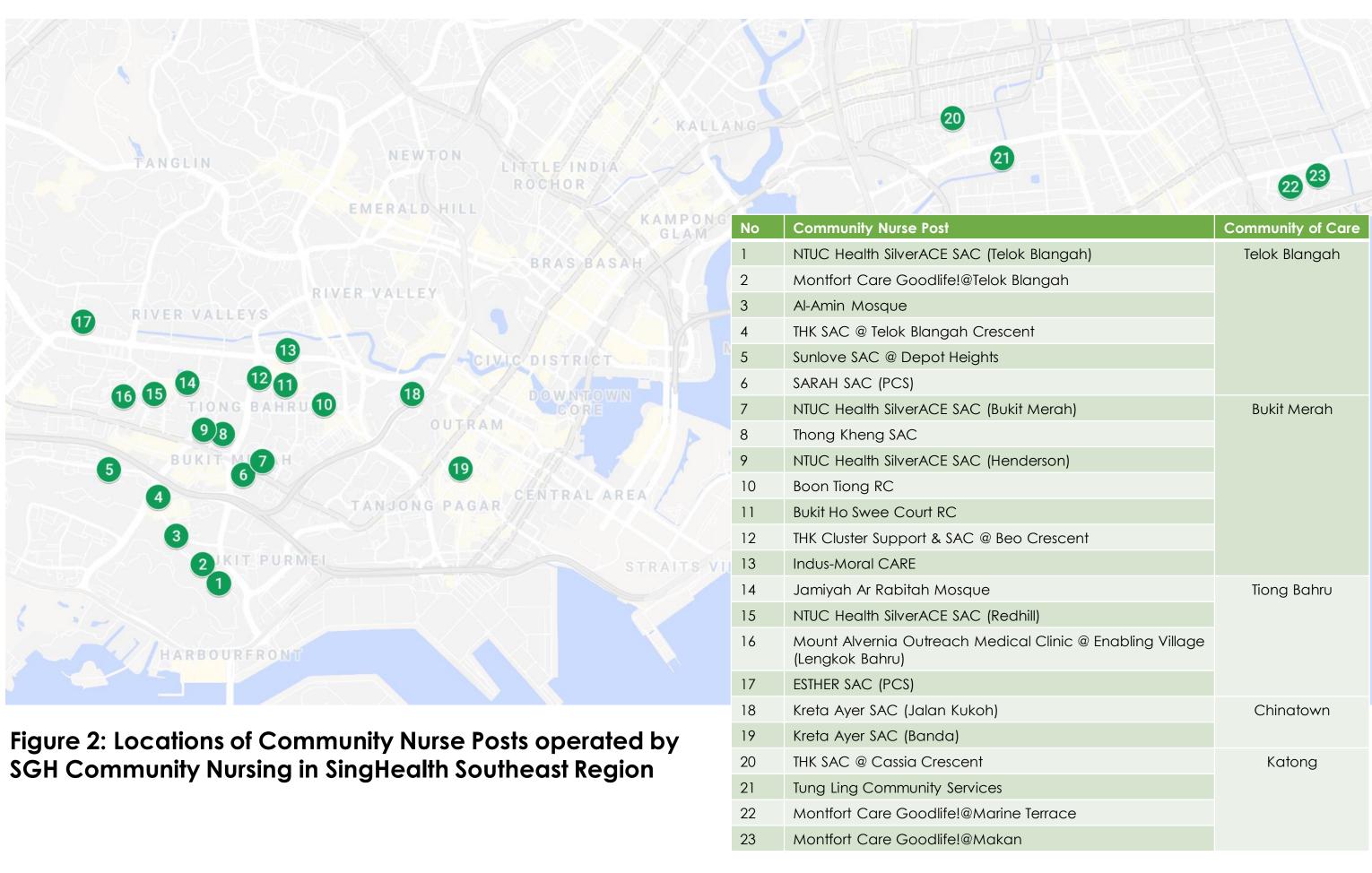
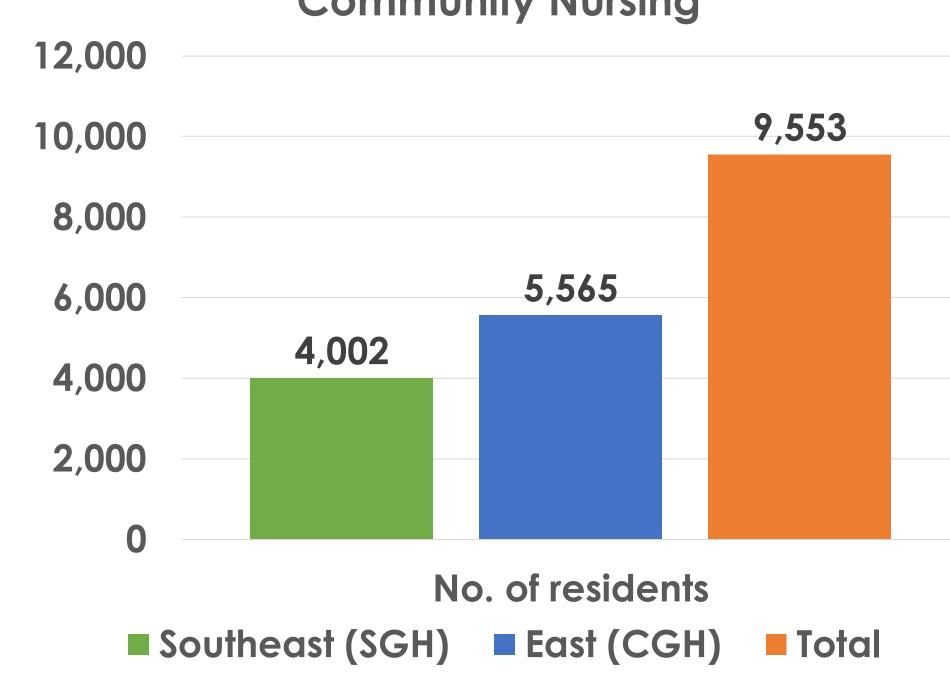


Figure 1: Locations of Community Nurse Posts operated by CGH Community Nursing in SingHealth East Region



Unique Residents Outreached by Community Nursing



As at 31st March 2019, CGH and SGH Community Nursing teams had outreached to more than 9,500 residents in SingHealth RHS.

*SGH community nursing team commenced services in Feb 2018.

Conclusion

Geographically-based community nursing teams had enabled SingHealth RHS to effectively outreached to its population through increasing care accessibility, providing tailored nursing services on needs and asset basis, and fostering stronger working relationships with community partners to better deliver integrated health and social care for residents.