



SIKH WELFARE COUNCIL

SIWEC PULSE



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Heart of Sewa: Building Bridges of Hope and Resilience

As we look ahead to the goals of 2026, I am filled with immense pride reflecting on the journey we continue to share as a community. As the Sikh Welfare Council (SIWEC) continues its mission as an Institution of a Public Character (IPC), we remain dedicated to serving the vulnerable through transparent and impactful social welfare programmes. Our work is a beautiful reflection of our collective commitment to Sewa (selfless service), ensuring that no one is left behind during difficult times.



A Year of Tangible Impact:

Our 2025 journey was defined by remarkable progress. Because of your unwavering support and the dedication of our 151 volunteers, we successfully engaged 2,200 individuals through outreach and supported 80 families. We also conducted 185 prison counselling sessions, offering hope and a path toward reintegration.

In our Academic Excellence Programme, we assisted 65 students, providing the resources to build brighter futures. A powerful example of this is Ranvier Gavin, whose outstanding N-level results, achieved despite the loss of his mother, remind us that no challenge is insurmountable when a community provides the right emotional and academic scaffolding.

Strengthening the Heart of Sewa:

This month, we are especially inspired by the spirit of the Ride to Serve (R2S) 2026 initiative. This 518-kilometre journey is a testament to the dedication of 62 riders and 14 marshals who have self-funded their participation. Their sacrifice ensures that 100% of all public donations go directly into our vital welfare programmes. I encourage you to donate by 27 March 2026 to take advantage of the Government's \$1-for-\$1 matching grant via the Tote Board, effectively doubling your impact.

Beyond individual donations, we are calling on our corporate partners to utilize the Corporate Volunteer Scheme (CVS). This initiative, extended to 2029, offers businesses a 250% tax deduction on qualifying volunteering expenses. It is a wonderful way to foster a stronger corporate culture while making a meaningful difference.

A Tapestry of Traditions:

Finally, our recent Chinese New Year celebrations with the Sunehri Sahelian and Sunehray Pal members were a beautiful display of cultural harmony. By celebrating the diverse traditions that make our community strong, we ensure that every senior feels seen, valued, and included.

Your ongoing partnership is the very heartbeat of SIWEC, turning collective effort into tangible hope for the 577 recipients we support monthly.

We are deeply grateful for your trust as we walk this path of service together.

In Service and Gratitude,

Sharanjit Kaur

Chairperson

Sikh Welfare Council

Our 2025 Journey of Outreach and Community Impact

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to share the remarkable progress and tangible impact made in our community throughout 2025 due to your unwavering support, our dedicated staff team and passionate volunteers.

The following statistics from our Impact 2025 report showcase the breadth and depth of our reach:

Extensive Outreach to Individuals: We successfully engaged with 2,200 individuals through outreach programs, demonstrating our commitment to connecting with the broader community and understanding their needs.

Dedicated Support for Families: Our core focus remains on strengthening the family unit. In 2025, we are grateful to have total families supported: 80 through our diverse support initiatives.

Rehabilitation through Counselling: Believing in second chances, we've extended our hands to those in prison. A significant achievement this year was having 185 prison counselling sessions conducted by our trained professionals.

Investing in Our Future: We continued to support the educational and personal development of the youth. The total students served was 65 through our tailored education support programs.

Overall Beneficiary Reach: When all our programs and direct assistance are aggregated, the total beneficiaries served in 2025 was 716. Each number represents a life touched, a person supported, or a story of hope.

Powered by Volunteers: All these achievements were only possible because of the incredible dedication of our volunteers. The total number of volunteers who made this impact possible was 151. Their selfless service is the backbone of our organisation.

These metrics, presented in our Impact 2025 infographic, serve as both a record of our achievements and an inspiration for the work that still lies ahead. We express our deepest gratitude to our donors, partners, and, most importantly, our volunteers who continue to believe in and support the work of the Sikh Welfare Council. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of many, and we look forward to continuing this journey of service in the years to come.

IMPACT 2025

2,200

INDIVIDUALS ENGAGED THROUGH OUTREACH

716

TOTAL BENEFICIARIES SERVED

185 PRISON COUNSELLING SESSIONS CONDUCTED

80 TOTAL FAMILIES SUPPORTED

65 TOTAL STUDENTS SERVED

151 TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS

Ride to Serve 2026: 518 Kilometres, One Purpose

The momentum is building for Ride to Serve (R2S) 2026, a 518-kilometre fundraising journey fueled by community and compassion. From 27–30 March 2026, 62 riders and 14 dedicated marshals will traverse a route starting in Ulu Tiram, Johor, passing through Desaru, Mersing, and Batu Pahat, before returning home to Singapore.

This ride is powered by more than determination. It is fueled by empathy and hope. Each pedal stroke represents solidarity with beneficiaries who rely on community support. Every rider carries with them the belief that collective effort can translate into tangible change.

These riders are more than just athletes; they are dedicated volunteers who have taken personal leave from work and funded their own participation costs. This personal sacrifice ensures that donations go directly to Sikh Welfare Council’s vital welfare programmes.

Behind the scenes, organizing committees and volunteers are working diligently to coordinate logistics, marshal deployment, hydration points, accommodation planning, and emergency protocols. Every detail is carefully managed to uphold safety standards while preserving the spirit of service that defines R2S.



SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

DONATE



SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE
- EVERY DONATION STRENGTHENS THE IMPACT OF R2S 2026 AND HELPS US TRANSFORM ENDURANCE INTO EMPOWERMENT FOR OUR BENEFICIARIES

**JOIN US FOR HOMECOMING CELEBRATIONS
AT CENTRAL SIKH TEMPLE
30 MARCH - 6.00PM ONWARD
YOUR PRESENCE PROVIDES THE MORAL
SUPPORT OUR CYCLISTS NEED AFTER FOUR
GRUELING DAYS ON THE ROAD**



Empowering Potential Through Education: A Story of Transformation

Every child deserves the opportunity to succeed, and education should be a bridge to opportunity, not a barrier. Because of you, we are able to ensure that no child in our community is left behind due to limited access to academic resources or financial constraints.

A cornerstone of this effort is our Academic Excellence Programme (AEP). Due to financial support from the Sangat, students who are struggling academically and whose families face financial challenges receive structured assistance in core subjects, personalized mentorship, and ongoing guidance. Besides improving grades, your support rebuilds confidence, fosters self-belief, and opens doors to opportunities that might otherwise remain out of reach.

One inspiring story that illustrates the transformative power of your support is that of Ranvier Gavin. Before joining the programme, Ranvier faced significant challenges, especially in Mathematics. The subject had become a source of frustration and self-doubt, and his struggles began to affect his confidence in school and beyond. He was at risk of falling behind academically and emotionally. Although a talented student, he was on the brink of giving up. Ranvier's burden was made even heavier by the loss of his mother to cancer during this pivotal time.

Your donations and support enabled us to recognize that he needed more than just a tutor. Your contributions allowed our AEP mentors to step in and provide holistic mentorship that looked beyond his grades, offering the emotional scaffolding required to help a young man heal while he learned. Ranvier received focused, step-by-step tuition and personalized mentorship that helped him confront his difficulties head-on. Every lesson was tailored to his pace, and every challenge was met with guidance and encouragement. Slowly, concepts that once seemed impossible became manageable. Skills that felt out of reach were mastered. Most importantly, Ranvier's confidence and self-belief were restored.



His outstanding N level results speak for themselves. From a student on the verge of academic failure, Ranvier progressed to achieving impressive scores in Mathematics, proving that with your support, no challenge is insurmountable. His story is a testament not only to his own determination but also to the power of your generosity, which transforms lives by providing opportunity, guidance, and unwavering support. Ranvier's journey demonstrates that education is more than exams; it is about unlocking potential, restoring confidence, and shaping a promising future.

Behind every success like Ranvier's stands a community of donors whose support makes these interventions possible. Your contributions ensure that students facing financial and academic hurdles receive the guidance they need to thrive.

With your continued support, we can reach more students like Ranvier, turning struggles into achievements and potential into success. Together, we are not just supporting education; we are changing lives.

Compassion, Connection, and Care

Facing health challenges can be overwhelming, especially when combined with loneliness or limited mobility. With your support our Befriending Support Programme is able to provide emotional companionship and practical assistance, ensuring individuals feel supported and cared for during their most difficult times.

Through regular visits and check-ins, our Befriending Officers provide more than guidance. They offer a listening ear, encouragement, and a reassuring presence. For our elderly beneficiaries, individuals undergoing long-term treatment, or those with mobility limitations, these interactions become a lifeline.

The true impact of this programme goes beyond practical support. A simple conversation or a warm smile can ease loneliness, restore confidence, and bring hope. Many beneficiaries have shared how these visits brighten their days, reminding them that they are valued and not alone in their journey.



Sometimes, support is as simple as accompanying someone to a place that brings peace. Recently, one of our beneficiaries expressed a heartfelt wish to visit the Gurdwara to offer his prayers. A dedicated volunteer was there to accompany him, ensuring he could make the visit safely and with peace of mind. These moments illustrate the essence of befriending—showing that small acts of care can profoundly impact someone's well-being.

Become a Lifeline: Volunteer as a Befriender

Our community is growing, and so is the need for compassionate voices and steady hands. We are looking for volunteers to join our Befriending Support Programme. You don't need specialized medical skills—just a warm heart and a willingness to listen.

As a SIWEC Befriender, you will:

- Visit elderly or homebound members of our community to provide companionship.
- Accompany beneficiaries to medical appointments or places of worship.
- Provide a "listening ear" to those navigating health challenges or loneliness.
- Be the reason someone feels valued and cared for today.

Know someone who may benefit from regular companionship? Our Befriending Support programme provides care and connection to seniors who may be feeling isolated.

Whether you would like to volunteer or refer someone in need, we would love to hear from you. To learn more, please visit our website at <https://www.siwec.org/befriending-support/> or contact us directly at the SIWEC office at 6299 9234

Restoring Lives, Rebuilding Hope

Behind prison walls are individuals carrying regret, reflection, and a quiet hope for a second chance. Rehabilitation is not simply a system, it is a deeply human journey of accountability, healing, and transformation. Through the Prison Counselling and Aftercare Programme, the Sikh Welfare Council (SIWEC) walks alongside inmates at every stage of that journey, offering guidance, compassion, and practical support to help rebuild lives with dignity and purpose.

Rooted in the Sikh principle of Sewa (selfless service), our trained volunteers provide consistent, non-judgmental counselling within prison institutions. Week after week, they create safe spaces for honest reflection, spiritual growth, and personal development. These sessions strengthen emotional resilience, encourage law-abiding lifestyles, and nurture inner transformation, regardless of race or religion.

On 2nd and 3rd December, SIWEC and its dedicated volunteers commemorated Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Parkash Purab with inmates across the Prison Institutions, an occasion eagerly anticipated each year.

The celebration was graciously supported by the Head Granthis from Central Sikh Gurdwara and Katong Singh Sabha Gurdwara, who filled the halls with the soulful singing of hymns and collective prayer. For many inmates, the sound of kirtan within prison walls was deeply moving, a reminder that they are not forgotten.

Karah Parsad and Channa were lovingly distributed, and inmates were given the Holy Gutka Sahib to guide their personal spiritual journey. More than a ceremony, the visit was a powerful affirmation that Guru Nanak Dev Ji's message of equality, compassion, and redemption transcends all barriers.

In those moments of prayer and fellowship, walls felt less confining. Hope felt closer.



BE A
VOLUNTEER

"selfless service is the highest form of devotion"

Register Here



Guiding Families with Care and Dignity

In this issue, we sit with our Bereavement Officer, Tharjit Kaur to discuss how SIWEC supports the Sangat through life's most difficult transitions.

Q: Losing a loved one is incredibly overwhelming. How does SIWEC help families find their footing during such a heavy time?

Ans: Our mission is to provide clarity and dignity when families need it most. We act as a facilitator, providing the emotional scaffolding and logistical coordination so families can focus on mourning and honoring their loved ones with peace of mind.



Q: There have been some important changes to how bereavement services work in Singapore. How is SIWEC adapting?

Ans: Yes, recent regulatory updates mean the process is now more personal. As such we have refined our processes to guide families through these new digital steps. For example, only the Next-of-Kin (NOK) now submits permits to cremate and Mandai Hall bookings via Singpass. While our staff no longer manage these bookings directly, we are there to guide you through the secure portals every step of the way. Additionally, all religious rites are now exclusively conducted by the Gurdwaras to ensure full respect for protocols.

Q: You work closely with a team of volunteers. How has that experience been for you personally?

Ans: "It is deeply fulfilling to see the spirit of *Nishkam Sewa* in action. I am constantly moved by our bereavement volunteers who offer their time to be a reassuring presence. Their support is vital; they help us provide that extra layer of care that goes beyond a checklist. Whether it's guiding a family through a digital obituary or connecting them to community resources for post-funeral support, our volunteers ensure that the care doesn't end when the ceremony does."

Q: What would you say to the donors who make this programme possible?

Ans: "I would say, because of you, a family in grief doesn't have to walk this path alone. Your generosity ensures that we can remain a trusted partner for our community, providing compassionate guidance and ensuring every soul is treated with the utmost respect."

A Tapestry of Traditions: Celebrating Unity and Renewal

The air was filled with laughter, the scent of festive delicacies, and the vibrant hue of crimson as our Sunehri Sahelian and Sunehrey Pal members gathered in February 2026.

What began as a Chinese New Year celebration quickly blossomed into something far more profound: a masterclass in cultural harmony and the enduring power of community.

More Than Just a Celebration

At our Eldercare & Active Ageing Programme, we believe that learning doesn't stop with age instead it evolves. This festive session was a beautiful exchange of heritage. Our dedicated volunteers shared the deep-rooted meanings behind cherished Lunar New Year traditions, explaining:

The Power of Red: Why this bold color is synonymous with luck, joy, and warding off negative energy.

The Spirit of Renewal: How the new year serves as a symbolic fresh start for health and happiness.

Cultural Connection: Bridging the gap between communities by sharing the stories that make our multicultural fabric so rich.

The highlight of the day was, without a doubt, the Loh Hei session. In a sea of raised chopsticks and joyous shouts, our seniors tossed the Yusheng salad high into the air.

This ritual is more than a culinary tradition; it is a physical manifestation of our collective hopes. Each ingredient added represented a different blessing for health, wealth, and longevity and reminding us that when we strive for a better year, we do it as one family.



Active ageing is often misunderstood as merely "staying busy." In reality, it is about connection, dignity, and joy. It's about ensuring that our seniors aren't just observers of life, but active participants in the vibrant celebrations that surround them.

By celebrating every culture that makes our community stronger, we ensure that every member feels seen, valued, and included. Because at the end of the day, every celebration is brighter when it is shared.

Join Our Vibrant Community

Are you or a loved one looking for a space that offers more than just a schedule? Our Eldercare & Active Ageing Programme provides a sanctuary for seniors to flourish through:

- Structured Weekly Activities designed for cognitive health.
- Social Engagement that combats isolation and builds lasting friendships.
- Holistic Wellness focusing on a fulfilling, active lifestyle.

Experience the difference today.

🔗 Visit us: siwec.org/eldercare-active-ageing/

☎ Call to register: +65 6299 9234

Corporate Volunteer Scheme (CVS)

DID YOU KNOW?

THE CORPORATE VOLUNTEER SCHEME (CVS)

Businesses receive a **250% TAX DEDUCTION** for employees' qualifying volunteering time & expenses with IPCs like SIWEC!

- Scheme extended to **31 Dec 2029**.

WHO QUALIFIES
All businesses carrying out trade or business in Singapore when employees volunteer.

QUALIFYING ACTIVITIES
Virtual (e.g. online mentoring) & outside IPC premises activities included!

GET INVOLVED
Approach your employers and SIWEC for details!

Find out more at www.iras.gov.sg

Maximize the impact of your corporate volunteering with the Corporate Volunteer Scheme (CVS). This initiative, extended until 31 December 2029, allows businesses to support SIWEC while benefiting from significant tax incentives.

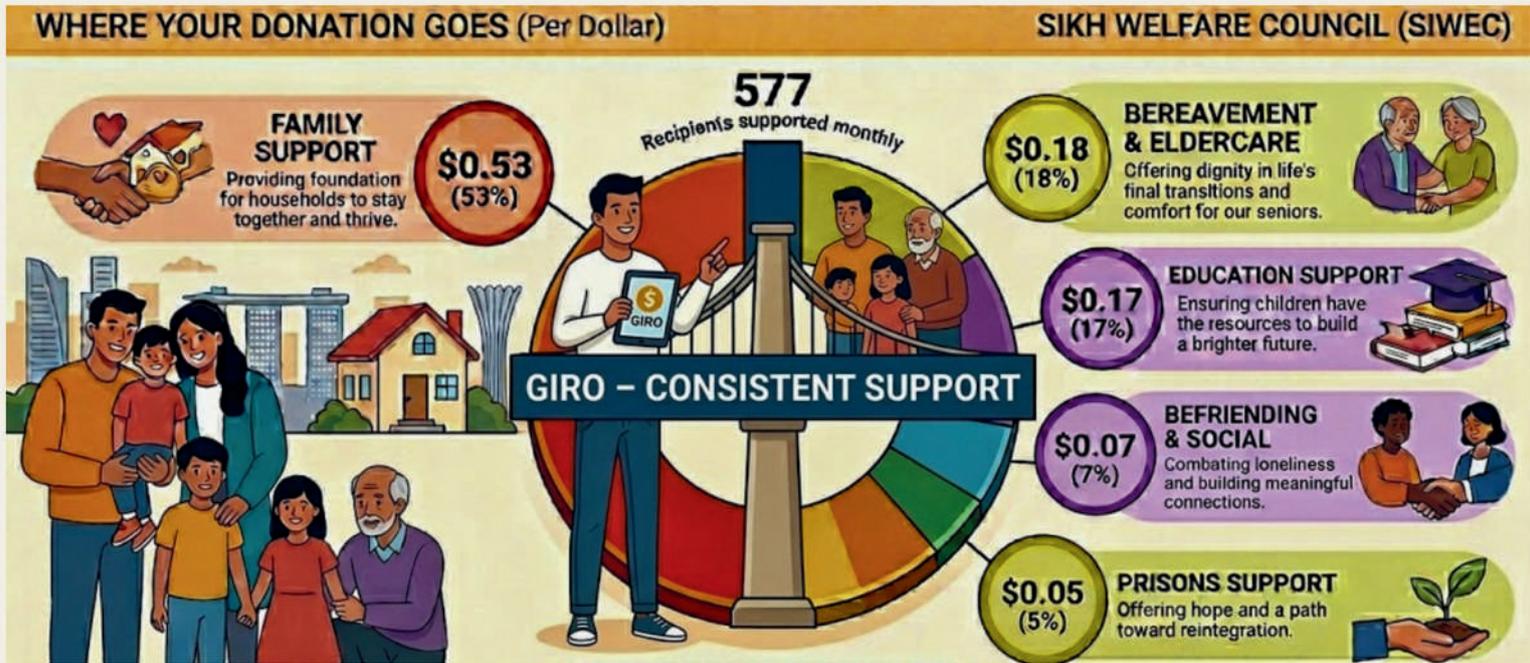
Key Highlights for Businesses:

- **250% Tax Deduction:** Companies can claim a 250% tax deduction on qualifying expenditure, such as employee wages and related expenses, incurred during volunteering services.
- **Broad Eligibility:** Applies to all Singapore-based businesses, including companies, sole proprietorships, partnerships, and registered business trusts.
- **Flexible Activities:** Includes both on-site and virtual volunteering, such as online mentoring for our students or refurbishment projects.
- **Qualified Expenses:** Must be incurred solely for volunteering and mutually agreed upon by SIWEC and the business.

In addition to tax savings, CVS fosters a stronger corporate culture by promoting teamwork, skills application, and employee engagement. Participating in volunteer projects enables staff to grow personally and professionally while reinforcing a sense of purpose and pride in their workplace. Ultimately, CVS not only enhances a company's social impact but also uplifts brand reputation and helps deepen relationships with communities across Singapore.

Help us build a stronger community by discussing the CVS with your employer. For more information, visit www.iras.gov.sg/taxes/corporate-volunteer-scheme or contact the SIWEC office.

Your Impact in Every Dollar: Sustaining a Lifeline for Our Community



Sikh Welfare Council (SIWEC) operates as an Institution of a Public Character (IPC) funded entirely by the heart and generosity of our donors. As inflation continues to rise, the cost-of-living places an even heavier burden on those already struggling. Due to your contributions, we have been able to increase our financial assistance, ensuring that the standard of living for our beneficiaries remains stable and that they are not left behind during these difficult economic times.

Where Your Support Goes

We are currently supporting 577 recipients every month across a wide spectrum of needs. Because of you, every dollar donated is carefully transformed into essential services:

- Family Support (\$0.53)**
- Bereavement & Eldercare (\$0.18)**
- Prisons Support (\$0.05)**
- Education Support (\$0.17)**
- Befriending & Social (\$0.07)**

A Call to Continued Service

The challenges of inflation are real, but the power of our collective Sewa is stronger. To ensure we can continue to meet these rising needs and reach even more lives, we invite you to stand with us.

Because of you, we can bring joy and stability to those who need it most. To help us plan for the future with confidence, please consider a regular contribution through our GIRO Donation scheme. Your consistent support, no matter the size, is the heartbeat of our council.

One-off Donation:

Quick and convenient. Scan the QR code to donate



Download GIRO form:

Enable sustained support for long-term programs

All qualifying donations will be granted a tax deduction of 2.5 times



**SIKH
WELFARE
COUNCIL**

Our Services

24-Hour Helpline:
6299-9234

Family Support

Education Support

Eldercare & Active
Ageing

Bereavement
Support

Befriending
Support

Mental Wellness
Support

Prison Counselling &
Aftercare

If you or someone you know requires assistance or is interested in our services, please call us, e-mail us or come down to meet us at the SIWEC Office

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