

Support Team for the Elderly (Revised Nov 2007)

Support Team for the Elderly is one kind of community support services for elders attached to District Elderly Community Centres. Through serving the elders in need, the teams show concern and provide assistance for elders so that they can live actively in the community under the support network.

To promote a sense of worthiness among elders, Support Team for the Elderly has also developed the Senior Volunteer Programme to encourage elders to become volunteers, to be continuously involved in community affairs and to serve other elders in need.

Target Group

Elders aged 60 or above who are willing to receive services and who are under one or more of the following circumstances:

- living alone or lacking family support
- having limited social support network
- suffering from poor health
- having financial difficulties
- living in unfavourable environment
- unable to make proper use of community resources or services
- facing other unfavourable circumstances

Scope of Service

- To identify vulnerable elders through various outreaching and networking approaches
- To show concern to elders through regular home visits and telephone contacts
- To introduce community resources
- To provide simple personal assistance
- To provide emotional support
- To refer elders for formal services such as counselling service
- To recruit, train and sustain volunteers

Application Procedures

- Elders
Elders may contact the Support Teams for the Elderly in their neighbourhood direct. Social service organisations, local organisations or individuals may also make referrals to the teams nearby.
- Volunteers
Interested persons or organisations may approach respective Support Team for the Elderly for registration as volunteers or volunteer organisations.

Enquiries

- Integrated Family Service Centres / Integrated Services Centres
- Medical Social Services Units
- District Elderly Community Centres / Neighbourhood Elderly Centres / Social Centres for the Elderly
- Social Welfare Department Hotline : 2343 2255
- The list of all District Elderly Community Centres can be downloaded from the Social Welfare Department's website : <http://www.swd.gov.hk>