



Virtual Side Event “Inspiring Community Action in the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Offenders” at the 64th Session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs

1. Singapore organised a virtual side event on 14 April 2021 at the 64th session of the United Nations (UN) Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), which was held in Vienna, Austria from 12 – 16 April 2021. The virtual side event, titled “Inspiring community action in the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders”, aimed to provide a platform for the sharing of community approaches undertaken by international correctional administrators to rehabilitate and reintegrate offenders.
2. The event was attended by over 125 international participants from various countries, as well as local community partners of the Singapore Prison Service (SPS) and Yellow Ribbon Singapore (YRSG), such as social service agencies from the Community Action for the Rehabilitation of Ex-offenders (CARE) Network. Ms. Valerie Chiang (Senior Assistant Director, Community & Family Policy) SPS shared about the Yellow Ribbon Project which aims to raise awareness of the need to give second chances to and generate acceptance of ex-offenders and their families in the community. She also shared about SPS’s strong partnership with over 80 agencies and more than 3,600 individuals supporting the rehabilitation and re-integration of offenders.
3. Mr. Chiu Siu-Tsz, from the Hong Kong Correctional Services Department, spoke about an anti-drug community education campaign undertaken in Hong Kong; while Ms Rie Suzuki, from the Japan Correction Bureau, spoke about the strategies Japan had undertaken to provide seamless support for female offenders from prison to community. Ms. Giovanna Campello, from UNODC’s Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section, reiterated the importance of the continuity of care to support the reintegration of offenders in the community.
4. The side event highlighted the importance of strong community support for the successful rehabilitation and reintegration of drug offenders. SPS and YRSG benchmark our rehabilitation practices with international correctional practitioners. Our evidence-informed rehabilitation practices and strong community partnerships contribute to a low and stable recidivism rate for a safer Singapore.