

7<sup>th</sup> April 2020

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## TO ALL SAC MEMBERS

## [SAC Updates] Circuit Breaker to Minimise Further Spread of COVID-19

Following PM Lee's speech on 03 April 2020 regarding the new and stricter measures, we have been in communication with the relevant ministries on the services provided by the counselling profession.

- 1. As a professional association, we understand the need for the circuit breaker in view of the current COVID-19 situation and the possibility of more stringent measures if the situation does not improve thereafter.
- 2. Although counselling services has not been included as a whole as one of the essential services, we can continue our services by exploring other means of technology to creatively engage with our clients as a temporary alternative to face-to-face interactions, as elaborated in my earlier letter dated 03 April 2020.
- 3. Notwithstanding, the continued support for high risk and/or unstable persons and families remain critical.
- 4. Hence, practitioners, counselling centres and clinics which wish to continue providing services to the clientele listed in Point (3) but unable to adopt alternatives to face-to-face intervention, you may wish to apply for exemption to stay open via <a href="https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg">https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg</a> by 13 April 2020.

May each one of you find new courage and strength for the work that we do with our clients.

I also wish all of you and your family members to stay well and stay safe.

Warm regards,

SAM KUNA
PRESIDENT
SINGAPORE ASSOCIATION FOR COUNSELLING