

Destitute Persons Act and Government Welfare Homes Singapore

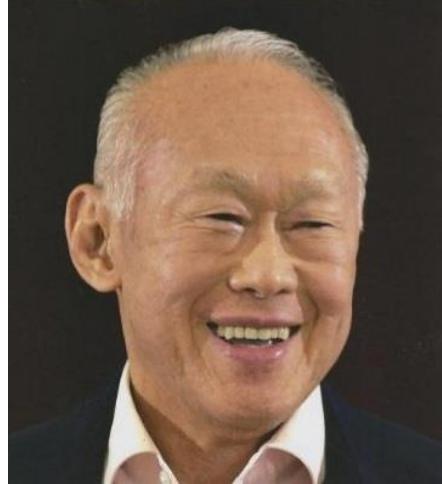


Outline of Presentation

1. Are there homeless people in Singapore?
2. Destitute Persons Act
3. Government Welfare Homes



Are there homeless people in Singapore?



Lee Kuan Yew
Prime Minister
(1959-1990)

**You go down to New York, Broadway.
You will see the beggars, people on
the streets. ... Where are the beggars
in Singapore? Show me. ... Anyone
without a home left to die in the
streets and have to be collected as
dead corpses?**

(1989)



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Are there homeless people in Singapore?



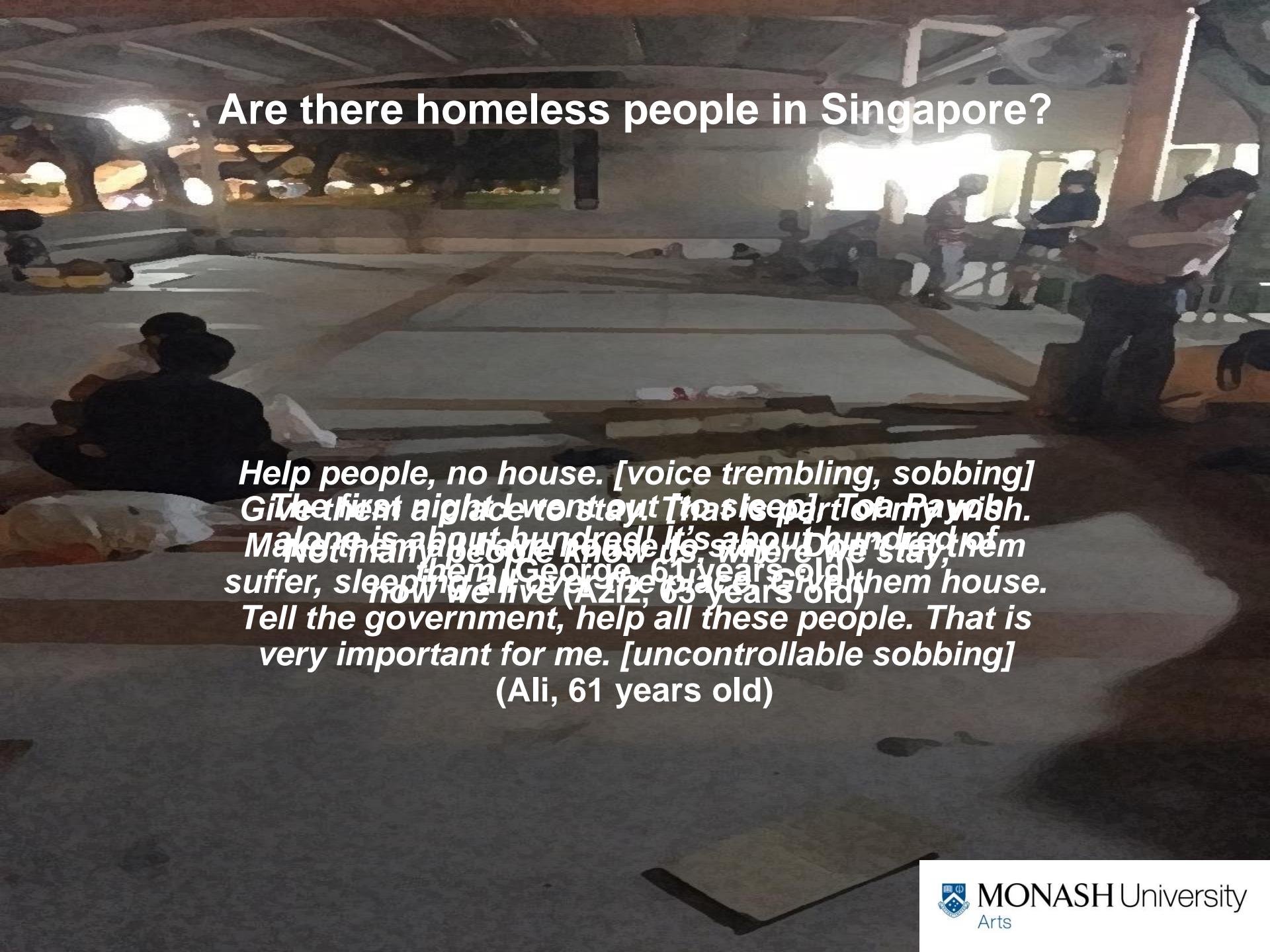
**Low income Singaporeans are
much better off than low income
groups in any other country in Asia.
We do not have destitute persons
sleeping on the streets.**

(2005)

Lee Hsien Loong
Prime Minister
(2004-present)



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Are there homeless people in Singapore?

*Help people, no house. [voice trembling, sobbing]
Give them a night shelter stay. That is part To my Rayish.
Malone is about hundred. It's about hundred of
them many people Rayish. Where we stay, them
suffer, sleep now we live (Khalid, 63 years old) them house.
Tell the government, help all these people. That is
very important for me. [uncontrollable sobbing]
(Ali, 61 years old)*



Are there homeless people in Singapore?







THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

DESTITUTE PERSONS ACT

(CHAPTER 78)

REVISED EDITION 2013

(31st December 2013)



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CLAUSE AIMED AT SOLICITING

VAGRANCY laws in the Colony are to be brought into line with those of England by the Vagrancy Bill, 1939, gazetted last night.

The new bill gives much stricter definitions of vagrancy than the existing Ordinance, and includes several sections of the existing Minor Offences Ordinance.

An important clause is aimed at soliciting by prostitutes in the streets.

"Vagrants" are defined as persons convicted as being "idle and disorderly" or of being "rogues and vagabonds," persons declared by a court to be vagrants, and persons not being physically able to earn or being unwilling to work for their livelihood and having no visible means of subsistence.

Idle and disorderly persons include unlicensed hawkers, prostitutes guilty of behaving in a disorderly or indecent manner in streets, and beggars.

Rogues And Vagabonds

Rogues and vagabonds include persons previously convicted of being idle

In this Act —

"destitute person" means —

(a) any person found begging in a public place in such a way as to cause or to

be likely to cause annoyance to persons frequenting the place or otherwise to create a nuisance; and

(b) any idle person found in a public place, whether or not he is begging, who has no visible means of subsistence or place of residence or is unable to give a satisfactory account of himself.



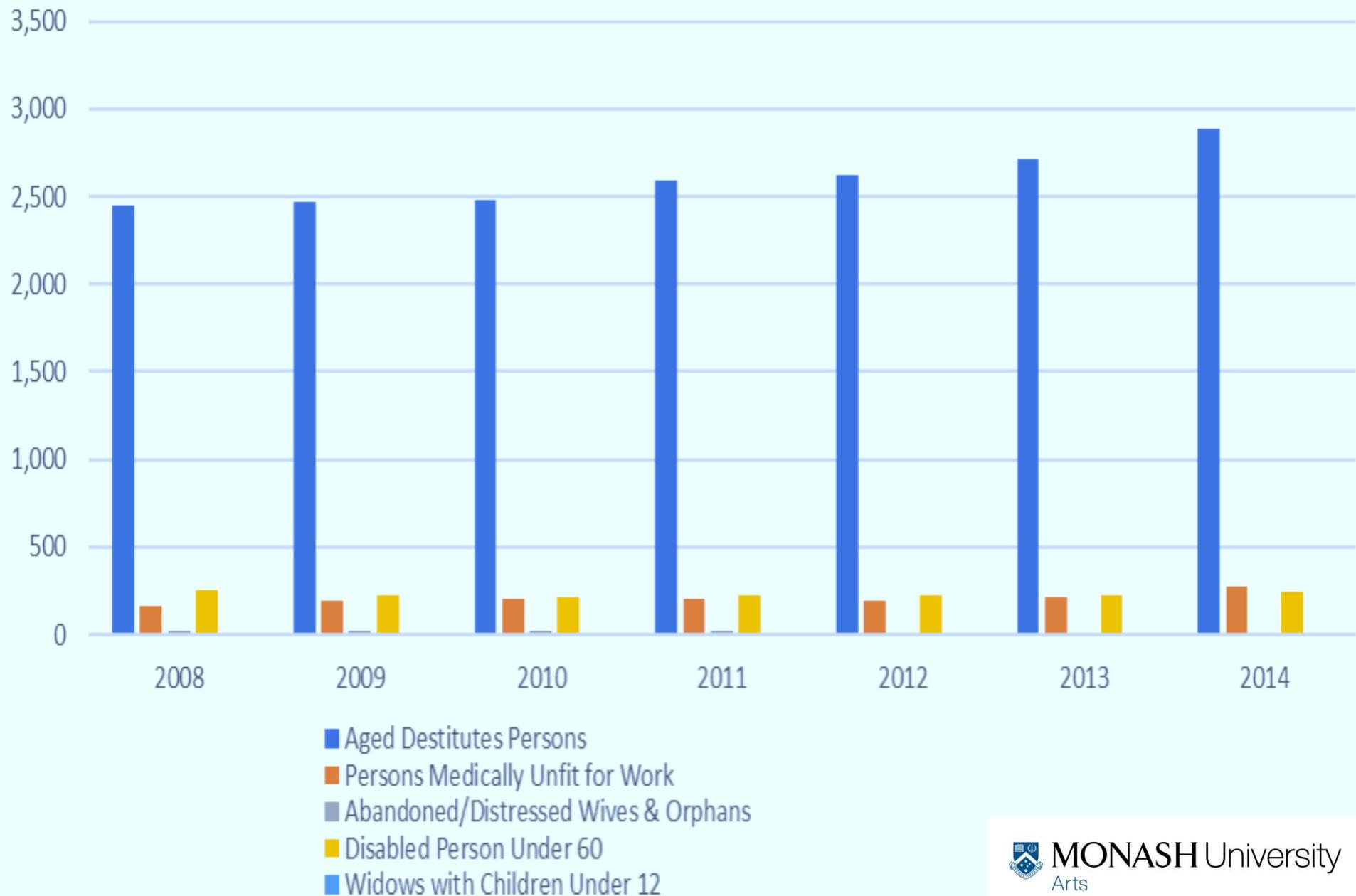


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Profile of MSF Long Term Assistance



Welfare Homes

Helping the Needy and Vulnerable

- ComCare – Helping The Needy
- Singapore Inter-Agency Taskforce On Trafficking In Persons
- Supporting Vulnerable Elderly
- Welfare Homes

The Destitute Persons Service (DPS) is responsible for ten homes which are gazetted as welfare homes under the Destitute Persons Act for the care, reception and rehabilitation of destitute persons.

These homes include Jamiyah Home for the Aged, Christadelphian Methodist Home, Bukit Batok Home for the Aged, Moral Welfare Home and Pelangi Village which houses 6 homes. The homes are run by VWOs serving as managing agents for the Ministry

As admission to Welfare Homes are statutory and under the provisions of the Destitute Persons Act, the admitting authority continues to lie with MSF. Agencies and members of the public may call the ComCare Call at 1800-2220000 to enquire welfare home's admission.

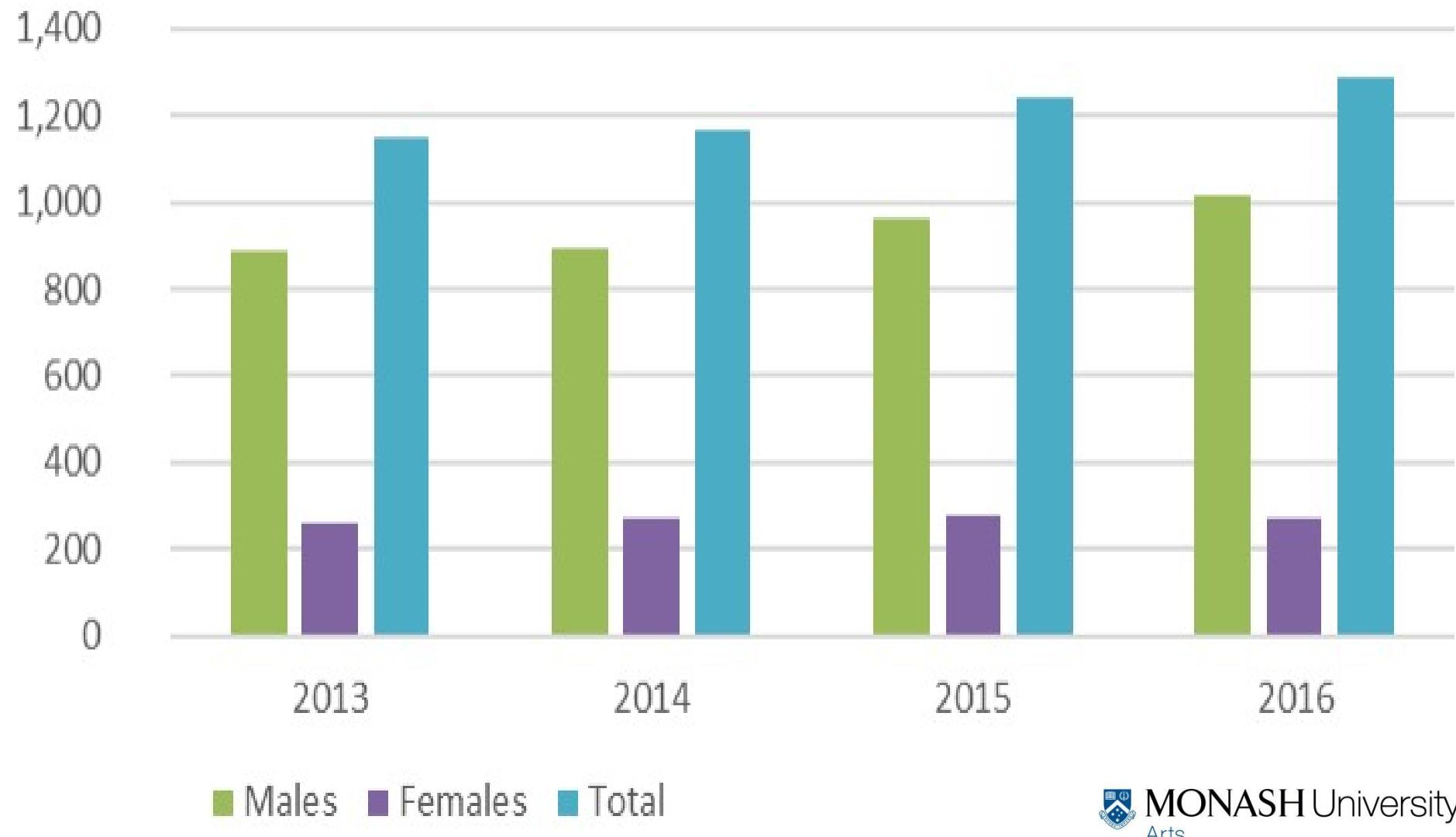
Guiding principles for the welfare homes

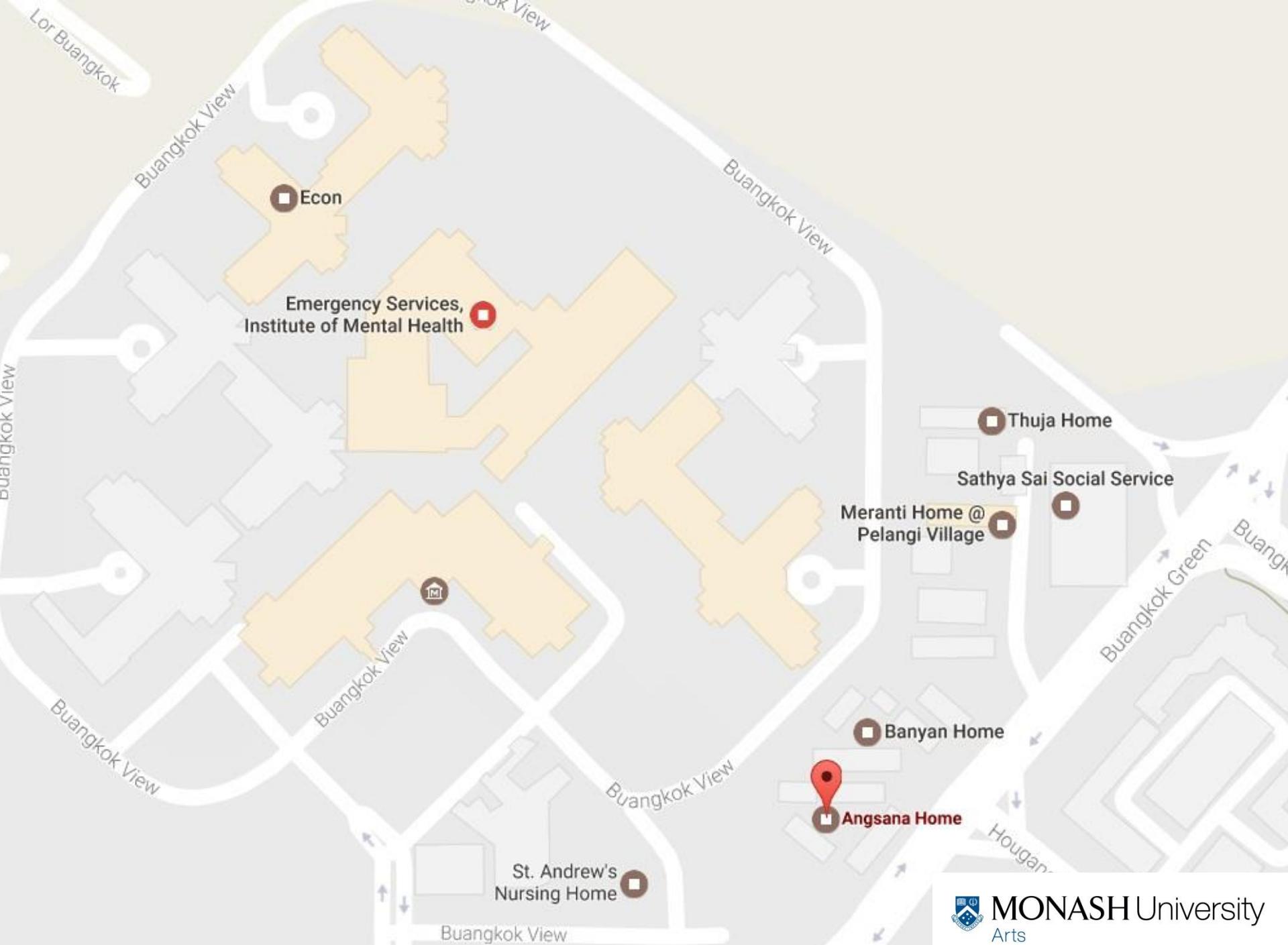
Family is responsible for the welfare and well-being of its members. Those residents with families should return to their families ultimately. The welfare homes should be a temporary place for them to stay.

Self reliance. Residents would be trained and rehabilitated within the homes and at the Activity Hub (for Pelangi Village). The objective would be to increase their functional levels so that they could care for themselves and be self reliant.



Destitutes in Government Welfare Homes (60 years and above)





Angsana Home



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THANK YOU



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