

# PANEL OF THERAPEUTIC SPECIALISTS



Our People

Access To Justice

Therapeutic Justice

Trust &amp; Confidence

Developing  
Our CapabilityConnecting With  
The Community

The FJC has teamed up with multiple stakeholders to expand the range and depth of therapeutic services for court users and their families.

First announced in September 2021, the Panel of Therapeutic Specialists (POTS) was conceived with the aim of making therapeutic specialist services more accessible to court users and their families who require mental health-related support, or specialised assessment or intervention during mediation or in legal proceedings.

The Family Justice Courts (FJC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the College of Psychiatrists, Academy of Medicine, Singapore, the Singapore Association for Counselling and the Singapore Psychological Society to set up the POTS.

The POTS, which comprises qualified mental health and social science professionals from the private sector, is part of the FJC's efforts to expand the range and depth of therapeutic services to meet the needs of families undergoing or concluding family proceedings beyond existing public-sector schemes. Through the directions of a Judge or under a voluntary referral process, families may access the panel for paid private-sector services.

A Steering Committee headed by the Registrar of the FJC, Mr Kenneth Yap, oversees the development of this project. A pilot initiative will also commence in 2022.



Feedback was gathered from the Family Bar to obtain suggestions for improvement and better delivery of therapeutic justice.

## ENGAGEMENT OF THE FAMILY BAR

To gather feedback and suggestions on opportunities for growth and areas of improvement for the FJC, Registrar Mr Kenneth Yap has been engaging members of the Family Bar through focus group discussions on an annual basis since 2019.

In 2021, there were a total of 67 attendees. With the FJC's renewed vision to be a family court that delivers Therapeutic Justice (TJ), the focus of the 2021 discussions was on gathering feedback from the ground up on TJ in family proceedings. Members of the Family Bar suggested ways to bolster the adoption of TJ in family law. They also provided feedback on other matters, such as how existing processes could be improved and how court proceedings could be conducted post-pandemic.