

## FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

By Catherine GS Lim



Two years ago, when the current executive committee of ISAAC-Singapore was elected, it marked both continuity and new beginnings. There were familiar faces and new ones, bound by one shared commitment to building a stronger AAC community in Singapore.

Over our term of office, we did more than run events to tick a box. We took care to create spaces where AAC users and their families would feel comfortable, supported and included. At every event, we tried to build a space where AAC users would be visible in real-world public places—in libraries, schools, offices and online platforms.

We wanted our events, gatherings and get-togethers to be places where AAC users and their families could simply enjoy a day out together, without worrying about stares, awkward moments or being misunderstood.

*[continued on page 3...]*

Dear Readers

*This issue arrives at a meaningful moment for our community. Soon, we'll be holding our AGM—a chance to reflect on what we have built together and to welcome a new Exco in the upcoming elections.*

*Over the past two years, our committee has organised events and learning spaces—from community meet-ups and camps to sharing sessions that brought together AAC users, families, professionals and advocates.*

*What has stayed consistent is the intent behind them: to create spaces where AAC users can be visible in everyday life, and where families can participate without having to brace themselves for misunderstanding.*

*What makes ISAAC-Singapore unique is also what makes it effective: we are a diverse community, but we move in the same direction. When AAC users, families, professionals and volunteers work side by side, the result is not just “more activities”—it's a stronger culture of inclusion that people can feel.*

*As we prepare to welcome a new team, we do so with excitement. The next Exco will be building on real progress and a clearer sense of what AAC in action looks like in Singapore. We hope you'll continue this journey with us in the year ahead.*

Catherine  
Newsletter Head  
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Events are the visible part of what we do. Behind each one is a deeper story: more people communicating, more families connecting, more professionals learning alongside AAC users, and more partners and volunteers recognising that inclusion is practical, not just theoretical.

From the start, this committee believed that inclusion had to start from within—with professionals, caregivers, persons who use AAC and volunteers working together in both the planning and delivery. That intent showed up repeatedly in our events: not just in mission statements and objectives, but in how we worked.

Over time, the result was clear. We moved steadily from awareness of AAC to AAC in action—in events, learning spaces and community relationships.

As this committee comes to the end of its term, one thing is clear: the work is far from complete. But now, the foundation is stronger, the community is wider, and the momentum is real.

The next executive committee will not be starting from scratch. They will be starting from progress.

That is exactly how a healthy community grows—one event, one partnership, one shared voice at a time. ■

### Some Highlights During the Committee's Term of Office

1. Community-building through AAC Also Can:
  - An Easter Adventure–Story-reading and Art (9 March 2024)
  - AAC Camp 2024 (8-9 June 2024)
  - AAC Pizza-Making Workshop (14 December 2024)
  - Story Reading with AAC: Love/Friendship (5 April 2025)
  - 2025 AAC Summer Camp (14 June 2025)
  - Play@Esplanade (23 August 2025)
2. Learning-focused events through AAC Can Share:
  - Proloquo app talk (16 May 2024)
  - VersaEye presentation (13 June 2024)
  - Voiceitt workshop (25 June 2024)
  - Lived Experience: Aditi Sowmyanarayan (17 May 2025)
  - Lived Experience sharing with Jordyn Zimmerman (5 November 2025)
3. International participation and contribution at Vibes of AAC 2024 (online, organised by ISAAC International)
4. Growing collaboration with schools, institutions and corporates

## COMMENTARY

# Stronger as One:

## Looking back at Two Years of AAC in Action



**By Calvin Eng**  
**ISAAC-Singapore President (2024–2026)**

It is often difficult to comprehend how quickly time flies. It truly feels like just yesterday that our committee was elected, eager to begin our term. Two years later, while we remain just as excited to scale our initiatives, the time has come for me to pass the torch.

Since the founding of ISAAC-Singapore, I have been inspired by this community's unique composition. We are a collective of Persons Who Use AAC (PWUAAC), caregivers, allied health professionals, and advocates who believe that communication is a fundamental human right. This diversity is our greatest strength; it ensures our decisions remain centred on the lived experiences of AAC users and the accessibility of the programmes we run.

One of my proudest achievements has been collaborating with such passionate individuals. I want to thank Seng Koon, Fadillah, Michelle, Tanushree, Rhodante, Jocelyn, Catherine, Hidayah, Sarah, Yoke Lin, and Xuet Ying—each of you brought unique perspectives that made our work more meaningful. It was consistently inspiring to see the



**Calvin (left), with most of ISAAC-Singapore's committee members at the AAC Summer Camp 2025.**



*Calvin (in front, with guitar), with the volunteers and some of the participants commemorating the successful conclusion of the AAC Camp 2024, at the National Junior College Boarding School.*

team rally together during major events, supporting one another to ensure our success.

Over the past two years, this team has reached at least 534 individuals, including AAC users, caregivers, volunteers and professionals, through our AAC Also Can and AAC Can Share events. This steady growth has built the momentum necessary for sustainable, long-term impact.

I am also deeply grateful to the partners and stakeholders who supported our journey: The Majority Trust, Google Singapore, Pizza Hut Singapore, Apple Singapore, PRC-Salttillo Singapore, National Junior College, Vexillum, The Esplanade, Singapore Institute of Technology, Speech and Language Therapy Singapore, ITE Rotaract Club, NTU Biomedical Engineering Society, and Friends of the Disabled Society. Many of our milestones would not have been possible without your partnership.

On a personal note, it has been a wonderful journey serving alongside this committee and our volunteers. We share a vital vision: a Singapore where AAC is recognised, valued and utilised, and where persons who use AAC are an integral part of society.

***"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."***

**Helen Keller**

*Calvin is a board-certified music therapist and he is on a journey to advocate for how music can play a role in improving healthcare, quality of life, well-being, and society. He is passionate about building inclusive communities and his interests lie at the intersection of music and the arts, Augmentative & Alternative Communication, and User Experience Design.*

## PROFILE

# AAC Also Can: The Past Two Years

By Tanushree Saxena-Chandhok



**Tanushree, who is Head of the AAC Also Can subcommittee, shares her thoughts and memories on her team's experiences during her term of office.**

Over the past two years, I've found myself reflecting on just how exciting this journey has been—especially watching how the AAC Also Can events and activities have grown and evolved. This past year has been particularly meaningful, as I've had the privilege of being joined by two enthusiastic co-leads, Fadillah and Seng Koon, in shaping the longer-term planning of AAC Also Can.

Both Fadillah and Seng Koon have been long-standing members of the ISAAC-Singapore committee, and they share a deep commitment to building engagement within the AAC community. Together, with the encouragement and support of ISAAC-Singapore President Calvin Eng, we have worked intentionally to move AAC Also Can events toward greater impact—aligning closely with the Society's vision and mission of raising awareness and fostering a growing AAC community.

## Moving with Intention

Traditionally, AAC Also Can events were closed-door gatherings—safe, welcoming spaces where registered participants (AAC users and one or two family members) could come together to have fun and build meaningful connections. Over the past two years, we have continued to host such events, including a pizza-making workshop and an online storytelling chat, among others.



**Co-lead Fadillah (in red) giving instructions to participants at a pizza-making workshop at Pizza Hut on 14 December 2024.**



*The audience engrossed in the play “Koko The Great” at The Esplanade in August 2025.*

At the same time, we felt ready to venture into uncharted waters.

We began planning activities that stepped beyond closed-door events and into the wider community. One example was attending a play at the Esplanade, where we joined the larger Singapore community. During the session, we communicated using our AAC systems, expressed ourselves freely, and, along the way, raised awareness about AAC among curious onlookers. It was visible, empowering and meaningful.

### **A Milestone: AAC Summer Camp 2025**

We also mustered the courage to organise something bigger—our AAC Summer Camp, held in June 2025.

This event was supported by an incredible and generous team—comprising not only committee members, but many volunteers who believed in the idea of an inclusive society and stepped forward to make it happen. For me personally, this was the highlight of the year.

The camp brought together a large and vibrant community—volunteers, families, siblings, parents, aunts and friends—all gathered for a joyful Carnival. It was fun, energetic and heartwarming. More importantly, it achieved the impact we had hoped for: connection, visibility, inclusion and shared understanding. (Read more about the camp in [Issue 16](#).)



*Some of the participants at the AAC Summer Camp 2025.*

## What's Next?

As a team, we believe it is important to continue participating in community-based events while maintaining a thoughtful mix of both large and small group activities. Some may remain closed-door and intimate; others will intentionally engage participants in shared public spaces.

For this year, we are gearing up for our Summer Camp and will continue to look at avenues to participate in events conducted in the community.

## A Heartfelt Thank You

The true impact and success of AAC Also Can events are only possible because of the families who faithfully join us and the volunteers who show up, committed to supporting participants and simply having a good time together.

A big shout-out to all of you—and a heartfelt thank you. We look forward to continuing this journey together. ■

*Tanushree Saxena-Chandhok is a Speech Language Therapist by profession, and an AAC advocate at heart. She is currently serving as a committee member for ISAAC-Singapore and is the AAC Also Can Head.*

## ISAAC-Singapore Annual General Meeting 2026

Thank you for being part of the ISAAC-Singapore community. Your participation—whether through events, volunteering, or staying connected online—helps strengthen AAC support in Singapore.

ISAAC-Singapore's AGM will be held on 7 March 2026. This is where we:

- Review ISAAC-Singapore's activities in the past two years
- Present ISAAC-Singapore's financial accounts
- Conclude the current committee's term
- Elect the new committee for 2026–2028

### AGM Details

Date: Saturday, 7 March 2026

Time: 3.00pm – 5.00pm

Venue: Online (Zoom)

### Who should attend

- All ISAAC-Singapore members are welcome
- Non-members may attend as observers (no voting)

All members are welcome to attend and exercise their voting rights in electing the next office bearers.

Register your interest to attend by emailing us at [hello@isaac-singapore.org](mailto:hello@isaac-singapore.org). We look forward to seeing you on March 7th.

## EVENT UPDATE

# Taking AAC into the Community

By **Tanushree Saxena-Chandhok**

© Ms Swati D.

For the past few years, the AAC Also Can Team has been curating events to bring together AAC users, their families, and caregivers—creating spaces to connect, share and grow as a community. Now, we have taken a bold next step: moving beyond our familiar circles and bringing AAC into the wider community.

This milestone aligns closely with ISAAC-Singapore's vision—to advocate for and raise awareness about AAC. When members of the public encounter AAC in everyday settings, we hope it becomes recognised and accepted, just like other assistive technologies such as glasses or white canes. Perhaps AAC will soon be seen in the same light—simply another tool that empowers communication!

August 2025 marked the start of that intentional journey. Our team stepped out together to attend *Koko the Great*, a relaxed performance at the Esplanade Theatre Studio. It was a small but meaningful step toward greater inclusion and visibility for AAC in our shared spaces. The event brought together eight families.

During the performance, AAC users and their families were supported by volunteers who had customised AAC systems on hand. These facilitated conversations about everything from the play's characters and music to family stories and favourite moments. The group enjoyed the colourful lighting, the gentle

## **What's a relaxed performance?**

The Esplanade's relaxed performances are specially designed to create a welcoming environment for everyone. The shows feature thoughtful modifications to accommodate sensory sensitivities, calming areas for anyone who needs a break, and the freedom for audience members to move around as they wish.

movement of fabric that mimicked flowing water, and the songs that filled the theatre. Each participant found their own comfortable way to enjoy the show: some sat close to the action indoors, others chose a quieter spot outside to watch from afar.

After the play, everyone gathered at Foreword Coffee in Esplanade Mall for drinks, snacks and plenty of friendly chatter. Conversations flowed easily—about the play, favourite foods, and songs that lingered in everyone’s minds. What a heartwarming end to a day of shared experiences and connection! ■

***Here’s what Ms. Swati D.,  
a mother, has to say about the event:*** 🥰

***We attended “Koko The Great” at Esplanade Theatre Studio after Ms Rho told me about it, and I’m so glad we went! My little one was completely engaged throughout the show, watching Koko and his friends go on their river adventure. The interactive elements—collecting wooden fruits and touching the big blue cloth—were highlights, and sitting on the floor together made it feel so intimate and comfortable. What made this different from our usual outings was the Relaxed Performance format—no stress about movement or noise, which was such a relief! The show created natural opportunities for us to communicate about the characters, instruments and props, and we made choices together about participating in the activities. My advice to other parents: just dive in! The welcoming atmosphere is perfect if your child needs movement or sensory breaks. It was truly a memorable experience for both of us!***



*Ms Swati and her son, at the performance.*

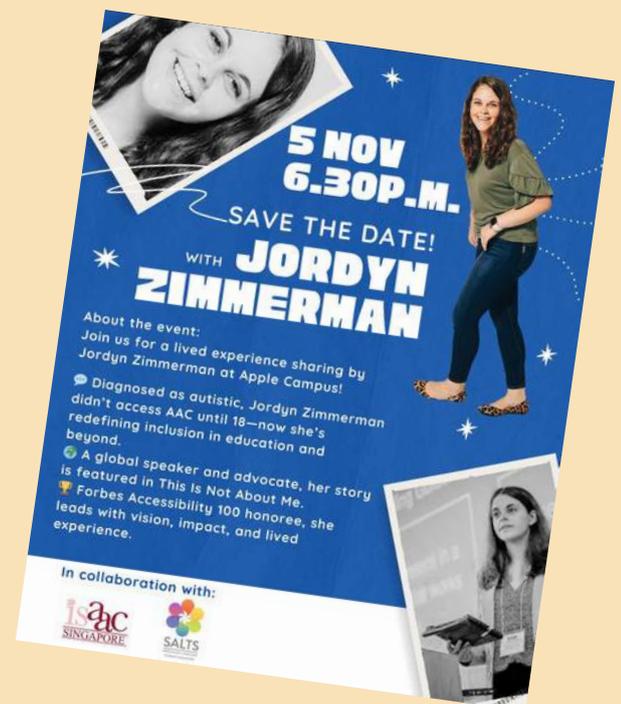


***Tanushree Saxena-Chandhok is a Speech Language Therapist by profession, and an AAC advocate at heart. She is currently serving as a committee member for ISAAC-Singapore and is the AAC Also Can Head.***

## EVENT UPDATE

# “COMMUNICATION IS A HUMAN RIGHT”: VOICES FROM AN EVENING WITH JORDYN ZIMMERMAN

By Rho Evelyn



In November 2025, families, educators, therapists and students came together for an ISAAC event centred on lived experience, advocacy and access to communication. Autistic communicator and public speaker Jordyn Zimmerman’s sharing—delivered entirely through AAC and at her own pace—left a lasting impression on everyone in the room.

For parents on the AAC journey, the impact was deeply personal.

*“I found Jordyn’s session to be both inspiring and wonderfully practical. As a mother of a child on the AAC journey, it filled me with renewed hope and provided invaluable strategies to better support our daughter. It was truly one of the most impactful ISAAC sessions I’ve attended.”*  
(Parent of an AAC user)

Another parent shared how powerful it was to finally see a role model using AAC with confidence and authenticity:

*“Watching Jordyn communicate effortlessly through her AAC device was truly inspiring—her confidence, clarity, and impressive personality shone through every message. We needed a role model to start our AAC journey with our son, and now we have one.”*

Jordyn Zimmerman is a nonspeaking autistic educator and disability rights advocate who communicates most effectively by typing with AAC. Denied effective communication supports until age 18, she later earned degrees in education policy, education and business, and has become a prominent voice for communication access and inclusive education. She is Chair of CommunicationFIRST’s Board, appears in the documentary *This Is Not About Me*, and was named to Forbes’ Accessibility 100 list in 2025.



***The audience comprised a mix of families, educators, therapists and students. Jordyn Zimmerman is in the second row, wearing a dark jacket and light-coloured blouse.***

Professionals in attendance reflected on how Jordyn’s lived experience reframed their understanding of communication—particularly the importance of waiting and presuming competence.

*“It really highlighted the need for us, as communication partners, to wait longer and presume competence. I also found myself thinking about how motor planning and sensory factors can influence a person’s ability to access and use AAC effectively.”*  
(Occupational Therapist)

Another occupational therapist described being deeply moved by Jordyn’s pacing and intentional facilitation of the audience:

*“It was lovely to have Jordyn give her presentation from beginning to end with her AAC, and to do it at her own pace. I was heartened to see her facilitate the audience into slowing down and waiting—both during her sharing and her Q&A.”*

Several attendees spoke about how Jordyn’s story reinforced long-held values while also expanding their thinking about the future.

*“Her success in leveraging AAC to overcome personal struggles and achieve her dreams is a powerful reminder of what is possible. Her story reinforces our shared beliefs as educators and Speech Language Therapists to actively champion communication and ensure increased accessibility for the minimally-speaking autistic community.”*  
(Speech and Language Therapist)

One speech and language therapist described the experience as transformative—not just professionally, but personally:

*“For me, it was truly life-changing to meet Jordyn and to see in real life how access to communication can transform a person’s life.”*

They went on to reflect on a powerful shift in responsibility:

*“What impacted me the most was realising that communication is not only the responsibility of speech and language therapists. It is a shared duty of the community, families, teachers and schools.”*

This sense of collective responsibility resonated strongly across the room.

*“Communication is a human right, and creating accessible environments is something we all must be aware of. I truly believe our collective mindset has shifted and we are now ready to bring meaningful change to the environment around us.”*

Students and early-career professionals also reflected on broader access and equity issues:

*“It made me think about individuals who do not have access to alternative communication tools due to lack of resources, exposure, education or financial means. These individuals could easily fall through the cracks—which is why awareness and outreach for AAC is absolutely important.”*  
(Speech and Language Therapy student)

Educators echoed this call to action, highlighting the role schools play in creating inclusive environments:

*“Through the use of AAC, Jordyn showed the world that intelligence and potential are not defined by speech but by opportunity. When we provide AAC tools in our classrooms, we open doors to confidence, connection and self-expression.”*  
(Special Education Needs Teacher)



**(From left) AAC Can Share co-leads Jocelyn and Rho, with fellow committee member Michelle.**

Across families, professionals and students alike, one message rang clear: access to communication changes lives—and sustaining that access requires shared commitment, respect and belief.

As one parent summed it up:

*“This was an inspiring evening that gives us hope and confidence that our children can achieve this goal and be communicative. It also reminds us how much harder we need to work as a family and community to help the child succeed.”*

*Rho is a Speech and Language Therapist with a passion for working with non-speaking and minimally speaking individuals who use AAC. She takes a strength-based, family-centred approach, ensuring that communication support is tailored to each individual's needs within their daily life. In addition to her clinical work, Rho is the co-lead of ISAAC-Singapore's AAC Can Share group, a community dedicated to supporting AAC users, caregivers and allied health professionals in Singapore. Through this group, she helps foster a collaborative and inclusive space where individuals can learn, share experiences, and grow in their AAC journey.*

## Join the ISAAC-SG TEAM!

We need volunteers for:

- **Publicity** 
  - **Events** 
  - **Newsletter** 
- 

**HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?  
NEED SOME INFO ABOUT AAC?  
WANT TO VOLUNTEER WITH US?**

Send us your suggestions, stories and feedback. Let's grow stronger as a community together!

### CONTACT US

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**WHEN YOU KNOW BETTER, YOU DO BETTER**

# EMBRACING THE MESSINESS OF COMMUNICATION

**By Rho Evelyn**



For a long time, I thought good therapy meant being prepared, polished and purposeful. I carefully planned sessions, brought engaging activities, and aimed to make each hour feel meaningful and productive. In many ways, I was a bit of a Mary Poppins therapist—arriving with a well-stocked bag and a clear plan, ready to lead the session from start to finish.

And for a while, that worked.

Sessions looked good. Progress felt visible. But slowly, and often quietly, families began to show me something important: while therapy might have felt successful during the session, it wasn't always translating into everyday life.

Parents would tell me how hard it was to replicate activities at home, or how communication still felt difficult during busy routines—mealtimes, bath time, getting out the door in the morning. The reality was that families were already holding so much that therapy sometimes felt like one more thing to add to an already full plate.

What I've come to understand—sometimes uncomfortably—is that communication itself is messy. And because AAC is communication, AAC is messy too.

When I truly embraced that idea, my practice began to shift.

Communication doesn't happen in neat, quiet, distraction-free moments. It happens when a child is tired, when siblings are arguing, when toast is burning, when plans change. It happens in half-finished messages, gestures, glances, repeated attempts, and misunderstandings. For AAC users and their families, communication is not a performance—it's lived, negotiated and constantly evolving.

The turning point for me was realising that my role wasn't to tidy up that mess, but to step into it alongside the families.

This meant letting go of the idea that I needed to run therapy. Instead, I began to focus on routines—things families were already doing every day. Meals, getting dressed, shopping trips, playtime, bedtime. These moments didn't look impressive on paper, and they weren't always calm or predictable. But they were real. And they were where communication mattered most.

For some families, this transition felt unfamiliar. They were used to structured sessions and clear activities, and routine-based therapy initially felt less like “therapy” and more like everyday life. But over time, something shifted. Communication started to happen more naturally, more frequently, and with less pressure. AAC was no longer something brought out for therapy—it became part of the family's rhythm.

This change also required me to recognise families as the authorities on their children truly.

Families know what matters. They know what's hard. They know what feels achievable and what doesn't. When we, clinicians, families and AAC users agree to step into the mess together, the dynamic changes. Therapy becomes



collaborative rather than instructional. Goals become shared rather than prescribed. And communication becomes something supported across the day, not confined to an hour a week.

Working well in this field means being willing to get comfortable with discomfort. It means accepting that progress won't always look linear, sessions won't always go according to plan, and communication won't always be clear or tidy. But within that mess is where connection lives.

When I stopped trying to be Mary Poppins and instead chose to walk alongside families in their everyday lives, I saw bigger, more meaningful change. Not because things became easier—but because they became more real.

And when we know better, we do better. ■

*Rho is a Speech and Language Therapist with a passion for working with non-speaking and minimally speaking individuals who use AAC. She takes a strength-based, family-centred approach, ensuring that communication support is tailored to each individual's needs within their daily life. In addition to her clinical work, Rho is the co-lead of ISAAC-Singapore's AAC Can Share group, a community dedicated to supporting AAC users, caregivers and allied health professionals in Singapore. Through this group, she helps foster a collaborative and inclusive space where individuals can learn, share experiences, and grow in their AAC journey.*

◆

**BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER—**  
**JOIN US AS AN ISAAC-SINGAPORE MEMBER**

Join a community that turns belief into action! Let's grow a Singapore where AAC is recognised, valued and used. When you join us, you automatically become a member of ISAAC International, thus connecting you to the global AAC community.

What you get as a member:

- Member discounts for the ISAAC International Biennial Conference
- Access to webinars by AAC experts worldwide
- Reduced rates for AAC journals and related conferences
- Access to the ISAAC Membership Directory—a global network of AAC users, families, professionals, researchers and industry partners

Join us now—Fill in the membership registration form at <https://forms.gle/suUwhbnBPK9MAqaW9>.

**SAYFULLAH: MY LIFE USING AAC AND AT****MY IPAD, MY VOICE, MY NIGHT****BY MUHD SAYFULLAH**

© SALTS.

Hello, friends. Let me take you with me to an evening that still makes my heart feel fizzy and bright.

On 28th November last year, Speech and Language Therapy Singapore (SALTS) invited PRC-Salttillo Singapore to set up a booth at their dinner, held at Google Singapore. That night became extra special for me because The Inclusive Pair was chosen to represent PRC-Salttillo Singapore as ambassadors, advocating for AAC among speech therapists in Singapore.

*Ambassadors.* Can you imagine that? I tapped the word again and again on my TouchChat because it felt big, exciting, and a little unreal. This was our very first ambassador role, and it felt like a new chapter opening right in front of us.

The evening moved fast, like a happy blur. On the outside, I tried to look calm and cool. On the inside, it was fireworks everywhere. I was especially excited to have small conversations with people. I love meeting new faces, and I love pausing to find just the right words on my TouchChat app. Every message felt like a tiny bridge being built.

Towards the end of the night, I was given a chance to speak. Using my AAC, I shared who I was and why I needed my iPad and TouchChat as my voice. I told them how AAC gives me freedom and confidence to communicate. I also shared the mission and vision of ISAAC-Singapore and my hopes for AAC in the future. The room was quiet and attentive. When I finished, everyone clapped.

That was the moment my eyes filled with tears. I had not cried like that after an event in a long time. When I was asked why, I said that the evening touched my heart. It truly did. My heart felt very full.

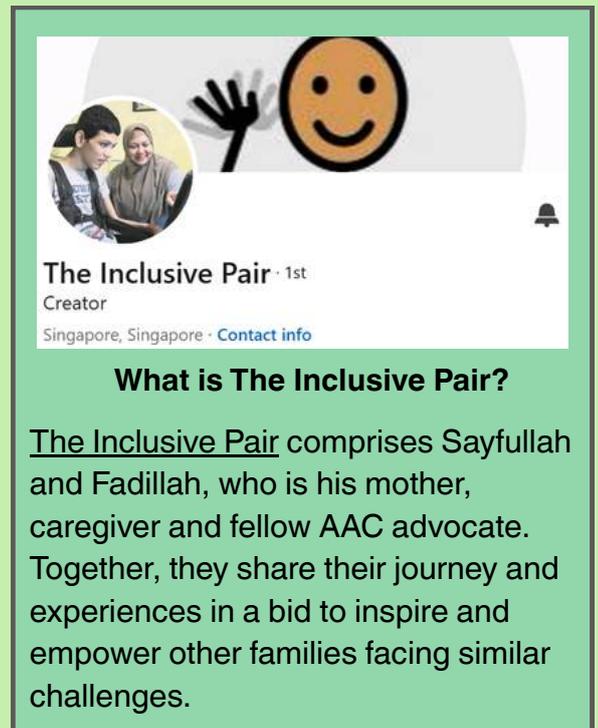
I want to say a warm thank you to Kate Lim, Sarah Tso, Clare Isabel Ee and Cady Tay from SALTS, Stephanie Sim from Google Singapore, and the representatives from the Healthcare Services Employees Union (HSEU) who spoke with me and made me feel seen and heard. Every interaction mattered.

From exploring the space and sharing our story, to connecting with people who care, every little moment felt magical. I am grateful for how far The Inclusive Pair has come, for every tiny milestone, and for every big achievement. I am also grateful to share this journey with all of you in ISAAC-Singapore.

So here I am, busy, buzzing, happy, and dreaming even bigger. My voice is on my iPad, but my dreams are limitless. Thank you for listening. ■

***“My voice is on my iPad,  
but my dreams are limitless.”***

**Muhd Sayfullah**, known as [@artbysayfullah](#), is a freelance digital artist with Quadriplegic Cerebral Palsy. He brings his joyful spirit to life through vibrant, quirky creations. Despite his physical challenges, Sayfullah’s passion for digital art and his determination to keep learning shine through his work. Follow his journey on Instagram: [@artbysayfullah](#)



## ARTICLE

# Help Us Raise \$27,000 to Support AAC Users and Their Families

By Foo Yoke Lin



*These two posters were created to support the fundraiser.*

In November 2025, ISAAC-Singapore launched our first fundraising campaign on the Give.Asia platform. Our goal is to raise \$27,000 for our activities to support AAC users and their families.

The funds raised will be used for three initiatives—AAC Also Can, AAC Can Share and a Pilot Project to support young adult AAC users.

## What are the three initiatives?

- **AAC Also Can**

This is a platform for persons who use AAC to meet fellow users through online and in-person meet-ups. To promote increased use of AAC in community settings and greater societal support for AAC users and their caregivers, the funds raised will be used for two types of events:

1. *Small-scale events, which will take place in-person or online and be conducted twice each year (Feb/March and Nov/Dec). Such events will target a maximum of 10 AAC users, and 10 Communication partners, supported by six to eight volunteers/community members.*

2. *Bigger event (Summer Camp), which takes place in-person in June/July. This event will target a maximum of 20 AAC users and 20 communication partners, supported by 20 to 25 volunteers/community members.*

- **AAC Can Share**

This group focuses on sharing information, resources and support related to AAC, to enhance communication and participation for individuals with complex communication needs. To promote the use of AAC in Singapore, AAC Can Share runs inclusive, peer-driven learning events under the ISAAC-Singapore umbrella, including panel discussions, personal sharing, and hands-on AAC demonstrations.

These events provide a much-needed space where caregivers, AAC users, and professionals can learn side-by-side. The funds will be utilised to invite a broader range of speakers, cover venue and technology costs, and expand opportunities for hands-on learning with AAC systems.

Instead of professional-led and classroom-based AAC training, our approach is grounded in lived experiences and community feedback, with strong volunteer retention from past sessions.

- **Pilot Project**

This initiative will support our post-18 community of AAC users, who are often overlooked, and aims to improve their vocabulary and semantics. The funds raised will be set aside to hire a professional to teach and guide the PWUAAC (people who use AAC) enrolled in the project.

### How you can help

These three initiatives are built around one simple idea: communication should not be a privilege. Your donation will help ISAAC-Singapore create more opportunities for AAC users to be seen, heard and included—in everyday community spaces and across different life stages, including young adults who are often overlooked.

If this matters to you, do consider donating today and/or sharing the campaign with someone who may support it too. Every gift, big or small, moves us closer to our \$27,000 goal and helps keep these programmes going.

ISAAC-Singapore's Give.Asia page is at <https://isaac-sg.give.asia/>.

*Foo Yoke Lin has been supporting her child's AAC journey for the past five years. As a caregiver to an AAC user, she started volunteering with ISAAC-Singapore for AAC Also Can events in 2020. She hopes to increase awareness by advocating for wider visibility and acceptance in the community.*