COUNTRY GUIDE



ASIA

Singapore.

Singapore has no dedicated Good Samaritan law; the Ministry of Law has said its laws do not raise major liability concerns for people who help in good faith. The government promotes giving and volunteering through the SG Cares movement, the Singapore Kindness Movement and Kindness Day SG, a volunteer portal, and a 250 per cent tax deduction for qualifying donations to approved charities.

DUTY TO HELP A STRANGER
No general duty found

PROTECTION FOR HELPERS
None found

GIVING AND SERVICE
5 programs and laws

Is there a legal duty to help a stranger?

NO GENERAL DUTY FOUND

The Ministry of Law answers reviewed address liability for helpers, not any duty to help, and no general duty to rescue a stranger was found in the sources reviewed. This is not a finding that none exists in other statutes.

Oral Answer by Senior Minister of State for Law, Indranee Rajah, to Parliamentary Question on Good Samaritan Law (May 29, 2014) (Ministry of Law, Singapore)

Are people who help protected?

NONE FOUND

In 2014 the Ministry of Law said such a law is unnecessary at present, explaining that civil law requires only the standard of care reasonably expected of a person of the helper's skill and experience, and criminal liability generally requires intent to cause harm. In August 2021 the Minister for Law said the position remained the same at that time and would be reviewed as necessary.

Oral Answer by Senior Minister of State for Law, Indranee Rajah, to Parliamentary Question on Good Samaritan Law (Ministry of Law, Singapore) Written Answer by Minister for Law, Mr K Shanmugam, to Parliamentary Question on the Position on Necessity for Implementation of Good Samaritan Law in Singapore (August 2, 2021) (Ministry of Law, Singapore)

How the government promotes giving and service

SG Cares movement

MCCY describes SG Cares as a national movement, championed by the SG Cares Office and co-led by the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre and the National Council of Social Service, inviting residents to put values into action through volunteerism and everyday acts of care.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH, SINGAPORE

Singapore Kindness Movement

MCCY lists the Singapore Kindness Movement as promoting a gracious society by encouraging acts of kindness.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH, SINGAPORE

Kindness Day SG 2026

MCCY published the Acting Minister's May 29, 2026 speech at the Singapore Kindness Movement's Kindred Spirit Circle induction and appreciation dinner

connected to Kindness Day SG.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE, COMMUNITY AND YOUTH, SINGAPORE

250% tax deduction for qualifying donations

IRAS says the 250% deduction for qualifying donations to approved Institutions of a Public Character has been extended to December 31, 2026, and that donations to charities without approved IPC status are not tax deductible.

INLAND REVENUE AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE

Charities Act 1994 and volunteer.gov.sg

The Charities Act 1994 provides for registration and regulation of charities and institutions of a public character, and the government's volunteer.gov.sg portal lists volunteering opportunities across many causes.

SINGAPORE STATUTES ONLINE, ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS

Ways to give and volunteer

Giving in Singapore is well organized, with a government charity register and large national volunteer and giving bodies; many local services are run by faith-based and community groups. The one thing to know first: check that a charity is registered before you give.

Check a charity before you give

The official register where you can look up whether an organization is a registered charity or an Institution of a Public Character and see its governing documents and annual reports.

Charity Portal (Commissioner of Charities)

Give your time

National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre (NVPC)

The national body that promotes volunteering and giving and links people to volunteer opportunities.

Singapore Red Cross
The national Red Cross society, which recruits volunteers for disaster response, community care and blood drives.

Give money, blood or a donation

Community Chest
The long-running national fundraising body that funds many social service agencies and programs.

Health Sciences Authority, Blood Donation
The national regulator's page explaining who can donate blood and how.

Singapore Red Cross, Give Blood
Where to book a blood donation through the national blood program.

Food Bank Singapore
A national food bank that collects and distributes food to people in need.

In an emergency or a crisis

Samaritans of Singapore (SOS): 1767
A free 24-hour suicide prevention hotline in Singapore for anyone, with a WhatsApp text option at 9151 1767.

Samaritans of Singapore (SOS)
A 24-hour emotional support and suicide prevention service.

Before you act

- Fake charity collectors and phone or online donation scams exist, so confirm the group on the Charity Portal and donate through its official channels.
- Public street and door-to-door fundraising generally needs a permit, so ask to see one.
- Foreign visitors should check current rules before volunteering with local groups or raising money here.

This list does not cover every local group, religious services or political causes, and it is not a recommendation of any one charity. Checked 2026-10-28. Listing an organization is not an endorsement, and none of them has endorsed this site. Some official sites block automatic checks, so a link may need a second try.

One thing worth knowing

The government's stated position is that existing law already poses no major liability concern for good-faith helpers, so it has chosen not to legislate a Good Samaritan law, while promoting kindness through campaigns and tax incentives.

What this does not mean

Parliamentary answers state the Government's position and are not statutes; the position may change. The tax deduction period is as stated on the IRAS page, which may be updated, and this guide makes no claim about effectiveness of the campaigns. This is a plain-language summary of public sources, not legal advice, and it does not rank countries. No government named here has endorsed this site. Not reviewed by a lawyer. Statutes were read in public sources and may have changed. Last checked October 26, 2026.

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