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## MEDIA RELEASE

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 11 DECEMBER 2020, 5PM**

### **272 ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS RECOGNISED FOR THEIR SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY CHEST IN FY2019 AT COMMUNITY CHEST AWARDS 2020**

- *39% were recognised for their strong support towards COVID-19 related causes*

**SINGAPORE, 11 DECEMBER 2020** – A total of 272 organisations and individuals were recognised at Community Chest Awards 2020 for their significant contributions to Community Chest in FY2019. The Awards ceremony took on a hybrid format and the segment at the Istana was presided by Guest-of-Honour, **President Halimah Yacob**, and hosted by **Minister for Social and Family Development Masagos Zulkifli**.

2 This year, a special Community Spirit Award was presented to 107 organisations and individuals in recognition of their contributions towards COVID-19 related causes to support the social service sector and the wider community affected by the pandemic. The Award recognised both monetary contributions towards funds like The Courage Fund, The Invictus Fund, IMDA Digital Access Programme and other COVID-related causes, and in-kind donations of essentials such as masks and hand sanitisers, of at least \$50,000 in value up till 31 August 2020. Collectively, they contributed over \$25 million in donations and more than \$5 million worth of in-kind donations.

3 This Awards ceremony also celebrated holistic giving by various donors and partners. Among them is **Singtel**, which received the highest accolade in the form of the **Pinnacle Award** for its support of the sustainable progress, development and inclusion of vulnerable groups in society. Some of its initiatives include the Singtel Touching Lives Fund, which funds the education of children and youths with special needs; and its work with SG Enable on initiatives to help students with disabilities transit into open employment and remain in their jobs. The company also leverages its position as the co-chair of the Singapore Business Network on Disability to promote the cross-sharing of expertise, experiences and resources between business partners and industry peers to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities. Aside from the Pinnacle Award, the Singtel Group also received **the Charity Platinum, Community Spirit Platinum and Volunteer Partner** awards. Refer to Annex A for the awards criteria.

4 Ms Chua Sock Koong, Singtel's Group CEO, said: "Singtel is honoured to be recognised for our support of the vulnerable in society. As a technology company, our ethos of giving has always been premised on advancing their well-being and progress by empowering them with digital access, digital literacy and digital inclusion. Our three-decade long partnership with Community Chest has allowed us to develop our sustainability strategies over the longer term, to not just introduce positive changes, but ultimately track, improve and make these changes endure. We hope to deepen our existing initiatives with Community Chest and widen our reach to more people in need."

5 In addition to the amount raised for COVID-19 related causes, Community Chest also raised a total of \$58.7 million in FY2019 to support more than 80 social service agencies serving vulnerable groups like children with special needs and youth at risk, adults with disabilities, persons with mental health conditions, vulnerable seniors and families. This is an increase from the \$54.2 million raised in FY2018.

6 Mr Phillip Tan, Chairman of Community Chest, said: "2020 has been a very challenging year for Singapore. I am heartened that many of our partners including corporate and individual donors have stepped up to lend their support to our COVID-related causes. At the same time, we would also like to extend our deepest gratitude towards corporate partners who have advocated for inclusive business practices, and used their skills and resources to make a difference in the lives of our service users. The needs of the sector will only increase and become more complex and varied over time. It is crucial that we take an 'all hands on deck' approach to supporting the vulnerable communities amongst us."

– END –

### **About Community Chest**

As the hallmark of care and share, Community Chest has been uniting the community to fundraise and serve those in need since 1983. In 2019, as Singapore reflects on its progress and milestones since its founding 200 years ago, Community Chest aims to highlight the importance of community giving and how it has been integral to the success of Singapore since its early days.

Under the Bicentennial Community Fund, the Government will provide dollar-for-dollar matching for donations\* to Community Chest, up to 20% of the total funds raised from 1 April 2019 to 31 December 2020. Through this, Community Chest hopes to encourage the community to give and maximise the impact to enhance the sector's capabilities, create impactful partnerships and make caring a part of our everyday lives.

Community Chest supports about 80 social service agencies to meet underserved, critical social needs. As our fundraising and operating costs are covered mainly by Tote Board Group, 100% of your contributions goes towards empowering the lives of:

- Adults with disabilities
- Children with special needs and youth-at-risk
- Families in need
- Persons with mental health conditions
- Vulnerable seniors

*\*Donations include all private cash donations. Grants from government agencies, including Tote Board, which are not donations, will not qualify for the matching. Community Chest, as a fundraising arm of the National Council of Social Service, supporting about 80 social service agencies, will not be subject to the \$400,000 per IPC cap. Instead, 20% of the total donation (net of the donation that is already matched by existing grants) received by Community Chest in the qualifying period will be matched by the Bicentennial Community Fund.*

Find out more at [comchest.sg](http://comchest.sg).

### **About SG Cares**

SG Cares is a national movement dedicated to building a more caring and inclusive home for all. The movement invites all who live in Singapore to put values into action through active volunteerism, ground-up efforts and everyday acts of care. It also aims to build capability across various sectors and organisations to grow opportunities for volunteering. By inspiring and supporting one another, we can show the world that we are a nation with a big heart.

Find out more at [www.sgcares.sg](http://www.sgcares.sg).

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## ANNEX A: AWARDS AND AWARD CRITERIA

<p>SHARE AWARD</p>	<p>The SHARE Awards recognise organisations with employees on SHARE for their high participation rate. The organisation must have made a minimum annual contribution of \$5,000 and has contributed regularly for at least nine months within the assessment period, but not necessarily for consecutive months.</p> <p>The various types of SHARE Awards are:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="400 555 1289 819"> <thead> <tr> <th>AWARD TYPE</th> <th>SHARE Participation Rate</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>SHARE Achiever</td> <td>98% to 100%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHARE Platinum</td> <td>90% to 97%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHARE Gold</td> <td>80% to 89%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHARE Silver</td> <td>70% to 79%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHARE Bronze</td> <td>50% to 69%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	AWARD TYPE	SHARE Participation Rate	SHARE Achiever	98% to 100%	SHARE Platinum	90% to 97%	SHARE Gold	80% to 89%	SHARE Silver	70% to 79%	SHARE Bronze	50% to 69%
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<p>CHARITY AWARD</p>	<p>The Charity Awards are presented to organisations and individuals who have made significant donations to Community Chest. These donations include outright donations, funds raised from events and contributions through SHARE, Community Chest's monthly giving programme.</p> <p>The various types of Charity Awards are:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="400 1117 1289 1339"> <thead> <tr> <th>AWARD TYPE</th> <th>SHARE Participation Rate</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Charity Platinum</td> <td>\$300,000 and above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charity Gold</td> <td>\$200,000 to \$299,999</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charity Silver</td> <td>\$100,000 to \$199,999</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charity Bronze</td> <td>\$50,000 to \$99,999</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	AWARD TYPE	SHARE Participation Rate	Charity Platinum	\$300,000 and above	Charity Gold	\$200,000 to \$299,999	Charity Silver	\$100,000 to \$199,999	Charity Bronze	\$50,000 to \$99,999		
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<p>VOLUNTEER PARTNER AWARD</p>	<p>The Volunteer Partner Award serves to recognise an organisation, which is exemplary in its regular volunteerism scheme, such as service-based or skills-based volunteerism, with demonstrated outcomes.</p> <p>The nominee must have volunteered with a charity that is a member of the National Council of Social Service, and the charity must be supportive of the nomination. The nominee must have a minimum of 20% staff participation rate in the volunteerism scheme, and staff should be involved regularly (for example, each staff having volunteered for at least 24 hours and at least four times during the assessment period).</p>												

<p>ENABLER AWARD</p>	<p>The Enabler Award serves to recognise an organisation or individual who has made significant non-monetary contributions, which resulted in substantial cost savings or multiplier effect in outreach or fundraising efforts achieved for Community Chest.</p> <p>The contribution towards addressing social needs can be made by the nominee in ways like:</p> <p>i Talent, capability and network including but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offering media assets and resources such as digital/social media/advertising platforms (e.g. print ads, broadcast ads, out-of-home ads etc.)</li> <li>• Mobilising and connecting people/organisations/partners to support Community Chest in signature events, special fundraising projects etc.</li> </ul>				
<p>PINNACLE AWARD</p>	<p>The Pinnacle Award is the highest honour given by Community Chest to recognise an organisation which is exemplary in holistic caring, and is a role model in all three aspects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Giving of donations</li> <li>ii. Volunteerism and/or making non-monetary contributions</li> <li>iii. Inclusive employment</li> </ol> <p>The nominee must be eligible for a SHARE Award or Charity Award, as well as eligible for a Volunteer Partner Award or Enabler Award. The organisation must also have inclusive employment practices and some measures include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Number of persons with disabilities or mental health illnesses hired (and as a percentage of total staff strength)</li> <li>ii. Policies or practices implemented to facilitate the hiring and integration of these staff</li> <li>iii. Procurement of products or services provided by charities or social enterprises</li> </ol>				
<p>COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD</p>	<p>This year, a special Community Spirit Award will recognise the efforts that have been made to help our social service agencies and the service users they support tide through challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. These efforts include outright donations towards The Courage Fund, The Invictus Fund, the IMDA Digital Access Programme and other COVID-related causes, and in-kind donations made to a social service agency through Community Chest for the purpose of serving a need arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The two categories of Community Spirit Award are:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="400 1843 1289 1973"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="400 1843 844 1890">AWARD TYPE</th> <th data-bbox="844 1843 1289 1890">CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="400 1890 844 1973">Community Spirit Platinum Award</td> <td data-bbox="844 1890 1289 1973">Outright and in-kind donations of above \$500,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	AWARD TYPE	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT	Community Spirit Platinum Award	Outright and in-kind donations of above \$500,000
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Community Spirit Platinum Award	Outright and in-kind donations of above \$500,000				

	Community Spirit Gold Award	Outright and in-kind donations of \$50,000 - \$500,000	
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