



MEDIA RELEASE

Community Chest increases funding to support critical social services to \$52 million in FY2022

Upcoming Community Chest Uniting Hearts Charity TV Show 2023 to celebrate 40 years of rallying the community to champion every potential

SINGAPORE, 6 SEPTEMBER 2023 – In the Financial Year (FY) 2022, Community Chest allocated over \$52 million to empower children with special needs and youth-at-risk, adults with disabilities, persons with mental health conditions and families and seniors in need of support. This represents an increase of about \$3 million in funding from \$49.5 million five years ago (FY2017).

2 Community Chest is encouraging corporate and community partners to embrace sustainable philanthropy, by giving regularly and in a sustained manner to social service agencies, so that they can serve those in need, now and in the future. As Community Chest celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2023, it seeks to partner corporate and community partners through its various initiatives and events. One such initiative is Community Chest's regular giving programme, SHARE. Through the collective giving of over 2,000 companies and 250,000 individual donors, SHARE contributes approximately 25% of the annual funds raised by Community Chest. 100% of all SHARE donations go towards supported social service agencies.

3 Singtel is a valued partner that has been a long-time supporter of SHARE. Since 1994, Singtel has been a corporate SHARE donor, matching its employees' SHARE contributions dollar-for-dollar through the Singtel Touching Lives Fund to support communities in need.

4 "SHARE was launched in 1983, the same year that Community Chest was founded, to encourage the wider community to donate a small amount of their monthly pay to charity. Every act of giving counts towards building a culture of sustained giving and no amount is too small. Join us to empower those in need to achieve their fullest potential, despite the challenges they face in life," said Mr Chew Sutat, Community Chest Chairman.

Showcasing the importance of community partnerships through the TV Show

5 The Community Chest: Uniting Hearts 2023 Charity TV Show will be broadcast live on Channel 8 on 24 September 2023, Sunday, from 7.00pm to 10.00pm. Aligned with the focus on partnering for sustained impact, the TV Show will showcase the different ways corporates and community partners have collaborated with Community Chest to support those in need.

6 To leverage digital technology for fundraising, Community Chest will be partnering with Stripe, the official mobile digital payment gateway for the TV Show, to enable viewers to donate conveniently and safely by scanning the QR code displayed on their TV screens during the show. Additionally, Community Chest will be one of the beneficiaries for Stripe's regular employee community engagement efforts. Stripe will rally employees to do good and set up their own fundraising initiatives where employees will issue challenges to each other in return for donation pledges.

7 Besides performances featuring international artistes like The Wynners and Ricky Hsiao, the TV Show will also include multiple collaborative performances between local artistes and service users to highlight the impact of empowerment. One such example is a sand art performance by artist with autism Chalmers Wong and actor Richie Koh.

8 Chalmers is a graduate of Grace Orchard School, a special education school funded by Community Chest that caters to students diagnosed with mild intellectual disability and mild autism spectrum disorder. Despite his auditory processing issues and speech and developmental delay, Chalmers is gifted in painting and sand art, and is an avid drummer, pianist and bowler. During his time at the school, he had the opportunity to further develop his talents in sports and later went on to become a six-time national champion bowler. Today, Chalmers is an artist with non-profit organisation Extra•Ordinary People.

9 Chalmers' mother, Ms Magdalene Ong, said: "When Chalmers heard that he was going to perform on his favourite Channel 8, he was very excited. Opportunities to perform and showcase his musical and artistic talent will greatly help him cope with his condition, reducing his frequent meltdowns." Magdalene hopes Chalmers will be able to continue pursuing his passion in music, art and bowling.

10 As a lead-up to the TV Show, Community Chest initiated the Community Project, a pre-show initiative led by local artiste Edmund Chen. Since July, volunteers from Institutes of Higher Learning and corporates and service users have been working together with Edmund as well as artistes Desmond Tan and Annette Lee to put together an art piece, named 'Trees of Hope', as a symbolic representation of collaboration within the community to support those in need. The final artwork of the project will be revealed on stage as the finale of the show.

Annex A – Highlights of the show
Annex B – Translations of Key Terms

For media enquiries, please contact:

Ms Gayathri Jayaram
Manager
Communications & Marketing
National Council of Social Service
Tel: 6210 2475
Email: gayathri_jayaram@ncss.gov.sg

Ms Chew Kia Huey
Senior Assistant Director
Communications & Marketing
National Council of Social Service
Tel: 6210 2635
Email: chew_kia_huey@ncss.gov.sg

About Community Chest

As the hallmark of care and share, Community Chest has been uniting the community to mobilise resources and raise funds to serve those in need since 1983. Community Chest supports more than 100 social service agencies to meet underserved and critical social needs. As our fundraising and operating costs are covered mainly by Tote Board, 100% of your contributions goes towards empowering the lives of:

- Adults with disabilities
- Children with special needs and youth-at-risk
- Families in need of assistance
- Persons with mental health conditions
- Seniors in need of support

For more information about Community Chest, visit www.comchest.gov.sg.

ANNEX A – HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SHOW

1	<p>[Sand art performance]</p> <p>Together with artiste <i>Richie Koh</i>, autistic youth <i>Chalmers Wong</i> creates a fleeting moment of magic using sand art. They will tell a heartwarming story based on the theme song of the drama <i>Your World in Mine</i>. The song will be performed by students from Chaoyang School Choir alongside our local artistes <i>Hong Ling, Desmond Ng, Kiki Lim, Cheryl Chou, Benjamin Tan</i> and <i>Daryl-Ann</i>.</p>
2	<p>[Performance by <i>Kit Chan</i>]</p> <p>Singapore's national music icon will be performing two of her classic songs 'Liking You' and 'If There Are Seasons'.</p>
3	<p>[Wheelchair Basketball]</p> <p>Players from Wheelchair Basketball Association turn their basketball skills into performance art in a specially choreographed item that features various basketball drills & tricks. Local artistes <i>Jeffrey Xu</i> and <i>Chase Tan</i> put their practice to the test as they attempt to catch up with the explosiveness of the players during the performance.</p>
4	<p>[Performance by <i>Claire Teo</i>]</p> <p>Visually impaired performing artist <i>Claire Teo</i> flaunts her powerful vocals and simple moves in the performance of <i>Jolin Tsai's</i> hit 'I', together with artiste <i>Bonnie Loo</i>. Local artistes <i>Ying Ying, Herman, Tay Ying, Jensen</i> will also accompany their storytelling performance of this item titled, <i>My Story</i>, with a series of expressive dance moves.</p>
5	<p>[Performance by <i>Ricky Hsiao</i>]</p> <p>Singer-songwriter will be performing two of his signature songs 'Last Train' and 'What Grandma Said'.</p>
6	<p>[The Piano Battle]</p> <p>Performance by aspiring pianist <i>Dr Azariah Tan</i> and piano prodigy <i>Mikkel Myer Lee</i></p>
7	<p>[Sing the Same Tune for Charity]</p> <p>Local comedians <i>Chua En Lai, Rahimah Rahim</i> and <i>Udaya Soundari</i> interpret a mashup of these nursery rhymes in their unique styles and voices, putting on an entertaining act that will amuse the audience.</p>
8	<p>[Performance by <i>The Wynners</i>]</p> <p>Hong Kong's renowned band of the 70s, <i>The Wynners</i>, will bring a wave of memories to the audience with three of their songs, 'Sha La La La La', 'Stay with Her' and 'Thousand Years Unchanged'.</p>
9	<p>[Finale Song]</p>

	Reveal of the final artwork of the Community Project, named 'Trees of Hope' by artistes <i>Edmund Chen</i> , <i>Desmond Tan</i> and <i>Annette Lee</i> , as well as volunteers from Institutes of Higher Learning, corporates and service users.
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ANNEX B – TRANSLATION OF KEY TERMS

Names

Mr Chew Sutat Chairman Community Chest	周士达 公益金主席
Community Chest: Uniting Hearts 2023	公益献爱心40周年