

**SPEECH BY MR PHILLIP TAN, CHAIRMAN, COMMUNITY CHEST, AT
COMMUNITY CHEST AWARDS CEREMONY ON 9 OCTOBER 2018, 2:25PM,
ISTANA**

Mr Sam Tan, Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Ministry of
Social and Family Development

Ms Anita Fam, President, National Council of Social Service (NCSS)

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

1. Good afternoon and a very warm welcome to this year's Community Chest Awards ceremony. Thank you, MOS Tan, for hosting this occasion.
2. First, let me express our deepest appreciation to our donors and partners of Community Chest for all your contributions. This year, as we celebrate 35 years of Community Chest, we are deeply grateful to you for joining us in this journey of caring and sharing. Whether you are individuals or corporates, whether you have contributed time, skills, talents or treasures, your sustained support and generosity have enabled some 80 social service organisations to better serve the disadvantaged in our community.
3. Community Chest was established in 1983 by the late Dr Ee Peng Liang, with a simple but important mission: to raise funds for our

nation's many social service organisations so that they can focus on caring for and serving those in need. In his lifetime, Dr Ee devoted more than 50 years towards charitable causes. He embodied generosity, selflessness and passion.

4. Guided by his vision, Community Chest has become the national fundraising body for the social service sector. Today, his legacy continues with the many lives transformed through the work that we do, and with the support that each of you have given us.

5. I am heartened to share that Community Chest raised more than \$57 million in 2017. This would not be possible without your generosity and sustained support. Allow me to highlight two award recipients for their tremendous support to Community Chest and our regular giving programme, SHARE.
 - **The Central Provident Fund (CPF) Board** is one of this year's SHARE Platinum Award recipient. They have been our long-time supporter since 1990 when they agreed to act as the central collecting body for SHARE donations. Today, 96% of CPF employees also donate part of their salary via SHARE every month.

 - Another strong supporter of Community Chest is **SATS Ltd**, who is receiving the Charity Gold Award. SATS has been giving significant amounts annually through our various Signature Events including Heartstrings Walk, Sharity Day and Fú Dài, in support of our effort to empower lives.

6. Once again, let me extend my heartiest congratulations to all our SHARE Award and Charity Award recipients. Your sustained giving and generosity have created lasting impact to empower lives. As our operating costs are covered mainly by Tote Board Group, 100% of your donation will be channelled to support a wide range of charities, especially those which are less visible or less known.
7. As the needs of our society evolve and in the spirit of SG Cares, we are also engaging Singaporeans to inspire them to go beyond monetary giving – to give their time, skills and talent to support meaningful causes.
8. With this aim in mind, the criteria of the Community Chest Awards have been refreshed to encourage more holistic caring and sharing. Beyond monetary donations, Community Chest partners who embrace inclusive employment practices, as well as contribute their time and skills to benefit the disadvantaged are recognised. These partners will be recognised through awards like the **Volunteer Partner Award**, the **Enabler Award** and the **Pinnacle Award** in this evening's ceremony.
9. Giving can come in different forms and ways. With this transformation, we hope that more will be inspired to do their bit towards building a caring and inclusive nation.
10. Thank you.