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**OPENING REMARKS BY MS LOW YEN LING,
SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF TRADE
AND INDUSTRY & MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
MAYOR, SOUTH WEST CDC
AT SHARITY DAY 2017, FRIDAY, 25 AUGUST, 8.45AM**

Mr Mike Barclay, CEO, Wildlife Reserves Singapore

Mr Phillip Tan, Chairman, Community Chest

Mr Chew Kwee San, Vice-Chairman of Community Chest Committee
and Chairman of Sharity Programme Sub-committee

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls,

1. Good morning to all of you! It's really great to see all the bright young faces today. Thank you to **Wildlife Reserves Singapore** for hosting us for this meaningful and inclusive event.
2. I'm sure Sharity is no stranger to you. What is more important is how he always encourages his friends to care and share with one another. Over the past few years, MOE has strengthened our partnership with Community Chest to instill the values of caring and sharing in our students through the Sharity Club School Programme for Primary School students, which is aligned with MOE's Character and Citizenship Education curriculum. I am happy to share that, through this partnership, Sharity Club has actively reached out to more than 110,000 Primary students in the last two years.
3. Today, for the first time, Sharity Day will acknowledge 6 primary and secondary schools for their outstanding contributions to Community

Chest through Children's Day Appeal and Youth Day Appeal last year. These schools have gone the extra mile to rally students and the community to raise funds for the less fortunate.

4. There will also be a special segment in the Sharity musical later on, where you will learn basic sign language phrases, such as "We are friends", "Care & Share", "I'm sorry" and "Thank you". I hope you will remember them and use it when the need arises. These signs may be simple, but it will mean a lot to those with hearing impairment if you are able to communicate with them and include them in your conversations.
5. Earlier in March, Community Chest launched the **Sharity website (sharity.sg) and animation episodes**. These new digital resources enable teachers, parents and students to easily access information, and make caring and sharing fun. We will also be airing a new animation episode featuring one of Sharity's friends - Flappy the pigeon. In this episode, Flappy became disabled due to an accident and was told she would never be able to fly again. Sharity and friends rallied together to support her, and made great efforts to include her in their activities.
6. Today's event is also held in support of **SG Cares**, a national movement to encourage Singaporeans to be more caring and inclusive by showing kindness to those around us. I hope today's interactions and inclusive activities will help you to understand one another better, and be accepting of one another's differences, much like Sharity and his friends. Help to look out for one another so that no one is left behind. Thank you and please enjoy the rest of the exciting activities lined up for you today.