

**SPEECH BY MR CHEW SUTAT,  
CHAIRMAN, COMMUNITY CHEST, AT  
COMMUNITY CHEST AWARDS CEREMONY ON  
1 NOVEMBER, 7.20PM AT THE ISTANA**

President Halimah Yacob

Mr Eric Chua, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Social and Family Development, and Culture, Community and Youth

Ms Anita Fam, President, National Council of Social Service

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

1. Good evening and welcome to the Community Chest Awards 2022. Thank you, Madam President, for joining us as the Guest of Honour, and Mr Eric Chua for hosting tonight's event as we celebrate community giving.
2. For the first time in over two years, we are finally able to all gather in person at the Istana, to recognise our donors' and partners' commitment to doing good. I am so glad all of you can join us today.

3. Every year at the Community Chest Awards, we recognise partners who have donated, as well as contributed their time, their resources to champion holistic giving. In our midst are many first-time donors who have embarked on their giving journey with us and longstanding partners who have remained committed over decades.
  
4. Despite the impact from the pandemic, I am heartened that many corporates and partners have found ways to give us support for the social service sector. Thanks to the generous contributions from 201 individuals and organisations, Community Chest was able to raise more than \$61 million in FY2021, to support more than 100 social service agencies and 200 critical programmes.
  
5. For example, we have first-time donor Tolaram, who partnered us last year to support students with special needs from Pathlight School. We also have SP Group, who has been enabling its customers and business associates to contribute to Community Chest through the SP app and donation appeals in SP's utilities bills. Last year, it partnered Community Chest and KidSTART to launch the SP Kids at Heart initiative, which provided children from lower-income families with learning tools like digital devices

for home-based learning. These were assembled and distributed by SP Group's staff volunteers.

6. Our highest accolade, the Pinnacle Award, will be presented to UOB this year. Since 2013, UOB has been training and hiring persons with autism and persons with hearing impairment from Autism Resource Centre and SPD respectively and matching them with suitable job roles. One of its key fundraising and volunteering initiative is the annual UOB Global Heartbeat Run and Walk. Last year, amidst COVID-19 restrictions, the bank converted it to a virtual format and raised over \$1.3 million. In fact, this year's edition, which just concluded last month, in spite of the rain, raised more than \$1.4 million!
  
7. Before we return to this evening's programme, I would like to thank our tireless emcee Susan Ng, who has been selflessly volunteering her time at this event since 1985. Despite her busy schedule, she has always availed herself to be our emcee at the Community Chest Awards. She was our Enabler Award recipient in 2018 and exemplifies how different people and organisations can contribute in their own ways. Thank you, Susan! I would also like to thank Irfan, for being our co-emcee tonight. I hope this will be a memorable evening for you and your parents.

8. I would also like to express my appreciation to Community Chest Awards organising committee chairman Robert Chew and your team for holding yet another successful Community Chest Awards!
9. On behalf of Community Chest, I would like to once again congratulate all our award recipients. As expectations of organisations to align themselves with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) objectives and adhere to ESG reporting grow, Community Chest will continue to collaborate with all of you to adopt innovative ways to help you strengthen the 'social' aspect of ESG.
10. Community Chest turns 40 next year and I look forward to even more impactful partnerships that will build and deepen sustainable giving to nurture a caring and inclusive society.
11. Thank you and please enjoy the evening ahead.