



MEDIA RELEASE

SINGAPORE CHINESE WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT CLUB RALLIES CHINESE COMMUNITY LEADERS TO DONATE MORE THAN HALF A MILLION DOLLARS TO THE INVICTUS FUND

SINGAPORE, 19 AUGUST 2020 – Some 50 members of the Singapore Chinese Weekly Entertainment Club (中华为基利俱乐部), a private members club comprising prominent Chinese businessmen and community leaders, have raised a total of \$530,000 for The Invictus Fund. The funds raised will be channelled through Community Chest, the fundraising and engagement arm of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS), to support social service agencies during this COVID-19 period so that they can continue to provide critical services to vulnerable groups.

2. Singapore Chinese Weekly Entertainment Club has a long history of philanthropy work within the local Chinese community. In view of the impact caused by COVID-19 on Singapore, members of the club, led by current club president Mr Ong Soon Liong and club advisor Mr Lok Chwee Hin, extended its philanthropic efforts towards helping the wider community.

3. “We were inspired by the government’s call for the country to come together during these extraordinary circumstances. While the government has provided relief for its citizens through the various Budgets, we believe it is also our duty to support those who need it the most. We hope our donation towards The Invictus Fund will help social service agencies tide through current difficulties,” said Mr Ong.

4. “‘群策群力，共创未来’. This means ‘working together to build our future’. I’m heartened that the members of the Singapore Chinese Weekly Entertainment Club have supported fellow Singaporeans through their generosity. I thank the community for their strong support. I am hopeful that we will emerge stronger from the crisis together,” said Mr Desmond Lee, Minister for National Development and Minister-in-charge of Social Services Integration.

5. Managed by NCSS, The Invictus Fund provides funds to NCSS member agencies to enable service continuity and adopt digital solutions to transform their service delivery during the COVID-19 period so that critical services to vulnerable individuals, families and communities are not disrupted. Since its launch on 7 April,

more than \$8.9 million has been raised for The Invictus Fund, and \$5.9 million disbursed to 89 member agencies.

6. Following the government's top-up of \$18.3 million to The Invictus Fund, NCSS will open up a second round of applications for NCSS member agencies to further support them in digital transformation and other efforts to help serve clients safely and effectively in the new normal. More details will be shared soon. NCSS member agencies who wish to know more about the application can write to NCSS_FundAllocation@ncss.gov.sg. Visit comchest.sg to donate to The Invictus Fund or to other critical social service programmes supported by Community Chest.

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For media enquiries, please contact:

Ms Deanne Galicia

Associate

Ogilvy Singapore

Tel: 8292 6895

Email: deanne.galicia@ogilvy.com

Ms Chew Kia Huey

Senior Manager, Communications Division

Ministry of Social and Family Development

Tel: 9021 0673

Email: chew_kia_huey@msf.gov.sg

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.

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 organisations to meet underserved, 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
- 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 (ComChest) as a fundraising arm of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS), supporting about 80 social service organisations, 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 ComChest in the qualifying period will be matched by the BCF.*

Find out more at comchest.sg.

National Council of Social Service (NCSS)

NCSS is the umbrella body for over 450-member social service organisations in Singapore. Its mission is to provide leadership and direction in enhancing the capabilities and capacity of our members, advocating for social service needs and strengthening strategic partnerships, for an effective social service ecosystem. Community Chest is the fundraising and engagement arm of NCSS and Social Service Institute (SSI) is the human capital development arm of NCSS.