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**SPEECH BY MR PHILLIP TAN,
CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNITY CHEST AND CARE & SHARE
MOVEMENT STEERING COMMITTEE
AT THE COMMUNITY CHEST SHARITY DAY 2015
3 OCTOBER, FRIDAY, 10.30AM**

Mr Tan Chuan-Jin, Minister for Social and Family Development

Mr Tan Hee Teck, Chief Executive Officer, Resorts World Sentosa

Dr Lee Tung Jean, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Social and Family Development

1 Good morning and welcome to the inaugural Community Chest Sharity Day 2015. Thank you, Minister Tan, for making time to join us. I am also specially warmed by the many happy faces of our children on this special day, jointly organised by Community Chest and Resorts World Sentosa (RWS), for children with different abilities in celebration of Children's Day on 9 October 2015

2 Today is our first-ever Sharity Day, which is part of Community Chest's efforts to nurture our young generation – telling them that they, too, can make a difference in the lives of people around us. This new signature event, under the Care & Share Movement for SG50, is one that creates a meaningful opportunity for students - both from mainstream and special education schools - to interact and have fun together.

3 All of you here will get to enjoy an inspiring musical, which encourages our children and youth to be heroes by caring and sharing.

Performing alongside our much-loved Sharity and cast are some 50 students from Grace Orchard School, a special education school supported by Community Chest, and student volunteers from Pasir Ris Crest Secondary School. They have practiced enthusiastically over the past months to put on a great show for us.

3 We are also deeply appreciative to our corporate partners for their support towards our beneficiaries. Community Chest has seen more corporations moving from one-off monetary donations to longer-term partnerships – with money, time, people and skills – to bring about better outcomes for the beneficiaries.

4 Today, I am happy that a five-year partnership is forged between Resorts World Sentosa (RWS) and Community Chest. RWS will be pledging a donation of \$5 million – in cash and in-kind - over five years from 2014 to 2018. With its world-class family attractions, RWS is a natural partner in our efforts to nurture the next generation of givers, in driving the message that caring and sharing starts from young.

5 Thank you RWS, for being one of the fore-runners in heeding the call for sustained giving, which we advocate through the Care & Share Movement. This partnership underlines our efforts to encourage sustained giving from the community and corporate partners, as social service needs are better met through longer-term planning.

6 With the extension of the government matching grant under the Movement till the end of March 2016, donations from RWS this year will double its impact on our beneficiaries, as the matched amount will go

towards building the capabilities and capacities of the social service sector.

7 It is my hope that more corporations will be encouraged to contribute their time, talent and treasures to the causes supported by Community Chest in a sustained manner, so that the social service sector can continue to better serve those who need our help.

8 Lastly, I would put the spotlight on the star of our musical today, Sharity. Many of you here might have seen Sharity visiting your schools during Children's Day. Those of you who were students in the 1980s would also remember him fondly. With our increased partnership with the Ministry of Education and schools, I am pleased to share that Sharity will be reaching out to children more actively, to encourage them to embark on a life-long giving journey. Among us are the Primary 3 students, who have already received a twinkling Sharity collar pin after performing good deeds at home, in school and in the community. You will soon be seeing Sharity a lot more often in schools, so do join him on the journey of caring for and sharing with those in need.

9 Once again, I would like to express my deep appreciation to all who have joined us today. Together, we can make a difference and help build a more caring and inclusive society.

10 Thank you.