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Media Release



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News Editor

SOUTH WEST CDC LAUNCHES FUND OF MORE THAN \$10 MILLION TO SUPPORT FAMILIES IN THE SOUTH WEST DISTRICT

- **New \$5.5 million South West Family Support Programme to help residents with education and grocery expenses**
- **Per Capita Household Income (PCHI) of CDC local assistance schemes to increase from \$875 to \$1,000 to benefit more residents**
- **83 CDC Members appointed to the South West CDC 9th Council**

South West Community Development Council will launch a fund of more than \$10 million at the South West CDC Appreciation and Appointment Ceremony 2023 to support residents with the rising cost of living. The fund will be launched by Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Trade and Industry and Ms Low Yen Ling, Mayor of South West District, as the CDC appoints its new 9th Council on 27 October 2023. The fund is expected to benefit about 25,000 residents in the South West District per year, covering key areas of education, food and meals, social mobility, transport & mobility, and utilities, over the next 3 years.

2 Among the initiatives to be rolled out in 2024 is a \$5.5 million South West Family Support Programme to help residents with education and grocery expenses. The South West Family Support Programme aims to empower and uplift families by helping residents defray cost in two areas, namely, education and grocery. Under the

programme, identified low-income families in the South West District will be supported with Book vouchers and Supermarket vouchers based on their needs.

3 To ensure that more residents from lower-income households are able to get help, the South West CDC will also be expanding the PCHI of the local assistance schemes from \$875 to \$1,000. The review of the PCHI is timely in face of the rising costs of living and price hikes. The quantum of the schemes will also be reviewed based on needs in the community.

4 Minister Gan Kim Yong said, “The higher cost of living has impacted Singaporeans, especially residents from the lower-income households. As we navigate challenges of the post-pandemic world amidst an uncertain economy and global tensions, it is crucial that we stay united as one community. The \$10 million fund will lighten the load of families by defraying their daily expenses. With the expansion of eligibility criteria, we hope to also benefit more residents during these trying times. I look forward to working closely with the 9th Council Term to build a more resilient and caring South West District.”

5 “Many lower-income families struggling with cost-of-living concerns need additional help. We’re boosting our war chest of financial assistance to ensure no one gets left behind. Part of the \$10 million fund will go to the South West Family Support Programme to support vulnerable households with book and supermarket vouchers. By helping them meet their daily necessities and education needs, we hope to lighten their load and reduce their worries. In addition, we have broadened the qualifying criteria for assistance to \$1,000 per capita household income (PCHI) to widen our ringfence and bring more needy residents under our care. We know every bit helps. The CDC appreciates how the community and CDC members have rallied behind our needy residents in such trying times,” said Mayor Low.

6 The ceremony will see the CDC appointing its 9th Council, which will take over the reins from the 8th council. The 9th Council comprises leaders in the public, private and people sectors, which reflects the CDC’s commitment to aggregate resources, build capabilities and connect communities. The CDC will harness the vast experience

and diverse expertise of its members, to come up with innovative and relevant solutions to meet emerging needs in the community.

7 Details of the event are as follows:

Event : South West CDC Appreciation and Appointment Ceremony 2023
Date : Friday, 27 October 2023
Time : 6.00 pm to 9.30 pm (**Media is invited at 6.00 pm**)
Venue : National Gallery Singapore
Ngee Ann Kongsi Auditorium
1 St Andrew's Rd, Singapore 178957
Guest of : Mr Gan Kim Yong
Honour : Minister for Trade and Industry
Host : Ms Low Yen Ling
Mayor of South West District

8 We would like to invite your reporter and photographer/TV crew to the **South West CDC Appreciation and Appointment Ceremony 2023**. Interviews can be arranged upon request. Please contact our media liaison officer for queries. We look forward to receiving you and your crew/photographer.

Media Liaison Officers

Ms Yasmin Zafrullah
Manager (Corporate Management and Communications)
South West Community Development Council
Mobile: 9457 4922
Email: Yasmin_Zafrullah@pa.gov.sg

Ms Clarice Lim
Manager (Corporate Management and Communications)
South West Community Development Council
Mobile: 9617 5300
Email: Clarice_Lim@pa.gov.sg

About the South West Community Development Council (CDC)

The South West Community Development Council (CDC) was formed on 24 November 2001.

Through local help programmes, the South West CDC provides assistance to help the less fortunate in our community. The South West CDC also organises projects and programmes to promote community bonding and social cohesion. The South West CDC adopts the "Many Helping Hands" approach to encourage community ownership among residents, community partners and corporations to realise its vision of "Owning Your Community".

Ms Low Yen Ling was appointed the Mayor of South West District on 27 May 2014. Ms Low is also the Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) & Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) & Adviser to Chua Chu Kang GRC.

For more information, please visit: www.southwest.cdc.gov.sg

Programme

Time	Administrative Programme
6.00 pm	Registration and Dinner
6.30 pm	Arrival of Mayor Ms Low Yen Ling Mayor of South West District <i>*Media doorstep to be arranged, subject to media request.</i>
7.10 pm	Arrival of Guest of Honour Minister Gan Kim Yong Minister for Trade and Industry
7.15 pm	Commencement of Ceremony Singing of National Anthem
7.20 pm	Welcome Address by Mayor
7.25 pm	Tribute Video for South West CDC 8 th Council Term
7.30 pm	Speech by GOH

Time	Administrative Programme
7.35 pm	Launch of \$10 million Fund to Support Families – Enhanced Support for Families
7.45 pm	Appreciation to CDC Members of 8 th Council Term
8.15 pm	Presentation of Certificate of Appointment to CDC Members of the 9 th Council Term
9.00 pm	End of Programme