

## photo release

### aRWSome Volunteer Day Goes Green & Sustainable Across Queenstown Homes

- RWS volunteers spent over 2,600 volunteer hours in the third year of its flagship home refurbishment programme to spruce up 26 rental homes.
- Aligned with the nation's efforts toward zero waste, RWS embarked on recycling, upcycling and green engagement activities to encourage residents to practise daily green habits.



Volunteers from RWS, together with Dr Chia Shi-Lu, Adviser to Tanjong Pagar GRC Grassroots Organisations (centre, in blue), CEO of RWS, Mr Tan Hee Teck (centre, in yellow) and Ms Denise Phua, Mayor of Central Singapore District (centre, in dark blue), all ready to set out for a day's hard work at the third edition of aRWSome Volunteer Day.

**SINGAPORE, 30 August 2019** – In a strong display of *kampung* spirit, more than 210 senior management and employees of Resorts World Sentosa (RWS) gathered at the heartlands of Singapore for the third edition of aRWSome Volunteer Day, clocking more than 2,600 volunteer hours decluttering, cleaning and sprucing up the homes of elderly and needy residents living in 26 one- and two-room rental flats in Queenstown division. For the first time, this year's flagship home refurbishment programme by the integrated resort's corporate social responsibility arm – RWS Cares – took the company's sustainability efforts a step further by including several green initiatives such as an upcycling workshop for senior citizens and collaborating with vendors to recycle waste from their homes in support of a Zero Waste Nation.

This year's green outreach efforts are an expansion of the partnership with Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC) under the Silver Homes programme – an initiative that provides

the needy living in rental flats with a clean, safe and healthy living environment. While the homes were being cleaned, 70 elderly residents learnt, in a fun and engaging upcycling workshop by conservation and education experts of RWS, how to re-purpose common household waste items such as single-use plastic bottles and old t-shirts into pen holders and tote bags respectively. RWS also collaborated with industry partners such as KL Enviro to sort out recyclables from the waste generated from the homes, and Diversey to provide environmentally-friendly floor and toilet cleaning solutions. Like previous years, RWS assembled a roving team of handymen from its Facilities Management and Engineering department to help residents with more technical and complex repair works such as electrical wiring, plumbing and carpentry.



(Left photo) RWS volunteers (in yellow) and staff from KL Enviro (in blue) sorting out recyclables from unwanted items from the rental homes of Lengkok Bahru. (Right photo) Residents from Queenstown Division participating in an upcycling workshop conducted by RWS volunteers.

In the weeks leading to the event day, RWS volunteers had spent time on the ground, visiting the residents and befriending them to understand their needs at a deeper level. Volunteers were also trained on proper waste management techniques on segregating dry from wet waste for more effective recycling.

Flagging off aRWSome Volunteer Day at Lengkok Bahru in Queenstown division this morning, Mr Tan Hee Teck, Chief Executive Officer of RWS said: “Our collaboration with Central Singapore CDC continues to grow through the years, reaching out to the elderly and needy community and improving their living conditions. It is heartening to know that we have made a positive impact to lonely seniors as well as families who are incapable of coping with day-to-day housework. Besides social giving, sustainability is also a key pillar in our corporate social responsibility efforts to fight climate change. This year, we have extended our sustainability initiatives to this event to support the nation’s zero waste efforts, and we are delighted that our partners KL Enviro and Diversey have responded to our call to contribute towards a greener future. The needy beneficiaries also participated in the recycling and upcycling activities as they learnt from our volunteers to declutter, recycle and re-purpose materials at home into useful everyday items.”

Ms Denise Phua, Mayor of Central Singapore District, said: “A life well-lived is one that makes a positive difference in someone else’s. It is heartening to see the leaders of RWS pave the way for its staff to

make that difference. With the Silver Homes programme, RWS staff volunteers improve the quality of the living environment of vulnerable seniors and needy residents in Central Singapore. Apart from cleaning their homes, they befriend and organise fun-filled activities to engage the residents. I am grateful to the leaders and staff of RWS for taking their corporate social responsibility so seriously, and for their sincere and sustained efforts to care for people in need in our society. “



(L to R) Mayor Denise Phua, Mdm Loh Wai Cheng, Adviser Dr Chia Shi-Lu and CEO Mr Tan celebrating Mdm Loh’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday at her Lengkok Bahru home.

“I am very thankful for the dedication shown by the warm and caring team of volunteers from RWS. Not only were they sincere in reaching out to me, but they often checked in with me to ensure that my needs were addressed in detail. Having to balance housework while looking after three young children under my care is a daily challenge, but now I can manage better in my neat and clutter-free home. With the money I save from using LED bulbs for my light fixtures, I can now purchase for the kids their favourite food from the nearby market,” shared Lengkok Bahru resident Mdm Loh Wai Cheng.



(L to R) Adviser Dr Chia Shi-Lu, Mayor Denise Phua and CEO Mr Tan helping to repaint the wall of Mdm Azizah’s home (seen second from left) at Lengkok Bahru.

Echoing similar sentiments, Lengkok Bahru resident Mdm Azizah, who lives with her four children, commented: “As I have a young child with special needs, it is difficult for me to work and maintain my home at the same time. This is why I am truly grateful for all the help that RWS has given me and my family. My mother recently passed away, and I hope this home makeover can usher in new beginnings, cheer and hope for my family. Despite my family challenges, I also set aside time to volunteer and it gives me a great sense of satisfaction to be able to help others. I hope this spirit of giving can continue to spread as this will make the world a better place.”

– End –

## ABOUT RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA

Resorts World Sentosa (RWS), Asia's premium lifestyle destination resort, is located on Singapore's resort island of Sentosa. Spanning 49 hectares, RWS is home to world-class attractions including Universal Studios Singapore, S.E.A. Aquarium, the Maritime Experiential Museum, Dolphin Island and Adventure Cove Waterpark. Complementing the adventure and adrenaline of its theme parks and attractions are six unique luxury hotels, the world-class Resorts World Convention Centre, a casino and the Asian flagship of a world-renowned destination spa. RWS offers award-winning dining experiences and exciting cuisine from around the world across its many renowned celebrity chef restaurants, establishing itself as a key player in Singapore's vibrant and diverse dining scene and a leading gourmet destination in Asia for epicureans. The integrated resort also offers world-class entertainment, from original resident productions to concerts and public shows such as Crane Dance and Lake of Dreams. RWS has been named "Best Integrated Resort" since 2011 for eight consecutive years at the TTG Travel Awards which recognises the best of Asia-Pacific's travel industry.

RWS is wholly owned by Genting Singapore, a company of the Genting Group. For more information, please visit [www.rwsentosa.com](http://www.rwsentosa.com).

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## ABOUT CENTRAL SINGAPORE CDC

Lying at the heart of Singapore, the Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC) serves close to one million residents living in Ang Mo Kio, Bishan-Toa Payoh, Jalan Besar and Tanjong Pagar Group Representation Constituencies (GRCs), and Radin Mas, Potong Pasir, and Sengkang West Single Member Constituencies (SMCs). The CDC envisions a self-reliant, vibrant and inclusive Central Singapore District. It works in close partnership with schools, voluntary welfare organisations (VWOs), grassroots organisations (GROs), government and commercial agencies to fulfil its mission of assisting the needy, bonding the people and connecting the community.

## ABOUT SILVER HOMES

Silver Homes is part of Central Singapore CDC's suite of programmes which reach out to seniors living in the Central Singapore District. It is a volunteer-driven effort to provide seniors living in rental flats with a clean, safe and healthy living environment. Under the programme, volunteers carry out basic home refurbishment efforts such as painting and cleaning, as well as bedbug fumigation for affected units. Interactive activities and lunches are also catered for to keep seniors engaged during the cleaning process.

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## NOTE TO EDITORS

1. Photos can be downloaded from <https://app.box.com/s/u6k9rvfqs9nqs3e3b3lyb7zgb04vchom>
2. All photos are to be attributed to **Resorts World Sentosa**

## Appendix 1

### CENTRAL SINGAPORE CDC FACT SHEET

#### 1. About Central Singapore CDC

Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC) serves close to one million residents in the Central Singapore District and envisions itself as a **do-good district**. The CDC runs a suite of 52 community programmes that reach out to **four key communities** (Children, Youth, Adults and Seniors), **four key causes** (Arts and Culture, Environment, Healthy Lifestyle and Special Needs), and **two additional areas** (Assistance Plus and Enough Talk).

Aside from meeting ground needs through localised initiatives, the CDC also value-adds to the community as a whole – developing district-level initiatives and creating sustainable programmes, as well as supporting meaningful community projects. Working with a variety of partners such as schools, voluntary welfare organisations and the grassroots, the CDC brings together various community resources for a more holistic approach to community building.

#### 2. Our Mission and Vision

##### *Our Mission*

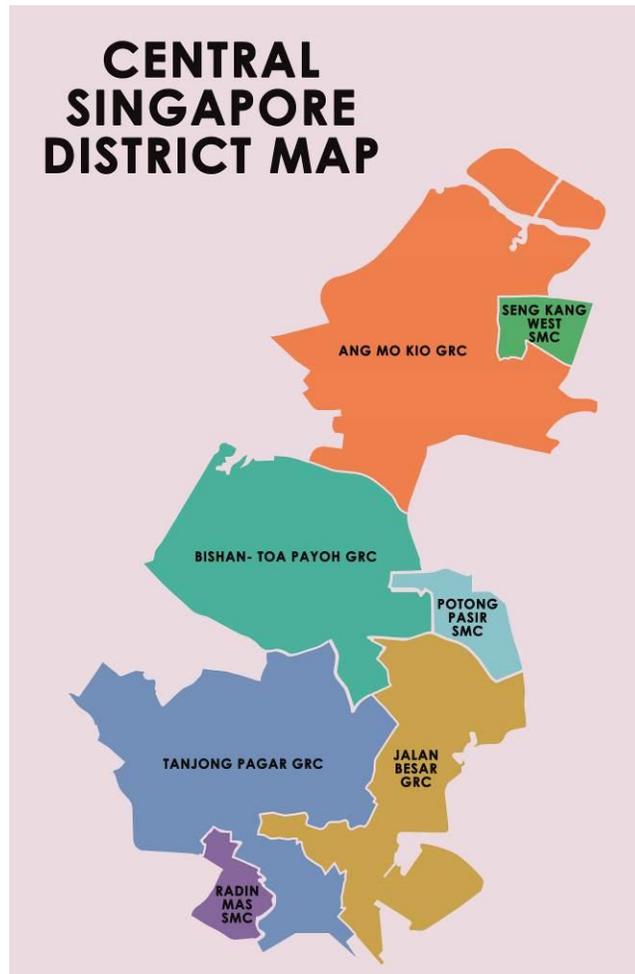
To **Assist** the Needy, **Bond** the People, and **Connect** the Community.

##### *Our Vision*

To build a **Do-Good District** and encourage residents to live **The Better Life** in the areas of Physical Wellness, Financial Wellness, Socio-Emotional Wellness, Lifelong Learning and Service to Others.

#### 3. Our District

The Central Singapore District comprises Ang Mo Kio, Bishan-Toa Payoh, Jalan Besar, and Tanjong Pagar Group Representation Constituencies (GRCs), as well as Potong Pasir, Radin Mas, and Sengkang West Single Member Constituencies (SMCs).



## CENTRAL SINGAPORE CDC'S SILVER HOMES PROGRAMME FACT SHEET

### **1. What is the Silver Homes programme about?**

Silver Homes is a volunteer-driven effort to provide vulnerable seniors and needy residents living in rental flats with a clean, safe and healthy living environment. Under the programme, volunteers carry out basic home refurbishment efforts such as painting and cleaning, as well as bedbug fumigation for affected units. They also engage the seniors with interactive activities while the fumigation takes place.

### **2. How is the programme run?**

Volunteer groups may approach the CDC to indicate their interest in reaching out to our seniors through the programme. The CDC will help to link volunteers up with our community partners such as the Senior Activity Centres and the grassroots to identify seniors who require assistance. Volunteers may then plan their activities with the help of the CDC and its partners. In addition to basic home improvement works, volunteers are also encouraged to bond with the seniors over lunch and simple activities.

### **3. How can volunteers sign up for the programme?**

Volunteers can indicate their interest by writing in to the CDC through our Facebook page or email.

### **4. Is any funding support given to the volunteers to run activities for the seniors?**

Volunteers are encouraged to sign up as a group, where cleaning and painting kits, fumigation services and lunches will be provided by the CDC. Alternatively, groups may work *in partnership* with the CDC, where they will be responsible for planning and conducting their own activities, lunches and pre-assessment. Upon approval of their proposal and budget, funding support will be provided by the CDC for these partners to run their Silver Homes activities (bedbug fumigation will continue to be funded by the CDC).

