

photo release

RWS' aRWSome Volunteer Day Expands Its Reach to Refurbish More Rental Flats across two Community Development Councils

More than 370 aRWSome volunteers spent over 3,000 volunteer hours in the second year of RWS Cares home refurbishment project to spruce up 45 homes in Telok Blangah and Radin Mas precincts



CEO of RWS, Mr Tan Hee Teck (in yellow, centre) with Mr Sam Tan (in white), Adviser to Radin Mas Grassroots Organisations and Ms Denise Phua (in green), Mayor of Central Singapore District with the elderly residents from Radin Mas of Central Singapore District. PHOTO CREDITS: RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA

SINGAPORE, 17 August 2018 – Hanging up their corporate suits and uniforms for a day, more than 370 senior management and employees of Resorts World Sentosa (RWS) rolled up their sleeves today and gathered together in a show of solidarity and kampung spirit to lend a helping hand to needy and elderly residents of Telok Blangah and Radin Mas by decluttering, cleaning and sprucing up their homes.

This year's aRWSome Volunteer Day, organised by the integrated resort's corporate social responsibility arm known as RWS Cares, is carried out on a larger scale by partnering two Community Development Councils (CDC) – both South West CDC and Central Singapore CDC. The unprecedented collaboration allows more RWS volunteers to step forward and reach out to 45 one- and two-room low income rental flats in this annual home refurbishment project. Like last year, RWS assembled an expert team of 'handymen' from its Facilities Management and Engineering department to specialise in more technical repair works for residents requiring help such as electrical wiring, plumbing and basic carpentry. Leading up to the event day, RWS volunteers also spent time on the ground visiting the residents to befriend them and understand their needs better.

Flagging off the event at South West District this morning with a group of RWS volunteers covering two blocks of flats at Telok Blangah Drive, Mr Tan Hee Teck, CEO of RWS said: “We are very happy to be able to reach out once again to our needy and elderly community, and help improve their living conditions during our annual aRWSome Volunteer Day. This year, we decide to collaborate with both South West and Central Singapore Community Development Councils and cover a much larger precinct in Telok Blangah so as to reach out to more homes than last year. RWS has always been a strong advocate of volunteerism, and every year we want to do more impactful and meaningful programmes to help the underprivileged community. I am also very encouraged by the huge show of kampung spirit with 50% more staff volunteers than last year. This is possible only with the support of both South West and Central Singapore CDC in identifying the households in need, and Thye Hua Kwan Moral Charities for their on-ground support.”

In collaboration with Central Singapore CDC’s Silver Homes programme – an initiative that provides seniors living in rental flats with a clean, safe and healthy living environment – a second group of RWS volunteers were thick in the action of cleaning up another three blocks of flats in Telok Blangah Crescent. At the same time, a special National Day-inspired lunch party was held for about 100 elderly beneficiaries at the Thye Hua Kwan Seniors Activity Centre @ Telok Blangah Crescent. The delectable lunch menu featuring Singapore flavours was put together by award-winning celebrity chef Sam Leong of Forest森, with a ‘live’ noodle station of Hakka-inspired ‘Green Tea Shredded Chicken La Mian’ as its centerpiece amongst other familiar local favourites like *Bubur Cha Cha* and *Cheng Tng*.



CEO of RWS, Mr Tan Hee Teck (in yellow) with Mr Sam Tan (in white), Adviser to Radin Mas Grassroots Organisations and Ms Denise Phua (in green), Mayor of Central Singapore District putting their cooking chops to good use by preparing bowls after bowls of hot and steaming noodles for the elderly. PHOTO CREDITS: RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA

Ms Denise Phua, Mayor of Central Singapore District, said, “With many of Singapore’s rental flats located within the Central Singapore District, there is always work to be done for our seniors from disadvantaged backgrounds. Many seniors are also living here and can do with even more love and attention from the rest of society. I am heartened that corporations such as Resorts World Sentosa are encouraging their staff to step up and give back to the community around them. We urge more corporates to similarly join us in this journey of doing good.”

During a visit to resident Mr Low Tha Choi’s flat at Telok Blangah Crescent, RWS’ CEO Mr Tan, together with Mr Sam Tan, Grassroots Adviser to Radin Mas Grassroots Organisations; and Ms Denise Phua, Mayor of Central Singapore District joined volunteers to paint his home.

Mr Low said, “This is one of the rare moments where volunteers are willing to come and clean up my house. A big thank you to all the volunteers of RWS and I feel very grateful that they are giving my home so many new items like an induction stove, standing fan and especially a bedframe and mattress so that my son and I can sleep comfortably and call this home. Due to my son’s condition as well as my old age and medical conditions, we depend on financial assistance and have little savings to do these on our own. Today, I am really looking forward to having a new coat of paint for my house so it can become a brighter, cozier and cleaner place for both me and my son!”



(From right) Mr Sam Tan, Adviser to Radin Mas Grassroots Organisations, CEO of RWS, Mr Tan Hee Teck and Ms Denise Phua, Mayor of Central Singapore District painting the walls of resident Mr Low Tha Choi’s (second from right) home. PHOTO CREDITS: RESORTS WORLD SENTOSA

Over at South West District, resident Madam Ng Li Chin, whose Telok Blangah Drive home was among those refurbished by RWS volunteers, said, “I am deeply touched by the volunteers from RWS who are

willing to help give my bedroom a new lease of life. This was where my brother kept his many belongings before a serious traffic accident three years ago which left him in a vegetative state. I cleared the room after he was admitted to the nursing home. It has been in a sad and dirty state as I am unable to clean it due to severe arthritis in my leg. My husband passed away ten years ago and my life savings were depleted to support my younger siblings. I live alone here and am grateful for the help from RWS. It is now a home I can look forward to returning at the end of the day," said Mdm Ng, who works part-time at a food court clearing tables.

For more information on Central Singapore CDC and Silver Homes, please see Appendix.

– 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 seven 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.

 [ResortsWorldatSentosa](https://www.facebook.com/ResortsWorldatSentosa)   [@rwsentosa](https://www.instagram.com/rwsentosa)  www.rwsentosablog.com

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.

ABOUT THE SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (CDC)

The South West Community Development Council (CDC) was formed on 24 November 2001, with the mission to Assist the Needy, Bond the People and Connect the Community. Through local help programmes, the South West CDC provides assistance to help the less fortunate in our community. The 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".

ABOUT ADOPT @ SOUTH WEST

Under Adopt @ South West, the Adopt-A-Rental Block @ South West was launched by the South West Community Development Council (CDC) in 2007 to provide social support to residents residing in rental blocks in South West District with the "many helping hands" of the corporate and community stakeholders. Over the past financial year, the South West CDC has engaged and benefitted more than 5,500 needy households in all 27 rental blocks in the district through 238 activities by over 70 corporate and community partners.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Audrey Lee (Ms)
RWS Communications
Tel: +65 6577 9766 / 8198 0047
Email: audrey.sylee@RWSentosa.com

Chua Loo Lin (Mr)
RWS Communications
Tel: +65 6577 9896 / 9851 4175
Email: loolin.chua@RWSentosa.com

NOTE TO EDITORS

1. Photos can be downloaded from <https://app.box.com/v/aRWSomeVolunteerDay2018>
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

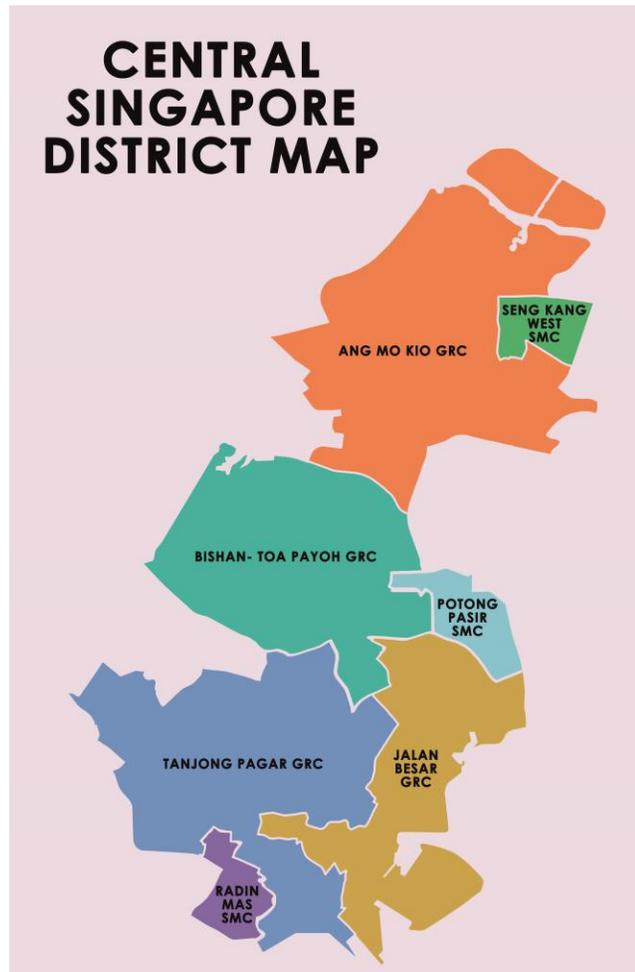
To **Assist** the Needy, **Bond** the People, and **Connect** the Community.

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 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. 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).

