

25 October 2021

CELEBRATING THE COMMUNITY CARE SECTOR'S CONTRIBUTION IN PROTECTING OUR SENIORS AND CLIENTS

The Community Care sector today came together to commemorate its annual Community Care Day ahead of 1 November, with a slew of awards that recognise the contributions and support of Community Care staff and their partners. Organised by the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC), the Community Care Day celebrations is a key event for the Ministry of Health and AIC to celebrate and honour the efforts made by the sector in enabling Singaporeans to live well, age gracefully and with dignity, in the community.

2. Themed “Celebrating our Community Care Heroes”, this year’s Community Care Day honours the selfless acts and dedication to quality care that staff in the sector have shown, despite the challenges of COVID-19.

3. Minister for Social and Family Development, and Second Minister for Health Mr Masagos Zulkifli graced the Community Care Day 2021 celebrations, held virtually this afternoon. He thanked all Community Care staff for their personal sacrifices and resolve in battling COVID-19 and contributions in caring for our seniors. He also presented the Friends of Community Care (FOCC) Awards to 13 organisations, praising these organisations for their unwavering support for the Community Care sector.

4. Now into its second year, the FOCC Awards 2021, which recognises organisations outside of the Community Care sector for their support and contributions to the sector, has introduced new award categories. The four categories are Corporate (Small and Medium Enterprise (SME), Corporate (Large Enterprise), Government and Public Institution, and Non-Profit Organisation. A total of 100 nominations were received from various Community Care organisations.

5. Mr Low Boon Chuan, owner of Boon Keng Road Fish Head Bee Hoon, is one of this year's award recipients for the Corporate (SME) category. On top of tending to his hawker stall in Bedok, Mr Low volunteers regularly with the Thye Hua Kwan Moral Charities (THKMC). In addition to sponsoring essential items for vulnerable seniors, Mr Low initiated a food delivery network where he rallied the community to make small donations that provide monthly freshly prepared fish porridge to underprivileged elders. Other than THKMC, he also partnered 12 other Senior Activity Centres to provide fish porridge to the seniors served by these centres on a monthly basis. Since January 2021, Mr Low has provided over 8,000 packets of fish porridge to seniors islandwide.

6. AIC's Chief Executive Officer Tan Kwang Cheak said, "AIC and the Community Care sector are grateful for the wonderful support and contributions from all our Friends of Community Care. Their affirmation of support and expression of care for our Community Care partners and their staff have lifted their spirits and helped them to continue on their extremely important work of caring for and safeguarding the health and wellbeing of our seniors and clients in the community particularly during this challenging time."

7. In line with this year's celebrations, several corporate sponsors have also come forward to offer special discounts and rewards for Community Care staff. One such sponsor is IKEA Singapore, which is serving 1,000 free hot dogs to Community Care staff at the IKEA Jurong Swedish Bistro located at JEM shopping centre. Nur Diana, IKEA Jurong Store General Manager of IKEA Singapore said, "This is just a small gesture from IKEA to say thanks to these frontliners who are working so hard – showing incredible resilience and dedication during the most challenging of times."

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About the Agency for Integrated Care

The Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) aims to create a vibrant care community for people to live well and age gracefully. AIC coordinates and supports efforts in integrating care to achieve the best care outcomes for our clients. We reach out to caregivers and seniors with information on staying active and ageing well, and connect people to services they need. We support stakeholders in their efforts to raise the quality of care, and also work with health and social care partners to provide services for the ageing population. Our work in the community brings care services and information closer to those in need. For more about us, please visit <https://www.aic.sg/>