

MEDIA RELEASE

The Giving Family Festival 2018 – A platform for Singapore to Play, Bond, and Give Back to the Community

SINGAPORE, 1 September 2018 – TOUCH Community Services is bringing back ***The Giving Family Festival***, a fund-raising carnival that celebrates the spirit of giving back as One Community. This year's carnival will take place on 1-2 September 2018 at the Singapore Sports Hub, OCBC Square, from 10am to 9pm.

Supported by Guest-of-Honour, Mr Desmond Lee, Minister for Social and Family Development, and Second Minister for National Development, the charity carnival is organised in support of TOUCH's 31,000 beneficiaries including youth-at-risk, vulnerable families, people with special needs, and disadvantaged seniors. Visitors to the carnival are encouraged to play together as a family and develop intergenerational bonds, while giving back to society.

Featuring three zones – The Playground, Bonding Avenue and Giving Boulevard - The Giving Family Festival will feature more than 30 booths housing exciting carnival games, rides, merchandise, live performances, and free workshops across 2,175 sqm of open space.

A community collaboration, The Giving Family Festival brings together corporates and community partners to partner TOUCH in supporting a worthy cause. Corporate sponsors such as AstraZeneca, Daikin Airconditioning (Singapore), Rockwell Automation Asia Pacific Business Center, Terumo, State Street Corporation, Dyna-Mac Engineering Services, and Singapore O&G have come on board. F&B partners such as Ah Gong's Muah Chee and d'Good Café will provide refreshments; J'Kids Amusement will bring in a curated selection of carnival rides; Bridging the Gap Gym will offer child-friendly play options with its custom-made state of the art equipment. For those who may be keen to acquire new skills, there are free creative workshops offered by Believer Music, The Lettering Workbook, Chef Gary, and Kaspersky.

Trainees from the TOUCH Centre for Independent Living will showcase their creative talent and play their part in giving back to the community. Making its debut at the carnival this year is a special segment 'Art Gives Back', with 14 specially-designed art pieces by TOUCH SpecialCrafts available for sale. These art pieces are inspired by nature and the vitality of animals. Look out for a beautiful rendition - "Positive Energy of Horse", which is created by TOUCH trainee, Ms Emily Chua. These talented artists with intellectual disabilities have also designed stencils for the 'Stencil With Me' workshop. The public can show their support by partnering these artists to create handmade coasters featuring exquisite dinosaur and orchid designs.

Says Mr Lawrence Khong, Founding Chairman of TOUCH, "TOUCH believes that families can be strengthened as they serve the community together. Families need opportunities and support to cultivate the value of compassion and generosity in the young. And that's why TOUCH Community Services is organising The Giving Family Festival - to bring together families and people from all walks of life - to Play, Bond, and Give back to society."

About Run & Raisin' 2018

Making its 8th appearance is the annual charity run, Run & Raisin' 2018, which benefits over 580 children from low-income and single-parent families under TOUCH Young Arrows. This year's run has attracted around 2,000 participants who will be running in the categories of a

10km competitive run, 5km fun run, and a 1.2km family run. The race route will incorporate a breathtaking view of Singapore's cityscape along the Marina Bay area.

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ABOUT TOUCH COMMUNITY SERVICES

TOUCH Community Services is a not-for-profit charitable organisation, dedicated to meeting the needs of children from low-income or single parent families, youths-at-risk, needy families, people with special and healthcare needs, and frail elderly. Through its network of 18 services, TOUCH is committed to serving people of all ages, races, religions and backgrounds. Each year, its programmes and services meet the needs of more than 31,000 clients. For information on TOUCH, please visit www.touch.org.sg

ABOUT TOUCH CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING / TOUCH SPECIALCRAFTS

TOUCH Community Services (TOUCH) has been serving persons with special needs, primarily adults with intellectual disabilities and the deaf since 1990, with the setting up of TOUCH Training Centre for the Disabled and TOUCH Silent Club in 1993. TOUCH Centre for Independent Living (TCIL) is a day activity centre which offers competence-based training programmes for adults with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities aiming to provide them with functional knowledge and skills that will equip them to live independently in the community. The client-focused training programmes teach daily living (personal and social), as well as pre-employment skills to the trainees using a Mediated Learning Experience approach. To improve their quality of life, we conduct enrichment programmes such as visual arts, sports and recreational activities. Besides providing training in independent skills, TCIL also runs a TOUCH SpecialCrafts programme which seeks to develop and showcase their talents and skills in the visual arts and offer employment for those who are gifted in this area.