



**WELCOME ADDRESS BY DANNY KOH, CHAIRMAN, COMMUNITY CHEST
FOR COMMUNITY CHEST AWARDS 2026
ON 5 OCTOBER 2026, 7.20PM
AT GRAND COPTHORNE WATERFRONT HOTEL**

President Tharman Shanmugaratnam,

Senior Minister of State for Social and Family Development and Home Affairs, Mr Goh Pei Ming,

Partners and friends of Community Chest,

Ladies and gentlemen, good evening.

- 1 Thank you, President Tharman and SMS Pei Ming, for joining us this evening as we honour the outstanding contributions of our partners to Singapore's social service sector.
- 2 I would like to congratulate all our award recipients here tonight, as well as those who could not join us. Tonight, we celebrate not simply what you have given, but what your giving has made possible.
- 3 As I begin my journey as Chairman of the ComChest, I have been deeply encouraged by the commitment of our partners. You have stood alongside individuals and families, not only in moments of need, but in their longer journey towards stability, confidence and hope.
- 4 Today, we recognise 190 valued partners, 12 percent more than last year. Together, your efforts have made a meaningful difference in building a Singapore where no one faces life's challenges alone.

- 5 In FY2025, ComChest channelled over \$80 million to 340 social service programmes and projects. This has benefitted more than 130,000 people, including children with special needs, youths at risk, persons with disabilities or mental health needs, families and seniors in need.
- 6 Behind every number is a story. For a young person facing challenges, support may be a mentor who believes in them and helps them build the confidence and relationships to move forward. More than half of the children and youths supported through ComChest-funded programmes have gone on to strengthen vital skills such as teamwork and leadership, helping them to thrive and realise their potential.
- 7 For a person with mental health needs, support may be finding meaningful employment and gaining greater independence. Close to 80 percent of those who received employment support secured a job and remained employed for at least six months.
- 8 These outcomes remind us how generosity can change the direction of a life for the better.
- 9 Sustained challenges require sustained commitment. In the past year, our partners collectively committed over \$100 million of multi-year giving. This provides agencies with greater certainty to plan, strengthen their services, and deliver better outcomes.
- 10 Families like Dr Lee and family, as well as the Rao Family Foundation show how generosity and care can be passed from one generation to the next.
- 11 Volunteer Partner Award recipients this year include Standard Chartered Bank, CPF Board, Kuok Group Singapore, and Temasek Polytechnic. They show that the giving of time consistently contributes to better outcomes, and more importantly, it enriches our own lives.
- 12 Enabler Award recipients, including Marina Bay Sands, Heartwarmers Volunteer Group, JTC Corporation, and SBS Transit, demonstrate how by contributing expertise and resources, we can extend the reach of social services.

- 13 I would also like to thank CPF Board for facilitating SGSHARE monthly payroll donations to ComChest. Organisations like ICA, Singapore Courts, City Developments, and Sheng Siong demonstrate how enabling regular giving by employees can provide sustained support.
- 14 Our Charity Platinum Award recipients including Singapore Exchange, PropNex, Singapore Airlines, Ministry of Education, and Do Good International Foundation, exemplify that significant donations can help address the growing and complex needs of the social service sector.
- 15 And tonight, I am delighted to congratulate Income Insurance Limited on joining DBS Bank, Singtel, SP Group, and UOB as Pinnacle Award recipients. These organisations demonstrate what is possible when these 3 things come together: financial contributions, volunteerism, and long-term partnership.
- 16 By bringing together our funds, time and talent, we can turn generosity into lasting social impact.
- 17 I look forward to building on the strong foundation laid by ComChest and our partners, and to welcoming more individuals and organisations to join us in shaping a more caring and inclusive Singapore.
- 18 Thank you, and have a wonderful evening.