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**NEWS RELEASE** 

# CapitaLand partners People's Association to enhance the nutritional well-being of 1,000 underprivileged children in Singapore

# On Children's Day, CapitaLand Hope Foundation donates S\$500,000 to extend the reach of its Kids' Food Fund programme to more children through the People's Association and Community Development Councils

*Singapore, 4 October 2013* – Celebrations for Children's Day this year was made more meaningful today with the partnership announcement of CapitaLand Hope Foundation (CHF), the philanthropic arm of CapitaLand Limited (CapitaLand), and the People's Association (PA) for the CHF Kids' Food Fund Programme to enhance the nutritional well-being of 1,000 underprivileged children in Singapore.

Kids' Food Fund, a food security and nutrition programme, was launched in 2010 by CHF in conjunction with World Food Day. It is the first time CHF and PA are in partnership to reach out to children beneficiaries across Singapore through the five Community Development Councils (CDCs) for the Programme. The CDCs will administer the Programme through their outreach partners that include primary and secondary schools, student care centres, family service centres and grassroots organisations.

From January 2014, the children beneficiaries will get at least one healthy and balanced meal every school day for a year. The Programme will be fully funded by CHF's donation of S\$500,000.

The cheque was earlier presented by Mr S R Nathan, Chairman of CHF to the five CDCs. Dr Amy Khor, Mayor of South West District; Mr Teo Ser Luck, Mayor of North East District; Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District; Mr Sam Tan, Mayor of Central Singapore District; and Mr Seah Kian Peng, Vice-Chairman of South East CDC were present to receive the cheque. The ceremony was also witnessed by Mr Ang Hak Seng, BBM, Chief Executive Director of People's Association; Mr Lim Ming Yan, Director, CHF and President & Group CEO, CapitaLand Limited; Mr Tan Seng Chai, Executive Director, CHF and Group Chief Corporate Officer, CapitaLand Limited; and Mr James Koh, Director, CHF.

The launch of the Programme held in conjunction with Children's Day was attended by about 100 children beneficiaries from the five CDCs, who were invited to participate in an array of fun-filled, food-creation activities that included decorating cupcakes, baking cookies facilitated by pastry chefs from Palate Sensations, and even a cooking competition.

Celebrity chef, Eric Teo led 32 CapitaLand staff volunteers and children beneficiaries in a culinary 'cook-off' at the CHF Kids' Food Fund Junior Chef Cooking Competition held at venue sponsor, Palate Sensations' cooking studio. Divided into eight teams of four, the children were guided by CapitaLand staff volunteers in the planning of a balanced meal, and also in the presentation of the teams' gastronomic creations in a delightful manner.

The junior chefs presented their creations to a panel of judges comprising Mr Tan Seng Chai, Mr Nah Juay Hng, Group Director of Engagement Cluster - Arts & Culture of PA and Chef Eric Teo. The teams' dishes were assessed based on criteria including nutritional value, creativity, tastiness, how economical the dishes were and their teamwork. The child who exhibited the best culinary skill was also presented with the Master Junior Chef prize.

Mr S R Nathan, Chairman, CapitaLand Hope Foundation, said: "CapitaLand Hope Foundation's Kids' Food Fund Programme has benefitted more than 23,000 children in Asia since 2010. To date, the Foundation has donated close to S\$1 million towards enhancing the nutritional well-being of underprivileged children. Nutrition is key to a child's development, so it is important to encourage children to eat better and grow healthily to have a better headstart in life. We are pleased to partner People's Association and the Community Development Councils of Singapore to extend the reach of our Kids' Food Fund Programme to 1,000 children beneficiaries islandwide."

Dr Amy Khor, Chairperson of the Mayors' Committee and Mayor of South West District, shared: "This is the third consecutive year that CapitaLand Limited and its philanthropic arm, CapitaLand Hope Foundation are partnering the CDCs to reach out to 1,000 underprivileged school-going children. The special focus this year is healthy eating. Healthy eating contributes to a child's overall health. It can help to calm a child's hyperactivity, focus his energy, sharpen his mind, and even out his moods to prepare him for better learning. The Kids' Food Fund helps to provide underprivileged primary and secondary school students with healthy and balanced meal. We would like to thank CapitaLand Limited and CapitaLand Hope Foundation for their continued generosity and for partnering all CDCs to further their corporate social responsibility efforts in developing people and building a caring community. This collaboration demonstrates the true spirit of letting the more able, corporate or individual, help the less able."

Mr Ang Hak Seng, BBM, Chief Executive Director of People's Association (PA), highlighted: "The People's Association and CapitaLand Hope Foundation have been

working together since 2011 to provide for the needs of children from less privileged backgrounds. This partnership demonstrates how the private sector can leverage on PA's network to improve the reach and impact of its community programmes. We hope that this collaboration with CapitaLand Hope Foundation will serve as an inspiration for more corporations to come forward to contribute to the community."

The growth and well-being of the children beneficiaries will be tracked through an online portal specially developed by technology sponsor Isobar. Children beneficiaries' height and weight will be updated twice a year. The data will help all stakeholders identify areas for improvement and children who need further assistance. Interested schools and organisations who are keen to participate in the Programme can contact the respective CDCs in their district.

This initiative is a part of CapitaLand's participation in PA's 'Project We Care' movement to encourage corporate social responsibility and volunteerism in Singapore. It is also the springboard for a series of volunteering activities that CapitaLand will roll out over the next two months to commemorate CapitaLand's 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November.

# More information on the collaboration and anecdotes of children beneficiaries can be found in the Annexes:

**Annex A** – Details on CDCs' Kids' Food Fund outreach efforts **Annex B** – Anecdotes of children beneficiaries

# About CapitaLand Limited

CapitaLand is one of Asia's largest real estate companies. Headquartered and listed in Singapore, the company's businesses in real estate and real estate fund management are focused on its core markets of Singapore and China.

The company's diversified real estate portfolio primarily includes homes, offices, shopping malls, serviced residences and mixed developments. The company also has one of the largest real estate fund management businesses with assets located in Asia. CapitaLand leverages its significant asset base, real estate domain knowledge, product design and development capabilities, active capital management strategies and extensive market network to develop real estate products and services in its markets.

The listed entities of the CapitaLand Group include Australand, CapitaMalls Asia, Ascott Residence Trust, CapitaCommercial Trust, CapitaMall Trust, CapitaMalls Malaysia Trust, CapitaRetail China Trust and Quill Capita Trust.

#### About CapitaLand Hope Foundation

CapitaLand Hope Foundation, the philanthropic arm of CapitaLand, was established in 2005 to further CapitaLand's community development commitment to 'Building People – Building For Tomorrow', by recognising that the long-term success of the company's

business is closely intertwined with the health and prosperity of the communities in which it operates. Every year, CapitaLand allocates up to 0.5% of its net profit to the Foundation to promote social growth and development of underprivileged children with respect to their education, healthcare and shelter needs. CapitaLand Hope Foundation is a registered charity in Singapore and strongly believes each child has within them the potential for greatness, which if nurtured and built upon, can bring significant value to future societies. Going beyond donations associated with charitable giving, the Foundation also focuses on giving time and attention to the children beneficiaries through advocating volunteerism. The strong commitment of volunteers embodies the true spirit of community development at CapitaLand.

For more information, please visit the official website: ww.capitalandhopefoundation.com

# About People's Association

The <u>People's Association</u> (PA) was established on 1 July 1960 to promote racial harmony and social cohesion in Singapore. Our mission is to build and bridge communities in achieving one people, one Singapore.

PA offers a wide range of <u>programmes</u> to cater to Singaporeans from all walks of life - connecting people to people, and people and government. We do this through our network of 1,800 <u>grassroots organisations</u> (GROs), over 100 Community Clubs, five Community Development Councils, the National Youth Council, National Community Leadership Institute, Outward Bound Singapore and Water-Venture. More information at <u>www.pa.gov.sg</u> and OurCommunity.sg.

#### About Community Development Councils (CDCs)

There are five Community Development Councils, namely, Central Singapore CDC, North East CDC, South East CDC, North West CDC and South West CDC. The Mayors of the CDCs are as follows:

- Mayor of South West District: Dr Amy Khor;
- Mayor of North East District: Mr Teo Ser Luck;
- Mayor of South East District: Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman;
- Mayor of North West District: Dr Teo Ho Pin; and
- Mayor of Central Singapore District: Mr Sam Tan.

The CDCs align their activities and efforts with three key strategic thrusts:

#### (a) Assisting the needy

To help the less fortunate through local assistance and social programmes

#### (b) Bonding the people

To bond the community through projects and programmes to bring them closer to one another

#### (c) Connecting the community

To develop strategic partnerships with corporate and community partners to better serve our residents

#### **About Project We Care**

'Project We Care' is an initiative led by the private sector and the People's Association, supported by National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre (NVPC) and Singapore Kindness Movement (SKM), to encourage corporate volunteerism in Singapore, engaging the efforts of private sector CEOs and their employees to contribute towards meaningful causes in the community. Through the leadership of Ms Wee Wei Ling, Chairperson of 'Project We Care', it aims to provide opportunities and platforms for corporations to do good and also impact and inspire other corporations to step out.

#### **Palate Sensations Cooking School**

Established in 2006, Palate Sensations is Singapore's only dedicated cooking school that aims to bridge the gap between the home gourmet and the professional chef. Conveniently located at Biopolis, the open concept studio is outfitted with state-of-the art equipment, stoves and ovens by leading French brand Brandt, pots and pans by Scanpan and precision cutting knives by Henckels. Sprawling over 2,000 sg ft, we are able to accommodate up to 60 people in our kitchen and alfresco area. Helmed by our resident Executive Chef Charlotte D'Isidoro and some of Singapore's most popular restaurant chefs, Palate Sensations offers a variety of hands-on courses suitable for everyone.

#### Isobar

TUS Isobar is part of the Isobar network, a modern communications agency network made up of a committed and diverse group of over 3,000 people in 36 markets. We've brought together the finest digital pioneers with the smartest traditional marketing talent. This combination is reflected in what we do and how we do it. We work hand-in-hand with our clients, through a culture that can't be faked. Open, honest and collaborative.

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# ANNEX A

# CDCs' Kids Food Fund Outreach Efforts

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL	SUM ALLOCATED FROM KIDS' FOOD FUND	OUTREACH PARTNERS	PROGRAMME DETAILS	BENEFICIARIES PROFILE
Central Singapore CDC	\$ 100,000.00	Primary / Secondary Schools	Students can 'buy' the cooked meals from the school canteen using the meal vouchers provided to them.	Underprivileged students who meets the qualifying criteria
North East CDC	\$ 100,000.00	Student Care Centres	Meals will be served at the respective student care centres	Up to 200 lower income student beneficiaries at the Student Care Centres who fall within the qualifying criteria recommended by the student care centres
North West CDC	\$ 100,000.00	Family Service Centres, Grassroots Organisations	CDC will arrange for a vendor to deliver daily cooked dinner to identified beneficiaries.	Kids from low income family who are not able to enjoy nutritious home cooked meal who are identified by the CDC's outreach partners.
South East CDC	\$ 100,000.00	Primary / Secondary Schools	Students can 'buy' the cooked meals from the school canteen using the meal vouchers provided to them.	Students under MOE Financial Assistance Scheme
South West CDC	\$ 100,000.00	Primary Schools	Students will receive \$2 a day to supplement their daily meal allowance for school-going days. Disbursement is based on individual school's discretion.	Needy primary school students in the district.

#### ANNEX B

#### Anecdotes of children beneficiaries

#### **CENTRAL SINGAPORE CDC**

Cheryl (not her real name), aged ten, is a pleasant pupil with leadership qualities. She was appointed as a prefect in Primary 3 due to her strong leadership potential. Being a recipient of the MOE FAS Scheme, she is provided with breakfast daily. With additional help from the Kids Food Fund Programme, she will also be able to enjoy other healthy meals in school. Such support will definitely enable her to excel further in her learning.

#### NORTH EAST CDC

Y Anushika, 10, was among the 60 students from Hougang Sheng Hong Student Care Centre and one of the beneficiaries under SCFA. She was an overweight girl who liked to have small snacks and sweet food to replace her proper meal. It happened rather often when she felt hungry and when she was not in the care centre.

Two months ago, she had an acute stomach pain and she was warded in hospital for treatment. She had a high fever and infection. The doctor had advised her to be careful with her diet and take more vegetable and fruits. Proper meals are needed.

Besides teaching her healthy eating habits, the centre is trying to help her parents to monitor her diet. However, it will be good if the centre can afford to increase the portion of vegetable and fruits, as well as milk intake for the children. More nutritious food like fish, brown rice, healthy drinks will help in healthy growth of the children. This is only possible if our budget allows such healthy but costly food to be included in our menu.

The Kid Food Fund is of much help on this concern.

#### NORTH WEST CDC

Muhammad Ariffin Bin Azman is a primary school going kid staying with his parents and 3 siblings in a rental flat. His father is diagnose with brain cancer in 2011 and is certified permanently unfit for employment. His mother suffered complications in her last pregnancy and gave birth to his sister in May 2013. As a result, her sister had to follow up at KKH frequently. This put a strain on her mother who had to juggle between caring for the kids, attend to her spouse medical issues and running the household. CDC is glad that the North West Tingkat Scheme not only helps to alleviate their household expenses, it also relieve the stress on the mother to prepare cook food for the family, thus allowing her to have energy to spend more bonding time with her four children and her spouse. More importantly, the family is able to enjoy healthier home cook food that is free from MSG.

# SOUTH EAST CDC

Aniq is one of the children under the Health Up @ South East programme that aims to provide children from lower-income families with daily fruit or nutritional beverage such as Milo/ Milk to ensure a healthier and balanced diet in school. At a growing stage where he needs nutritious food with the necessary supplements, the programme has helped Aniq to eat healthier. Apart from that, being in the programme has also enabled him to save some of his pocket money that was previously spent on food. The Kids' Food Fund programme would help ensure children like Aniq receive a healthy and balanced diet while in school.

# SOUTH WEST CDC

Felicia Aw, 10, together with her two sisters, Fiona Aw, 9 and Florence, 8, were among the 600 students from the South West District who received the CapitaLand Hope Foundation – South West CDC 'Back to School Bursary'. Felicia, who comes from a single parent family, aspires to be a lawyer in the future, hoping to give her family a better life, especially her father who had stroke recently. Upon receiving the 'Back to School Bursary', Felicia put it to good use by purchasing new stationery, school bags and assessment books to kick-start the new school term, amid rising cost of living. The bursary served as a seed to aid aspiring low-income students, like Felicia and her younger sisters, with their education endeavours, and help them take their first steps to a successful future.

The Kids Food Fund will help children like Felicia and her sisters get at least one healthy and well-balanced meal per school day and ensure that their nutrient needs are taken care of.