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Media Release



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News Editor

SKILLSFUTURE FESTIVAL @ SOUTH WEST LOOKS AT FUTURE GROWTH INDUSTRIES AND NEW TRIPARTITE PROGRAMME FOR THE VULNERABLE

- **New MOU-signing to kick start tripartite programme to train and place at least 120 vulnerable residents over two years**
- **Residents explore more than 100 job and training opportunities in top three growth industries at SkillsFuture Festival @ South West – Healthcare, Transport and Hospitality**

SkillsFuture Festival @ South West returns for its second year with more learning and employment opportunities for residents in the South West community! The annual learning festival for South West residents, themed 'Hands On Our Future' this year, will focus on growth industries and digitalisation to help residents stay forward-looking and relevant. Singapore's top three growth industries – Healthcare, Transport and Hospitality – will be spotlighted and showcased for residents to be in the know. Residents will not only get to explore more than 100 job and training opportunities in these high-demand sectors, they will also gain insights into how technology transforms jobs by not only relieving workers of manual labour but also elevating their skill sets with more strategic job scopes. For example, residents will see first-hand how data analytics is used to plan optimal bus routes for efficiency and coverage.

2 This year's SkillsFuture Festival @ South West will also introduce the new **South West Learn on the Job** programme. Targeted to help some 120 vulnerable residents aged 40 and above looking for employment and upskilling, the tripartite programme consists of:

- i. Placement & Coaching Partner – Employment and Employability Institute (or e2i) to provide assessment for training and employment assistance, and career coaching to promote job-readiness.
- ii. Training & Employment Partners – Ten partners¹ to provide pro bono or concessionary-rated training to equip the residents with job-specific skills, and provide employment opportunities upon completion of training.
- iii. Community Partners – the South West Community Development Council (CDC) and grassroots and community organisations to identify eligible residents, equip residents with SkillsFuture-related information through the SkillsFuture Advice Workshops, and provide transport subsidies and employment incentive.

3 Through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the South West CDC will be joining hands with these partners to provide a one-stop and seamless job placement process for residents seeking job and training opportunities. Eligible residents will gain access to flexible or part-time job opportunities in growth industries and receive the necessary training to perform the role. In addition, they will receive transport subsidy, as costs in commuting for training may deter lower-income residents from actively pursuing upskilling opportunities.

4 Mayor of South West District Ms Low Yen Ling says, “Besides bringing training and job opportunities to those in the South West district, the CDC is moving one step further to create a supportive job network for our vulnerable residents as they need greater help in their employment search and skills upgrading. With the help of our partners, they will be able to access career coaching, job placement and on-the-job training so that they can improve their employability, become more self-

¹ Namely Caregiver Asia, Homage, Home-Fix DIY, NannyPro, Nimbus, Parcel Walker, Pezzo Group, Prince's Landscape and Construction Pte Ltd, Singapore Hotel Association, and Target Media.

sufficient financially and gain transferable skills. These are important factors that can raise their chances in life and break the cycle of poverty or their inadequacy. We hope that once they experience the benefits of upskilling first-hand, they will be spurred to continue pursuing training opportunities on their own.”

5 Seven months ago, 61-year-old Mr Keston Lim joined Parcel Walker as a sideline. The community-based delivery service platform provides opportunities to earn supplementary income while serving one’s community at the same time, by delivering parcels on-foot to recipients residing in the same community. Mr Lim enjoys delivering with Parcel Walker; he likes that the process is digitalised and that the work enables him to explore his neighbourhood, meet his neighbours as well as get some exercise into his day.

6 As one of the Training and Employment Partners under the South West Learn on the Job programme, Parcel Walker goes the extra mile by providing on-the-job training to ensure their Walkers are well-equipped to perform the role. “Parcel Walker provided training before I started delivering. They taught us how to use the platform’s mobile app, how to communicate with customers on delivery milestones, and protocols on safety and professionalism, such as not entering people’s homes and not having any personal engagement with the recipients,” said Mr Lim. “We were also given the opportunity to learn more about our personality and skills through the SkillsFuture Advice Workshop², so that we are empowered in our lifelong learning journey. The on-the-job training has definitely equipped me with the necessary knowledge and skills to deliver parcels safely, responsibly and in a timely manner.”

² Parcel Walker works closely with the South West CDC on SkillsFuture-related initiatives, such as bringing SkillsFuture Advice Workshops to their Walkers. Parcel Walker was recently recognised as a South West SkillsFuture Advice Partner for continued collaboration towards lifelong learning.

7 Details of the event are as follows:

Event : SkillsFuture Festival @ South West 2019
Date : Saturday, 20 July 2019
Time : 3.55 pm to 5.40 pm **(Media is invited at 3.45 pm)**
Venue : Keat Hong Community Club
2 Choa Chu Kang Loop
Singapore 689687
Guest of : Mr Zaqy Mohamad
Honour Minister of State, Ministry of National Development and
Ministry of Manpower, & Adviser to Keat Hong GROs
Special : Ms Low Yen Ling
Guest Mayor of South West District

8 We would like to invite your reporter and photographer/TV crew to **SkillsFuture Festival @ South West 2019**. Interviews can be arranged upon request. Please contact our media liaison officer for queries. We look forward to receiving you and your crew/photographer.

Media Liaison Officers

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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".

Programme

Time	Programme
3.55 pm	Arrival of Host Ms Low Yen Ling Mayor of South West District
4.00 pm	Arrival of Guest of Honour (GOH) Mr Zaqy Mohamad Adviser to Keat Hong GROs & Minister of State, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Manpower
4.05 pm	Address by GOH
4.15 pm	Address by Host
4.25 pm	Signing of Memorandum of Understanding for South West Learn on the Job Programme
4.35 pm	Tour of exhibition showcases
5.30 pm	Media interview (arranged upon request)
5.40 pm	End of Programme