



MEDIA RELEASE

24 MARCH 2010

CITISPA POWER RUN \$105,776 Raised Towards the CITISPA-Central Singapore EMPOWER Fund

When asked about how he felt about participating in the **CITISPA Power Run**, 11-year-old wheelchair-bound Fabian Tay replied with a grin, "I've never taken part in a race before. I am so excited to run together with the other runners."

His sentiment is shared by 99 other children with special needs from the Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF), Special Olympics (Singapore), Muscular Dystrophy Association Singapore (MDAS) and the Down Syndrome Association (DSA), all of whom will be taking part in the inaugural CITISPA Power Run organized by CITISPA and Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC) on **28 March 2010** with 1,200 other participants. They will also be receiving a special goodie bag, sponsored by Mizuno, which consists of a pair of running shoes, running singlet, shorts and shoe bag.

Guest-of-Honour, Mrs. Yu-Foo Yee Shoon, Minister of State, Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports, will flag off the 5km Fun Run and will walk part of the 5km Fun Run with the children with special needs. Mr. Zainudin Nordin, Mayor of Central Singapore District, and Ms Denise Phua, Vice Chairperson for the Central Singapore CDC and Adviser to the Jalan Besar GROs would be joining Mrs. Yu-Foo Yee Shoon for this 5km Fun Run.

In conjunction with the CITISPA Power Run, CITISPA will be presenting a cheque of **S\$52,888** to Mayor Zainudin Nordin, Mayor of Central Singapore District, for the **CITISPA-Central Singapore EmPower Fund**. As Central Singapore CDC will be matching a dollar for every dollar raised by CITISPA for this fund, the beneficiaries will receive a total of \$105,776 in funds. This fund will be used to support developmental programmes of the selected four beneficiaries - CCF, MDAS, DSA and Special Olympics (Singapore). This link-up between the four VWOs and CITISPA is an initiative under Central Singapore CDC's Comcare Local Network. Through this fund, more children with special needs will be given a chance to develop their interests and potential; and lead meaningful and fulfilling lives.

Ms Denise Phua, Vice-Chairperson of the Central Singapore CDC and Advisor to Kampong Glam Grassroots Organisation said in a press conference held on the 10th of February 2010, “The run is in line with our (the CDC’s) desire to include people with special needs. As a community, we start this run well, and we must make sure we continue it well and most importantly finish it well.”

Mr Gerald Teo, CEO of CITISPA, said: “CITISPA has always been passionate about providing under-privileged children with opportunities, and this is the second time we are working with Central Singapore CDC to raise funds towards this cause. This run is about encouraging women to take a more proactive approach to a healthy life - the CITISPA way, as well as helping children with special needs. The run represents the beginning of a life journey for the 100 kids; CITISPA hopes to assist them along this lifelong journey with the funds raised. ”

The CITISPA Power Run is a run like no other. Besides encouraging women to embrace a healthier and more meaningful lifestyle, the CITISPA Power Run will also serve as a symbolic journey for the children with special needs and a big step towards building an inclusive society. The run will highlight to the public that regardless of their age, people with special needs have the right and ability to connect with the mainstream of society and participate in activities just like other healthy people.

Your journalist and photography/camera crew are cordially invited to join us on 28 March 2010, 7am, at Big Splash at East Coast Park. Please RSVP by 26th March 2010 to the following officer:

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Annex A – Programme Details

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About Central Singapore CDC

Lying at the heart of Singapore, the Central Singapore Community Development Council (CDC) serves more than 890, 000 residents. It envisions a cohesive, harmonious, self-reliant, vibrant and people-centred Central Singapore District. The Central Singapore CDC works in close partnership with schools, voluntary welfare organisations (VWOs), grassroots organisations (GROs), government and commercial agencies to fulfil its mission of assisting the needy, bonding the people and connecting the community.

For more information, visit <http://www.centralsingaporecdc.org.sg>.

About ComCare Local Networks

Central Singapore ComCare Local Networks (CLN) was launched on 23 March 2007 by Prime Minister. It is the setting up of networks of working relationships amongst various stakeholders in the community (Grassroots organisations; voluntary welfare organisations; government organisations and other help organisations).

The objectives of the networks are to:

1. Create a platform where the social service agencies and service providers can have a more coordinated information and referral process;
 2. Facilitate the sharing of concerns, problems and working out some solutions amongst the service providers with regard to their clients;
 3. Ensure that the needy are served more efficiently and effectively; and
 4. Decrease the likelihood of residents falling through any existing social safety net.
5. With the objectives in mind, the CLNs have established the following as the key thrusts for the CLN's work:
- Outreach
 - Database Building, Information Building and Refining the Referral process;
 - Helping Individuals/families work towards Self Reliance.