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MEDIA RELEASE



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News Editor

RESIDENTS IN BRICKLAND BENEFIT FROM LAUNCH OF FOOD BANK VENDING MACHINE



- **200 vulnerable residents in Brickland to receive \$10,000 food credits per month**

Mayor of South West District, Ms Low Yen Ling, together with Mr Don Wee, Adviser to Chua Chu Kang GRC Grassroots Organisations (GROs) (Brickland) launched the Food Bank Vending Machine at Blk 813A, Choa Chu Kang Avenue 7 last Saturday on 12 December 2020. This vending machine helps ease the difficulties faced by less fortunate residents with the provision of free food and allows senior citizens with mobility issues get access to food and hot meals more conveniently.

2 On a monthly basis, 200 vulnerable residents will be provided with cards containing \$50 credits each that they can tap on the machine to receive dry food items such as canned food and rice, and bento meals which can be heated up in the microwave provided. This initiative will run until 31 December 2021 and is supported by The Food Bank Singapore, Fei Yue Family Service Centre @ Chua Chu Kang, Mendaki @ Choa Chu Kang, Keat Hong Axis Colours RC, Brickland Citizens Consultative Committee (CCC) and Community Development & Welfare Fund.

3 Ms Low Yen Ling, Mayor of South West District said, “Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19, we are seeing unified efforts by organisations and individuals from all fronts coming together to help the vulnerable. This exercise is an excellent example of healthy collaborations across the 3P (People, Private and Public) sectors. We welcome innovations like the Food Bank vending machine which extend our reach and resources. The food is readily available and within easy reach of the needy residents, saving them much time and effort. We look forward to more of such partnerships that strengthen our community resilience.”

4 Mr Don Wee, Adviser to Brickland Grassroots Organisations said, “It is important to care for the vulnerable in our community to ensure their basic needs are taken care of. This is why we worked with The Food Bank Singapore to bring in the vending machine to allow vulnerable residents and elderly with mobility issues to have access to a wide variety of food items and hot meals while helping them to defray the costs. Residents also have a choice in the selection of food items they wish to have, which also helps to minimise food wastage.”

5 39-year-old Roziana Bte Ramli shared,” I am very appreciative of this gesture as it helps me save time and money of going out to buy food. There are many choices available and it is also easy for me to heat up the meals in the microwave provided.”

6 The South West CDC launched the Adopt @ South West programme in Keat Hong Axis-Colours in 2019 together with community partners Keat Hong Axis-Colours RC, Bukit Panjang Gospel Chapel, Fei Yue Community Services, Social Service Office @ Chua Chu Kang and Mendaki @ Choa Chu Kang to provide holistic assistance for our residents. Through a “Many Helping Hands” approach, the programme focuses on meeting five core needs, spanning Social Wellness, Healthcare, Home Safety & Improvement, Education and Enrichment, to uplift and enrich the lives of vulnerable residents in the South West District.

7 Photos from the distribution may be downloaded from this [link](#). For more information, please contact our media liaison officer below.

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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 South West 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".