

**EMBARGOED TILL AFTER DELIVERY  
PLEASE CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

**SPEECH BY MR CHEW SUTAT,  
CHAIRMAN, COMMUNITY CHEST  
AT COMMUNITY CHEST AWARDS DINNER  
ON 7 OCTOBER 2024, MONDAY, 6.50PM  
AT ANDAZ SINGAPORE**

President Tharman Shanmugaratnam and Ms Jane Ittogi

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for Social and Family Development

Distinguished guests

Ladies and gentlemen

1. Good evening and welcome to the Community Chest Awards 2024 ceremony.

Thank you, Mr President and Ms Ittogi for joining us today, to recognise the community's exemplary contribution to the social service sector. Congratulations to all our award recipients! You answered the call for our community to come together and uplift the lives of those in need. Your sustained giving has been instrumental in supporting the social service sector to address today's complex social needs.

2. As the social landscape evolves, so has Community Chest's role as the philanthropy arm of the National Council of Social Service. Going beyond fundraising, we are adopting a long-term resourcing approach. This involves forming multi-year

partnerships with our corporates in sustained giving, volunteerism and inclusive practices.

3. Thanks to your contribution and the wider community, I'm happy to share Community Chest was able to **disburse more than \$69 million across 288 programmes and projects in Financial Year 2023. More than 82,000 service users have benefitted from the social service programmes.** Community Chest also extended our support to community projects, capability building efforts and ground-up initiatives. These enable community agencies to grow stronger, and deliver better social services to those in need.
  
4. For example, we channelled funds to the Community Capability Trust for SSAs to develop their organisational capabilities. Community Chest also strongly believes in power of partnerships. That is why we seeded funding to the 4ST Partnership Fund for organisations to pool their skills and resources, and innovate solutions that meet needs in the community.
  
5. In the business industry, we are seeing the shift in corporate philanthropy from ad-hoc to sustained giving. Businesses now can measure and benchmark the social impact of their philanthropic efforts through the **Sustainable Philanthropy Framework** that NCSS recently launched. I am encouraged that **over 40 businesses have participated in the Early Adopters Programme.** They shared positive feedback on how the framework has helped them better organise their

efforts. I hope more will adopt this framework to start on or elevate their corporate philanthropy journey.

6. Our highest accolade, the **Pinnacle award, will be presented to three corporates this year — Singtel, SP Group, and UOB** —for their sustained efforts in fostering inclusivity within the workplace, empowering local community and their pioneering roles as “Early Adopters” of the Sustainable Philanthropy Framework.
7. Looking ahead, in celebration of **Singapore’s 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, there will be an exciting lineup of SG60 initiatives** that partners and their wider community can contribute to as part of our nation-building. I look forward to more impactful partnerships that will strengthen our social compact.
8. Finally, we will be showing you a video, it is a quick introduction to the Sustainable Philanthropy Framework. And also a powerful reminder that **doing good and doing well in business are not mutually exclusive** - in fact, they can go hand in hand. Before I close, I would like to leave you with this thought: By forging strong partnerships within our community, we have the power to build a caring and inclusive society where every individual can live with dignity and purpose.
9. Thank you and please enjoy the programme ahead.

**542 words (4.5 mins)**