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To News Editor

LAUNCH OF “LEARNING SPACE @ LIMBANG” TO EMPOWER CHILDREN AND YOUTHS FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

CDL initiated project to conduct fortnightly character building courses and raise awareness about core ethical issues amongst the youths

In the midst of spreading festive cheers to the low-income families under the three-week campaign (7 January – 27 January) of **WeCare @ North West – Service Weeks**, City Developments Limited (CDL) stepped forward to set up the “**Learning Space @ Limbang**” to empower children and youths. With the support from North West Community Development Council (CDC), National Library Board (NLB) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU), the property developer created and designed the “Learning Space @ Limbang” - a conducive learning space and library for some 200 children and youths residing at Limbang to enjoy quality time after school over the next two years.

2 The “**Learning Space @ Limbang**” was launched at Limbang Park Residents’ Committee (RC) Centre during the **WeCare @ North West – Service Weeks (Limbang)** on **Saturday, 21 January 2017**. The vibrantly

coloured space that was filled with inspiring messages was unveiled by **Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister for National Development & Second Minister for Finance and Adviser to Limbang GROs.**

3 **Dr Teo Ho Pin, Mayor of North West District says,** “Youths are the future of tomorrow, hence it is important for North West CDC to connect together more corporate and community partners to pool resources to support the students from low-income families, so that they would not be disadvantaged due to their financial background. For that, I would like to thank CDL for initiating this Learning Space @ Limbang, with support from Limbang GROs, NTU and NLB to inspire the youths, building up their capabilities. I hope that this giving-back spirit will continue to grow within the North West District.”

4 Over the next two years, CDL’s staff from its employee volunteer programme City Sunshine Club (CSC), will conduct fortnightly character building courses at “**Learning Space @ Limbang**”. In line with CDL’s long standing commitment to foster a new generation of leaders, this initiative strives to educate primary school children aged seven to 12 on ways to understand, care about and act upon core ethical issues.

5 Aimed at pooling more resources to provide holistic programme for the students from low-income families, CDL has also galvanized the support of like-minded partners such as NLB, which contributed a collection of books for the designated kids’ corner, and NTU, whose students would provide tuition to youths in this programme.

6 **Mr Kwek Eik Sheng, CDL Chief Strategy Officer and Advisor of CSC says,** “CDL has been a corporate partner of NWCDC’s outreach initiatives since 2012 and our staff volunteers have been befriending the residents of Limbang since 2015. This first-of-its-kind collaboration was made possible with the support of North West CDC and Limbang Park RC, who have helped us to better understand the needs in this community. We hope that with our collaborative spirit and combined resources, we can work together to empower our children and make our society a better place.”

7 Under the **WeCare @ North West – Service Weeks (Limbang)**, 150 students from Greenridge Secondary School and 40 volunteers from CDL were involved in packing and distributing the **WeCare festive pack**, containing healthier food choices to low-income families residing at Limbang Rental Blocks. Besides that, CDL also provided home improvement services/essentials to seven needy households. One such beneficiary was 58-

year-old Mr Teo Cher Kim, who was diagnosed with Polymyositis. His human interest story is at Annex A.

For Media Queries, please contact:

Launch of Learning Space @ Limbang

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About North West Community Development Council (CDC)

Established on 24 November 2001, the North West Community Development Council (CDC) functions as the local administrator of the North West District; initiating, planning and managing community programmes to promote community bonding and social cohesion. Being closer to the ground, the CDC will be more attuned and responsive to the specific needs of our communities.

We strive to align our activities and efforts with our mission:

(a) Assisting the needy

To help the less fortunate through local assistance programmes

(b) Bonding the people

To bond the community through projects & 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

The North West District comprises Holland-Bukit Timah GRC, Marsiling-Yew Tee GRC, Nee Soon GRC, Sembawang GRC and Bukit Panjang SMC.

Enclosed:

1. Annex A – Human Interest Story
2. Annex B – Programme for WeCare @ North West – Service Weeks (Limbang)

PROFILE STORIES

Limbang

Chinese profile

Mr Teo Cher Kim, 58-year-old

Reaching out to appliances to turn it on and off may be a simple task for many, but for 58-year-old Mr Teo, who is diagnosed with Polymyositis, this could be a difficult task.

Diagnosed with Polymyositis, Mr Teo has mobility issue and relies on wheelchair or walking stick to move around in the house since two years ago. He was also previously diagnosed with Tongue Cancer but upon recovery and few years after, he started experiencing weakness in his legs and arms.

Losing the ability to work, his daily meals are now sustained through the initiative “Meals-On-Wheels” by TOUCH community services and volunteers from NTUC also lent a helping hand to clean his house once every 2 weeks.

To uplift his living condition, CDL would sponsor standing fan with remote, 2 light bulbs to replace his faulty lights, pillow and bolsters to ease his inconvenience under WeCare @ North West – Service Week (Limbang) on 21 January 2017.

**WECARE @ NORTH WEST – SERVICE WEEKS (LIMBANG) AND
LAUNCH OF “LEARNING SPACE @ LIMBANG” INITIATED BY CDL,
IN COLLABORATION WITH RC, NORTH WEST CDC, NLB AND NTU
SATURDAY, 21 JANUARY 2017 AT
BLK 536 CHOA CHU KANG STREET 51
PROGRAMME**

- 8.30am Arrival of corporate partners and volunteers
- 9.00am Packing of festive packs
- 10.00am Arrival of GOH -
Mr Lawrence Wong
Minister for National Development
Second Minister for Finance
Adviser to Limbang GROs
- 10.10am Short Address by GOH
Group photo
Flag off
Commencement of festive pack distribution
- 11.00am Proceed to Limbang Park RC

Launch of “Learning Space @ Limbang” at Limbang Park RC

- 11.05am Short Address by Mr Kwek Eik Sheng
CDL’s Chief Strategy Officer and Advisor of CSC
- 11.10am Photo Opportunity – Unveiling of “Learning Space @ Limbang”
- 11.15am Tour of “Learning Space @ Limbang”
- 12.00pm GOH to take his leave
End of Programme
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