

Media release: **5-year-olds raised \$6000 for the underprivileged**

Kindergartners have raised \$6,000 to help purchase household appliances for 150 underprivileged members from Yuhua SMC, as part of the annual Pay It Forward Day on October 18.

The kindergartners, together with Ms Grace Fu, Member of Parliament for Yuhua, will present the items to the recipients at the annual Pay It Forward Day. In conjunction with SG50 celebrations, this Pay It Forward Day will include a special Silver Senior Carnival event. Held at Jurong Seventh-day Adventist Church, the Silver Senior Carnival and Pay It Forward Day is part of Adventist Community Services' (ACS) Pay It Forward project.

ACS's Pay It Forward project was launched in 2009 and is held annually in various constituencies, including Yuhua, Moulmein, Balestier and Geyland Serai. Some 200 volunteers, called Wellness Ambassadors, visit beneficiaries every month for six months to check on their health and share ways on living healthier lifestyles.

In 2014, Pay It Forward Headstart was initiated to include students from the Seventh-day Adventist Kindergarten (SDAK) in visiting the recipients. This year, 13 kindergartners from SDAK and their families, were enlisted as Junior Wellness Ambassadors – as part of the Pay It Forward Headstart program– to foster inter-generational relationships. With the help of family and friends, the Junior Wellness Ambassadors raised enough funds to purchase a household appliance of the recipients' choice.

“We decided to start involving kindergartners in our Pay It Forward project because we believe it gives young children the invaluable opportunity of getting to know and appreciating their elders,” says Mr Eric Teo, chairman of ACS. “Helping to raise funds for the underprivileged will also help them to learn empathy and cultivate their generosity.”

Junior Wellness Ambassadors will participate in games from yesteryear with the recipients and perform a dance for them at the Silver Senior Carnival. They will then serve lunch to the recipients and assist them with carrying their gifts back home. These Junior Wellness Ambassadors, together with their parents, will also be visiting recipients as part of the Pay It Forward project to check on the recipients' health and share ways on living healthier lifestyles.

Contact:

John Cheang

8125 1374

johncheang@communityservices.org.sg

www.communityservices.org.sg