

MEDIA RELEASE

ESM Goh Chok Tong and Asian Medical Foundation (AMF) Launch \$5 million AMF Silver Care Fund for Singaporean Seniors Affected by COVID-19

Singapore, 22 June, 2020 - The AMF, an Institution of Public Character affiliated to Raffles Medical Group, has established a \$5 million AMF Silver Care Fund to help needy and vulnerable Singaporean seniors whose lives and livelihoods have been affected by COVID-19. The fund received contributions from several prominent Singaporean businessmen who wish to remain anonymous yet are keen to support the community during this trying period. AMF was set up in 2003 with a mandate focused on helping the poor and underprivileged who require medical treatment and funds for various needs.

ESM Goh, who inspired the fund and who has always encouraged Singaporeans to extend a helping hand to those in need, will also serve as the fund's Patron.

ESM Goh, Patron of the AMF Silver Care Fund, said: "I am heartened that AMF has committed to caring for vulnerable seniors in the community. I hope other successful businessmen will follow AMF's example and help other vulnerable Singaporeans affected badly by COVID-19. I have also encouraged AMF to go beyond one-off projects. It should also build on the pilot projects to do more in other parts of Singapore. This is how we build a compassionate and inclusive society that leaves no one behind."

The AMF Silver Care Fund will support two causes:

(A) AMF Elder Voucher (\$3.5 million)

COVID-19 has affected many seniors' financial security, either due to reduced allowances from their family members or loss of income due to work disruptions. Even now, some may continue to face difficulties meeting their daily needs.

AMF will work with the relevant government agencies to identify and provide vouchers to needy and vulnerable seniors so that they can purchase food supplies and household items. These would be seniors who generally have little to no family support, are in frail health or require financial assistance.

AMF aims to reach out to around 30,000 seniors through this scheme. More details will be announced when the programme commences in September 2020.

(B) AMF Elder Health (\$1.5 million)

In the COVID-19 new normal, more precautions are needed when seniors access healthcare services, given that they are at higher risk of developing serious health complications if infected. Additionally, COVID-19 has also imposed greater mental and emotional burdens on seniors' caregivers, many of whom are also seniors themselves.

AMF Elder Health supports pilot projects that aim to improve seniors' access to healthcare as well as enhance seniors' physical and mental wellbeing. The first slate of pilot projects will (i) provide resources to strengthen caregivers' access to medical escort and respite care services; and (ii) implement telehealth solutions in the community, so that seniors with chronic yet stable conditions can consult their doctors without making a trip to the polyclinic or hospital.

To start, AMF will pilot Caregiver Support Network (CSN) with community stakeholders in Marine Parade GRC – a programme that was launched in January this year. AMF will also support Elder Health pilot projects in the Kampong Glam constituency, where Raffles Hospital is located. Lastly, AMF is in discussions with other healthcare partners to set up telehealth pilots in selected HDB towns.

Dr Loo Choon Yong, Chairman of AMF, said: "Seniors' daily lives and routines have been heavily disrupted by COVID-19. They need much more help to cope with this new normal. The Foundation has always focused on helping the poor and underprivileged, we intend to direct more support towards vulnerable seniors during this challenging period. AMF is grateful to the generous donors who have contributed to the fund, and for ESM Goh's guidance in this project. AMF salutes all frontline essential service workers, and hopes that more organisations will work with community partners to extend a helping hand to those in need."

###

For media queries, please contact:

Cindy Gui

Tel: 6311 1318

Email: gui_cindy@rafflesmedical.com

ANNEX 1

ASIAN MEDICAL FOUNDATION FACTSHEET

Who We Are

The Asian Medical Foundation (AMF) was established on 29 April, 2003, by a group of doctors, nurses and employees at Raffles Medical Group (RMG). Since then, AMF has expanded to include volunteers from members of the public. Assistance provided by AMF is based on our core competencies and is focused on providing medical and healthcare related services and programmes, as well as conducting healthcare-related training and education.

What We Do

- We aim to help needy patients and groups requiring medical treatment, particularly those who may require urgent medical treatment.
- We provide funding for community projects to support the poor and underprivileged.
- We work with like-minded government agencies, charities, corporations, and NGOs on community projects catered to the less fortunate.

Chairman

Dr Loo Choon Yong

Trustees

Professor Walter Tan

Mrs Jacqueline Loo

Affiliation

Raffles Medical Group

Key Projects

Date	Project
June 2020	Collaborated with Beyond Social Services to donate supermarket vouchers to needy families severely impacted by COVID-19 pandemic
May 2019	Coordinated social engagement/ activities for volunteers to interact with the inpatients of Raffles Hospital Ward 13 (Emergency Care Collaboration Scheme)
January 2019	Collaborated with Simmons (S.E.A.) to donate and deliver pillows and pillow protectors to 60 needy elderly residents who are under the care of Bethesda Care Services

AsianMedicalFoundation

Date	Project
2012-2019	Supported Project SilverCare, an annual health-screening programme jointly organised with NUS students to provide door-to-door home health screening for needy residents
December 2018	Donated and distributed festive goody bags to residents of Zion Home for the Aged and low income families under the care of Bethesda Care Services.
2016-2018	Supported the Memories Café programme which is aimed at raising awareness and addressing stigma for people with Dementia and their caregivers
2016-ongoing	Provided ad-hoc rehabilitation assessments and dementia examinations for the residents of PCF Sparkle Care at Simei and Yew Tee.
June 2015-ongoing	Provided monthly medical consultation by volunteer doctors for the residents of Zion Home for the Aged
2009-2015	Adopted Rochore Kongs Home for the Aged and provided free medical consultations by volunteer doctors for the residents
August 2014	Donated vaccination and malaria tablets for Singaporeans student volunteers pursuing humanitarian work in Nepal
June 2014	Donated vaccination and medical certification for Singaporeans volunteers pursuing humanitarian work in Cambodia
2014-2013	Partnered YMCA in support of a medical mobile clinic programme in Sri Lanka, in aid of post-Tsunami victims
2012	Partnered YMCA in support of a medical mission project in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka, in aid of post-Tsunami victims
2011-2012	Sponsored some children from Apeksha Nivasa Orphanage, founded by Mother Teresa, for their annual schooling needs
December 2010	Partnered YMCA in support of a medical mission project in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka
October 2010	Donated vaccination for student volunteers from the Boys Brigade Singapore pursuing humanitarian work in Sri Lanka
March 2010	Health screening for the seniors at Tampines East Community Club
April 2010	Funded the purchase of a generator set for the Health Centre at the Rotary Club in Aceh, Indonesia, in support of Tsunami victims
January 2010	Funded tumour surgery for a young lady from the remote areas of Yunan, China
October and November 2009	Provided health screening for the vulnerable seniors of Henderson Heights residing in rental flats
October 2009	Collaborated with Singapore Management University to provide customised First Aid Kit and conduct basic first aid lessons for the residents of Sun Love Home at Chai Chee
September 2009	Sponsored vaccination for student volunteers from the Boys Brigade Singapore pursuing humanitarian work in Sri Lanka

AsianMedicalFoundation

Date	Project
February 2009	Provided health screening for the seniors of Kampong Glam
December 2008	Sponsored vaccination for participants from a VWO pursuing humanitarian work in Siem Reap, Cambodia
September 2008	Sponsored vaccination for student volunteers from the Boys Brigade Singapore pursuing humanitarian work in Siem Reap, Cambodia
September 2008	Sponsored vaccination for student volunteers from the Boys Brigade Singapore pursuing humanitarian work in Sri Lanka
August 2008	Donated medical supplies to Singapore Medical Society London in support of their charity project in Thailand
July 2008	Provided an ambulance and paramedic on standby to support an outreach project for the elderly, organised by Kebun Baru Youth Committee
November 2007	Supported the corrective surgery for a 10-year old Myanmar child with bilateral neglected club feet
September 2007	Donated 30,000 deworming tablets to Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine in National University Singapore for their humanitarian mission in Cambodia
September 2006	Donated toothbrushes and toothpaste to support 200 needy children in Yangon and Bago, Myanmar
March 2005	Sent volunteer doctors on a medical mission in aid of the earthquake victims in Nias, Indonesia
January 2005	Sent volunteer doctors on a medical mission in aid of the 2004 Tsunami victims in Aceh, Indonesia

For more information, please visit <https://www.rafflesmedicalgroup.com/asian-medical-foundation>