



For immediate release

NEWS RELEASE

CapitaLand launches S\$750,000 programme with NTUC First Campus to prepare low-income pre-school children for primary school

- ***CapitaLand-Bright Horizons Fund programme to benefit 2,000 My First Skool pre-school children in support of Singapore government's efforts to strengthen early childhood education***
- ***More than S\$660,000 CapitaLand Cares @ CDC programme to support over 5,000 vulnerable elderly and children***

Singapore, 11 October 2019 – CapitaLand has launched a programme for pre-schoolers in Singapore with S\$750,000 funding from its philanthropic arm, CapitaLand Hope Foundation (CHF), to help 2,000 NTUC First Campus' My First Skool pre-school children from low-income families to be ready for primary school. Launched in partnership with NTUC First Campus' Bright Horizons Fund, the **CapitaLand-Bright Horizons Fund Ready-for-School programme** is in line with the government's efforts to strengthen early childhood care and education, as well as provide all children with an equal start in life.

Under the three-year programme, CapitaLand's contributions will allow seven more My First Skool centres to provide the Classroom Support Programme, bringing it to a total of 20. More classroom co-facilitators will be deployed to provide for an additional 200 pre-school children who require learning support. The first-of-its-kind in the early childhood sector, this structured programme has classroom co-facilitators to partner teachers to support children with learning difficulties. Teaching will be done in small groups, focusing on language, literacy and numeracy. A yearly impact assessment will also be conducted to measure effectiveness of the programme.

CapitaLand-Bright Horizons Fund Ready-for-School programme also provides graduating My First Skool Kindergarten 2 children with school bags and essentials to prepare them for primary school. To celebrate the completion of their pre-school education, the children will also go on learning journeys to CapitaLand malls.

Today, over 400 graduating Kindergarten 2 children visited Jewel Changi Airport (Jewel) hosted by CapitaLand in conjunction with CapitaLand Volunteer Week (2 – 11 October 2019), where 380 staff dedicated more than 1,600 hours to give back to the community.

Separately, as part of CHF's existing partnership with five Community Development Councils (CDCs) through CapitaLand-People's Association Community Development Fund established in 2016, more than S\$660,000 will be set aside for five initiatives under **CapitaLand Cares @ CDC programme** to support over 5,000 vulnerable seniors and children in their education, healthcare, shelter and living needs. CapitaLand staff volunteers also brought about 190

vulnerable seniors and children from low-income families on an educational tour of Jewel and were treated to a meal at Five Spice food court.

Mr Tan Seng Chai, Chief Corporate & People Officer for CapitaLand Group and Executive Director of CapitaLand Hope Foundation, said: “CapitaLand is committed to support the building of inclusive communities in Singapore and other geographic locations where we operate. We continue to focus on helping children from low-income families in areas such as education which are key to the children’s growth. CapitaLand-Bright Horizons Fund Ready-for-School provides care and attention to pre-schoolers with learning needs that will better prepare them when they enter primary school. Likewise, CapitaLand Cares @ CDC caters to underprivileged children’s education and basic needs. It also provides vulnerable elderly with care and improvements to their living conditions. We are mobilising CapitaLand staff to give back and contribute meaningfully to the beneficiaries and the community.”

Mr Chan Tee Seng, NTUC First Campus CEO, said: “NTUC First Campus is committed to playing a leading role in giving every child a good start in life. We have a unique Child Support Model that supports low-income families and their children in their financial, learning and development as well as social needs. Beyond our recent partnerships in enabling low-income children to have access to pre-school education, we also have a Classroom Support Programme to reinforce in-classroom pre-school support for children with learning needs as we observed that many of them tend to face learning difficulties due to a lack of resources. We need the support from socially conscious organisations such as CapitaLand to join hands with us to take the learning support and opportunities provided to a greater scale. Through this new programme, we can reach out to some 2,000 children over three years. Together, we can create a wider support system for our children to have an equal footing and enter Primary 1 confidently.”

Mdm Chong Ngah Sum, mother of a My First Skool Kindergarten 2 child who has benefitted from the Classroom Support Programme, said: “The programme has helped my daughter over the years. She used to be very quiet and introverted but now she knows how to play with her friends. She has improved a lot since being in the programme, especially in English. We speak Cantonese at home, and she has learnt how to converse and write in English and Mandarin in school. She can also spell words by herself now.”

Ms Low Yen Ling, Chairman of Mayors’ Committee and Mayor of South West District, said: “The Community Development Councils are happy to continue our partnership with CapitaLand Hope Foundation to uplift the lives of the vulnerable seniors and children. By joining hands to address and meet the needs of the disadvantaged in our community, we are strengthening our net of care and support which boosts resilience and builds unity in our society. We look forward to more of such exemplary corporate support and volunteerism that creates an inclusive Singapore.”

To date this year, CapitaLand has contributed over S\$2.1 million to provide for more than 50,000 underprivileged children and vulnerable elderly in Singapore. These two new initiatives follow CapitaLand’s launch of a S\$500,000 CapitaLand-U Care Resilience and Enablement Fund in July 2019 to support 2,500 children of NTUC union members impacted by an unexpected loss of income. In June 2019, with the support of CHF through CapitaLand Silver Empowerment Fund, a TOUCHpoint@AMK 433 community hub was opened to help seniors in the Ang Mo Kio neighbourhood to age in place by providing them with activities and services to keep them active and healthy.

Refer to **Annex A**: Factsheet on CapitaLand-Bright Horizons Fund Ready-for-School and **Annex B**: Factsheet on CapitaLand Cares @ CDC.

About CapitaLand Limited (www.capitaland.com)

CapitaLand Limited (CapitaLand) is one of Asia's largest diversified real estate groups. Headquartered and listed in Singapore, it owns and manages a global portfolio worth S\$129.1 billion as at 30 June 2019. CapitaLand's portfolio spans across diversified real estate classes which includes commercial, retail; business park, industrial and logistics; integrated development, urban development; as well as lodging and residential. With a presence across more than 200 cities in over 30 countries, the Group focuses on Singapore and China as its core markets, while it continues to expand in markets such as India, Vietnam, Australia, Europe and the USA.

CapitaLand has one of the largest real estate investment management businesses globally. It manages eight listed real estate investment trusts (REITs) and business trusts as well as over 20 private funds. Since it pioneered REITs in Singapore with the listing of CapitaLand Mall Trust in 2002, CapitaLand's REITs and business trusts have expanded to include Ascendas Reit, CapitaLand Commercial Trust, Ascott Residence Trust, CapitaLand Retail China Trust, Ascendas India Trust, CapitaLand Malaysia Mall Trust and Ascendas Hospitality Trust.

About CapitaLand Hope Foundation (www.capitalandhopefoundation.com)

CapitaLand Hope Foundation, the philanthropic arm of CapitaLand, was established in 2005 to further CapitaLand's community development commitment to 'Building People. Building Communities.', by recognising that the long-term success of the company's business is closely intertwined with the health and prosperity of the communities in which it operates.

Every year, CapitaLand allocates up to 0.5% of its net operating profit to CapitaLand Hope Foundation. The Foundation is a registered charity in Singapore which promotes the social growth and development of underprivileged children with respect to their education, healthcare and shelter needs. The Foundation also strives to improve the quality of life for the vulnerable elderly in Singapore through healthcare, deeper social integration and better living conditions.

Going beyond donations associated with charitable giving, the Foundation also focuses on giving time and attention to its beneficiaries through advocating volunteerism. The strong commitment of volunteers embodies CapitaLand's mission to care for and contribute to the economic, environmental and social development of communities.

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Annex A: Factsheet on CapitaLand-Bright Horizons Fund Ready-for-School

1. The programme is a three-year partnership between CapitaLand and NTUC First Campus' Bright Horizons Fund to help pre-school children from low-income families to be ready for primary school.
2. The eligibility criteria for the programme are as follows:
 - a. Classroom Support Programme
My First Skool Nursery to K2 children from low-income families (household income <S\$3,500 per month, per capita income <S\$875 per month) and are identified to have learning needs.
 - b. Learning Journey and School Necessities
My First Skool K2 children from low-income families (household income <S\$3,500 per month, per capita income <S\$875 per month).

About NTUC First Campus

As a thought and practice leader in the early childhood care and education field, NTUC First Campus Co-operative Limited (NFC) has been partnering working families to fulfil the promise of young children since 1977. We believe that every child, from every background, deserves equal opportunity to enjoy a quality early education for a good start in life. The NFC portfolio of pre-school brands comprises: My First Skool, The Little Skool-House International, and The Caterpillar's Cove. We also support the development of the early childhood sector through The SEED Institute, while afterschool by NTUC First Campus provides school-based student care to support working families. For more information, please visit www.ntucfirstcampus.com.

About My First Skool

NTUC First Campus' My First Skool (MFS) brings learning to life in a nurturing environment that offers parents peace of mind. Every child can fully experience the joy of learning and our teachers' love for teaching. We are committed to making quality care and education accessible to all young children, and offer a well-devised curriculum to help young children develop bilingual proficiency, as well as to realise their potential for better progress in life. As one of the pioneer pre-school anchor operators appointed by the government, we have established ourselves as a trusted partner of families in Singapore since its inception in 1977 as NTUC Childcare. In recognition of our commitment to excellence, MFS centres have earned the Singapore Pre-School Accreditation Framework (SPARK) certification and are part of the Healthy Meals in Pre-schools Programme (HMPP). These are accorded by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) for quality education and the Health Promotion Board for comprehensive health promotion practices respectively. For more information, please visit www.myfirstskool.com.

About Bright Horizons Fund

Established by NTUC First Campus Co-operative Limited in 2008, Bright Horizons Fund (BHF) enables children from low-income families to receive quality pre-school education and positive classroom experiences. BHF disburses more than S\$1 million in funds annually to support its beneficiaries. Since its inception, BHF has helped over 10,000 beneficiaries through its financial support, well-being and learning programmes. In 2019 alone, BHF is projected to support 2,000 children from low-income families.

Studies have shown that exposure to quality pre-school education has a powerful influence in nurturing a child's potential success. Children from low-income families who receive assistance in their early years do better in school, which in turn creates a positive effect in their adulthood. BHF hopes that with early intervention, the Fund can help these children break out of their current circumstances by giving them a good start in life. For more information, please visit www.ntucfirstcampus.com/do-good/bright-horizons-fund.

Annex B: Factsheet on CapitaLand Cares @ CDC

In 2016, CapitaLand Hope Foundation set up the CapitaLand-People's Association Community Development Fund (CL-PACDF) to provide more holistic support for underprivileged children in Singapore in the areas of education, healthcare and shelter. More than S\$1.3 million have been donated in cash and kind towards the Fund to support projects such as Kids' Food Fund, My Schoolbag and CapitaLand Young Architect Programme across five districts.

As part of the existing partnership, the Fund will extend its support to uplift the lives of both vulnerable seniors and youths in four key areas, namely, education, healthcare, shelter and living needs.

More than S\$660,000 will be set aside to enable the Community Development Councils (CDC) to implement programmes that best cater to the needs of the community in their respective districts. CapitaLand employees will also serve as volunteers in these programmes as part of their corporate giving. Over 5,000 beneficiaries are projected to benefit from this extended help.

Below is a summary of the funded programmes that will be implemented by the respective CDCs:

CDC	Central Singapore	North East	North West	South East	South West
Programme name	Milk Programme @ Central Singapore	Care Team @ North East	WeCare @ North West – Ready for School	COPE – Community Outreach Programme for the Elderly @ South East	Safe and Bright Homes DIY + @ South West
Areas of needs	Healthcare and living needs	Healthcare and living needs	Education and living needs	Education, healthcare and living needs	Shelter and living needs
Outreach	700 children (Between six months and six years old)	230 seniors (60 years and above)	1,300 children (5 to 6 years old)	3,000 seniors (60 years and above)	200 households of vulnerable seniors
Programme overview	Provide children with vouchers or packet milk	Care giving and befriending programme for seniors	Ready-For-School programme with each child receiving supermarket and book vouchers	Care giving and befriending programme for seniors such as regular home visits and centre-based activities	Home safety and improvement programme for vulnerable seniors