

**Speech by Joyce Lye, Founder and President of Kampung Senang at Launch of
WHEELS Programme at Sunlove Kampung Chai Chee SAC on 4 October 2017**

Mr Desmond Lee, Minister for Social and Family Development

Mr Richard Magnus, Chairman, Temasek Foundation Cares

Mr. S Dhanabalan, Chairman, Temasek Trust

Mr Kelvin Lim, Chief, Senior Support & Carer Services Development Division, Agency
for Integrated Care

Mr Wee Lin, Chairman and Founder of Sunlove Home

Distinguished guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. It is my great pleasure to welcome all of you on behalf of Kampung Senang Charity and Education Foundation. We have been running the Wheels of Hope project for 18 years, servicing wheelchairs across the island. This morning we will be officially extending the scope of our Wheels of Hope project to provide additional wheelchair servicing training to Senior Activity Centres.

2. To me this extension represents a combination of two of our past award-winning projects – our Active Senior project and the Wheels of Hope project. In 2004, the then MCYS gave us the Active Senior Volunteer award for senior community edible gardening and veggie delivery to the needy family affected by chronic illnesses. Meanwhile, in 2008, we received the Best Volunteer Initiative Award from the NVPC (National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre) for our Mobility Aids Services to 2,000 users in Singapore. The number of beneficiaries for our Mobility Aids Services has since grown to over 5,000 as our population ages and more become wheelchair bound because of diabetes, strokes, and other chronic illnesses.

3. While there are many motor car and bicycle service workshops in Singapore, there are hardly any independent wheelchair servicing workshops. So there is an urgent need to remedy this situation as our wheelchair bound community grows.

4. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Temasek Foundation Cares and Agency for Integrated Care for the financial collaboration to enable this extended Wheels of Hope project to become a reality. Through this collaboration with Temasek Foundation Cares, we hope to extend our wheelchair servicing training to reach out to more care givers and seniors. We hope many will join us in lighting up hope and providing better support services to the disabled within our neighbourhoods.

5. Our goal is to have neighbourhood wheelchair servicing capability within all community locations in Singapore to support our rapidly aging population. We would like to take this opportunity thank our 5 partner Senior Activity Centres. We welcome more collaboration partners to support the WHEELS Programme. Jointly we can make Singapore an even more inclusive society and a better place to live for all. We call for everyone in the community to work together to “Move the Wheels, and Touch the Hearts”. Thank you.