

Press release
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Accor partners with APSN to create job opportunities and training for persons with special needs



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Accor collaborates with Community Chest and APSN to give From the Heart

Accor, Singapore's largest hospitality operator with 15 hotels and resorts and over 50 restaurants and bars, is embarking on a five-year partnership with Community Chest and Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) to provide support and funding to APSN's beneficiaries.

The partnership, entitled **Accor From The Heart**, will see Accor staff across Singapore raise funds and volunteer hours to provide hospitality training to people with special needs, with the goal to create long-term, meaningful employment opportunities within the group for graduates of the college.

"We are extremely proud to partner with APSN and Community Chest on this important collaboration, which will enable our hotels and corporate office staff to give back From the Heart to the people of Singapore," said Garth Simmons, Chief Operating Officer, Accor Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and South Asia. "Beyond our commitment to supporting the students throughout their education, we will endeavour to provide inclusive employment opportunities within our network in Singapore. The project is aligned with our commitment to Diversity and Inclusion and our dedication to combatting all forms of workplace discrimination.

"We already have some APSN graduates employed within our hotels and we look forward to having even more in our teams, because we believe in celebrating people's differences and making everyone feel welcome," he said.

The collaboration will last five years to make it sustainable and to create a more significant impact to the community, as this will allow time for graduates to work through the program and find potential placements within the group's network.

Dr Christopher Tay, Chief Executive Officer of APSN said, "This joint partnership not only serves as a platform to empower persons with special needs for independence, but through the various initiatives, brings industry partners closer to the community by creating awareness and understanding. With more opportunities and increased interaction, the keen abilities and contributions of our beneficiaries will shine through as we work towards an inclusive society."

APSN is a non-profit association focused on developing individuals with special needs and enabling them to lead dignified, fulfilling and independent lives. The Association prepares beneficiaries for employment and success via education and vocational training initiatives from their early years up into adulthood.

Community Chest, a non-profit organisation, which channels resources to the social service sector, will enable the collaboration from a fund-raising and engagement perspective.

"We are grateful for the commitment from both APSN and Accor towards empowering the lives of persons with special needs through this joint sustained effort. This holistic partnership is testament to a collaborative and impactful ecosystem that Community Chest aims to build and we hope to catalyse more in the near future. By creating such

synergies, we can build an inclusive workforce that thrives on diverse abilities,” said Mr Phillip Tan, Chairman of Community Chest.

This initiative is one example of Accor’s corporate social responsibility program, which is focused on working with communities for a positive impact. The latter also ties in perfectly with one of the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals being Quality Education.

With Accor From The Heart, the group strives to ensure that persons with disabilities in Singapore continue to receive the education that they need. The name of the program comes from the fact that Accor sees all of its employees as ‘Heartists’ – masters of the art of hospitality who serve from the heart, with curiosity and inventiveness.

#accorfromtheheart

ABOUT ACCOR

Accor is a world-leading augmented hospitality group offering unique and meaningful experiences in more than 4,800 hotels, resorts, and residences across 100 countries. With an unrivalled portfolio of brands from luxury to economy, Accor has been providing hospitality savoir-faire for more than 50 years. Beyond accommodations, Accor enables new ways to live, work, and play with Food & Beverage, nightlife, wellbeing, and coworking brands. To drive business performance, Accor’s portfolio of business accelerators amplify hospitality distribution, operations, and experience. Guests have access to one of the world’s most attractive hotel loyalty programs—Le Club AccorHotels.

Accor is deeply committed to sustainable value creation, and plays an active role in giving back to planet and community. Planet 21 – Acting Here endeavours to act for positive hospitality, while Accor Solidarity, the endowment fund, empowers disadvantaged groups through professional training and access to employment.

Accor SA is publicly listed on the Euronext Paris Stock Exchange (ISIN code: FR0000120404) and on the OTC Market (Ticker: ACRYF) in the United States. For more information visit accor.com. Or become a fan and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

ABOUT APSN

Established in 1976, Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) is a social service organisation providing special education for persons with mild intellectual disability (IQ 50-70). Today, APSN operates four Special Education (SPED) Schools (APSN Chaoyang School, APSN Katong School, APSN Tanglin School and APSN Delta Senior School) for students aged 7 to 21, an APSN Student Care Centre for children aged 7 to 18 and an APSN Centre for Adults for persons aged 16 and older, benefiting over 1,200 beneficiaries each year.

The APSN Schools and Centre adopt a holistic approach in its curriculum, comprising academic, vocational and social skills which are important for open employment and lifelong learning. APSN seeks to enable persons with special needs to be active contributors of the society and is committed to inspire and build capabilities of its partners and community to lead and advocate an inclusive society.

To date, APSN’s growing database has more than 5,000 alumni members and beneficiaries. The Association is constantly expanding its network to reach out to and understand the needs of its members to better support them.

For more information on APSN, please visit www.apsn.org.sg

ABOUT COMMUNITY CHEST

As the hallmark of care and share, Community Chest has been uniting the community to fundraise and serve those in need, since 1983. In 2019, as Singapore reflects on its progress and milestones since its founding 200 years ago, Community Chest aims to highlight the importance of community giving and how it has been integral to the success of Singapore since its early days.

Under the Bicentennial Community Fund, the Government will provide dollar-for-dollar matching for donations* to Community Chest, up to 20% of the total funds raised from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Through this, Community Chest hopes to encourage the community to give and maximise the impact to enhance the sector's capabilities, create impactful partnerships and make caring a part of our everyday lives.

Community Chest supports about 80 social service agencies to meet underserved, critical social needs. As our fundraising and operating costs are covered mainly by Tote Board Group, 100% of your contributions go towards empowering the lives of:

- Adults with disabilities
- Children with special needs and youth-at-risk
- Families in need
- Persons with mental health conditions
- Vulnerable seniors

Find out more at comchest.sg.

**Donations include all private cash donations. Grants from government agencies, including Tote Board, which are not donations, will not qualify for the matching. Community Chest (ComChest) as a fundraising arm of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS), supporting about 80 social service agencies, will not be subject to the \$400,000 per IPC cap. Instead, 20% of the total donation (net of the donation that is already matched by existing grants) received by ComChest in the qualifying period will be matched by the BCF.*

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