



For Immediate Release

APSN's Inclusive Employers Forum Champions Workplace Diversity and Accessibility

Singapore, 17 October 2025 – APSN successfully hosted its Inclusive Employers Forum today, bringing together thought leaders, inclusive employers and corporate partners to explore practical strategies for building diverse and accessible workplaces.

Graced by Mr Eric Chua, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Law and Ministry of Social and Family Development, the event enabled employers to engage in critical conversations about inclusive hiring and supporting individuals with special needs in the workforce.

Despite growing efforts, only around 1% of employers in Singapore are currently inclusive hirers. This statistic, shared by Lim Tze Yang, Deputy Director of Employment & Employability at SG Enable, underscores the urgent need for platforms like this forum to drive meaningful change.

The forum serves as a vital bridge between employers and support organisations, demonstrating that inclusive employment is both socially responsible and beneficial to business outcomes. By showcasing real-world success stories and practical frameworks, the event aims to inspire more organisations to embrace inclusive hiring as a sustainable practice. The panel featured representatives from APSN, SG Enable, Edith Patisserie, Shangri-La Singapore, and ABR Holdings Ltd.

Rick Lim, Deputy Director of Employability & Alumni Services at APSN, highlighted the organisation's comprehensive support: "APSN provides two years of job support in collaboration with employers, helping beneficiaries pick up their roles quickly. We also conduct employer education and work together to create customised work tasks that allow our beneficiaries to thrive."

Sharon Pock, Director of Human Resources at Shangri-La Singapore, shared: "Inclusive hiring allows us to tap into diverse perspectives. Whilst the initial investment is significant, the long-term benefits—reduced turnover, improved engagement, and stronger brand reputation—are well worth it."

Ethel Ng, Founder of Edith Patisserie, added: "Working with APSN made the process manageable and incredibly rewarding. The adjustments required are smaller than people think—with the right support, inclusive hiring is transformative."

The event included a tour of APSN's vocational training facilities, demonstrating the tangible capabilities and potential of individuals with special needs. By fostering connections and sharing proven strategies, APSN's Inclusive Employers Forum plays a vital role in shaping a more equitable and inclusive society where individuals of all abilities can contribute meaningfully at work.

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About APSN

APSN, a leading social service agency in Singapore, has been empowering individuals with mild intellectual disabilities (IQ 50-70) since 1976. Through a holistic approach to education, vocational training, and employment support, APSN has helped over 6,000 beneficiaries achieve their full potential.

APSN currently operates four Special Education (SPED) Schools (APSN Chaoyang School, APSN Katong School, APSN Tanglin School and APSN Delta Senior School) for students between the ages of 7 and 21, APSN Student Care Centre for children from 7 to 18 years old, APSN Centre for Adults for persons from 18 years and older, and APSN Learning Hub for working professionals and other stakeholders. With this network of schools, centres, and support services, APSN provides comprehensive care for individuals at all stages of life.

Under the patronage of Ms Jane Ittogi, APSN continues to expand its reach and impact, partnering with organisations to create a more inclusive environment for all. APSN has also attained the Enabling Mark (Gold), a national-level accreditation framework by SG Enable.

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

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