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PRESS RELEASE

Beyond Economic and Security Interests, American Leadership Reaffirms Commitment to Singapore through Community Engagement

AmCham Singapore brings governments, non-profits, and business corporations from across sectors and industries to address needs of the local community



Caption: U.S. Embassy Singapore Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath engaging in Microsoft's Minecraft coding workshop for Special Olympics as part of AmCham SG's 15th Corporate Community Day

Singapore, November 4, 2017 –The American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore (AmCham SG) and the U.S. Embassy today celebrated the fifteenth year of co-hosting and organizing the annual Corporate Community Day (CCD). The month-long initiative will see 64 U.S. corporations collaborating with local implementing partners to organize meaningful activities that encourage businesses and their employees to strengthen ties with the Singapore community. Service projects span across areas of skills-based volunteerism and include activities such as food packing and distribution for the underprivileged, and working with children with

disabilities. CCD aims to raise awareness about the importance of volunteerism and further support the nationwide movement of creating a socially responsible Singapore.

As part of this year's program, AmCham SG partnered with South East Community Development Council (SE CDC) to host their second Walk for Rice today. The walk held at Bedok Reservoir Park was attended by 360 walkers and was joined by Guests of Honor U.S. Embassy Singapore Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath, Deputy General Manager of SE CDC Mr. Chiang Wei Hong, and the AmCham Singapore leadership team. Attendees collectively raised 11,608 bowls of rice for low-income families in the South East District. Supported by Citi, Johnson & Johnson, and Coca-Cola Far East Limited, the walk is in addition to the 64 volunteer events held in conjunction with CCD.



Caption: U.S. Embassy Singapore Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath, AmCham Singapore Executive Director Ann Yom Steel, AmCham Chairman Dwight Hutchins and AmCham Board of Governors leading the chamber's members, families, and partners in this morning's Walk for Rice activity at Bedok Reservoir Park

Speaking at the flag-off, AmCham SG Executive Director, Ann Yom Steel highlighted the importance of forging partnerships that will empower communities. "I am heartened to see so many AmCham members, friends, and their families dedicating time on a Saturday to be present at our event. In addition to the individuals, we are also proud to highlight the companies who have or will be organizing their own activities in support of CCD. As American companies remain strongly engaged in Singapore, the business community will continue to look toward the vision of building a caring and inclusive culture in Singapore through forging partnerships, increasing volunteer opportunities, and enhancing capabilities of volunteers and organizations."

Noting that this is her second CCD, U.S. Embassy Singapore Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath added, "It has been said that, 'A simple act of kindness the size of a rice grain

can weigh as heavy as a mountain.’ That’s why I am so honored to join over 30 colleagues from the U.S. Embassy in participating in our 15th Corporate Community Day with AmCham. Community outreach is a core value of American companies around the world, and this is particularly true for our companies in Southeast Asia. Earlier this year, AmCham recognized over 40 American companies in Singapore for combining socially responsible business practices with strong community engagement. And over the next month, 63 U.S. companies will collaborate with local partners to organize meaningful activities for the benefit of the local community. Hiring locally and caring for our communities are just two of the many factors that distinguish American companies as we maintain our robust U.S. business investment and engagement in the region.”

CEO of the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre, Melissa Kwee, says corporates are critical in building a giving culture, “We would like to applaud efforts such as CCD and congratulate the 40 AmCham CARES recipients. AmCham SG’s effort to connect American companies to Singapore through the universal spirit of giving humanizes the workplace and revives purpose in your companies to make them truly good companies. We are delighted to also see several members of our Company of Good network, especially those serving as mentors to help other companies in Singapore give back in strategic, sustainable and impactful ways. When companies see themselves as a force of social good, truly miracles can happen!”

As Singapore continues to be one of the United States’ largest trading partners and home to the biggest stock of U.S. foreign direct investment in the entire Asia-Pacific region, the two countries enjoy a thriving partnership that extends far beyond the commercial aspects. The large number of AmCham member companies participating in CCD shows that U.S. businesses remain committed to giving back to the local community in Singapore.

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About Corporate Community Day

The American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore (AmCham) is the leading international business association in Singapore, with over 5,000 members representing more than 700 companies. Every year, in cooperation with the U.S. Embassy Singapore, AmCham organizes Corporate Community Day (CCD). CCD is an initiative designed to raise awareness about the importance of volunteerism. Through this initiative, AmCham encourages its members to volunteer for a variety of causes around Singapore, all on the same day. This enables American organizations and their employees to strengthen ties with the Singapore community and encourages year-round engagement. CCD has become the largest one-day volunteer event in Singapore and impacts thousands of beneficiaries from all walks of life.

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