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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Marina Bay Sands raises over S\$3.8 million for local charities

Sands for Singapore Charity Festival 2019 concludes with 15 outreach activities to benefit communities in need



Marina Bay Sands Team Members were among the 8,000 individuals who participated in last Sunday's Community Chest Heartstrings Walk.

Singapore (8 August 2019) – Marina Bay Sands has raised over S\$3.8 million for local charities at its signature [Sands for Singapore Charity Festival](#) this year, bringing the total amount raised to over S\$27 million since 2013.

From Charity Gala Dinners to a *Play It Forward* edition for junior beneficiaries and spring cleaning the homes of seniors, the integrated resort (IR) organised 15 outreach activities to offer a helping hand to underserved communities in Singapore.

The Festival began with the inaugural *Giving Marketplace* charity bazaar from 24-26 July and culminated on 4 August when 8,000 members of the public gathered at the Event Plaza for the Community Chest Heartstrings Walk, which is co-organised by Marina Bay Sands for the 9th consecutive year.

In conjunction with the Festival, Marina Bay Sands also supported Singaporean social service organisations, helping to fill gaps in programmes tailored for children, families and the elderly. Some of these include a hospitality bursary for Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT)

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students; a transitional shelter home programme managed by AWWA and other arts awareness and youth resiliency programmes by organisations such as Art Outreach Singapore and Children’s Wishing Well.

Mr George Tanasijevich, President and Chief Executive Officer of Marina Bay Sands, said: “Corporate giving is a value that is imbued in our company’s philosophy. Every year, we look for new and meaningful ways to deepen our contributions to the community. The Sands for Singapore Charity Festival allows us to fulfil this important goal in a focused manner and deliver lasting impact to our beneficiaries.”

Unique volunteer activities

Inclusive Vertical Marathon Training Session @ Marina Bay Sands



Marina Bay Sands volunteers joined YMCA social service users to climb a section of the stairwell as part of their vertical marathon training session.

On 25 July, the final of three inclusive Vertical Marathon Training Bootcamp sessions was held at Marina Bay Sands. The bootcamps were set up for the first time to prepare eight YMCA social service users – including the visually impaired – for their vertical marathon to the iconic Sands SkyPark on 4 August.

The beneficiaries, together with volunteers from YMCA, Marina Bay Sands and Singapore Management University, ascended 27 storeys as part of the training. This gave the service users a flavour of what to expect during the actual race day. “The opportunity to participate in this inclusive vertical marathon training was truly inspiring. Seeing how my partner conquered every step despite her disability made me realise that nothing is impossible,” said Marina Bay Sands Team Member volunteer Lee Wee Teck from the Table Games Department.

Packing 25,000 hygiene kits for disaster-prone areas

Marina Bay Sands was the first Sands property to kick off the relief kit build for community preparedness, spearheaded by its parent company, Las Vegas Sands. The Singapore property rallied its staff to assemble 25,000 hygiene kits which will be donated to Children’s International in the Philippines. In partnership with *Clean the World*, the effort aims to promote

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good health and well-being among communities in need. The hygiene kits contain basic hygiene amenities such as bars of soap, dental kits as well as inspirational message cards.



Team Members packing 25,000 hygiene kits during the Clean the World hygiene kit build session.

For the first time, Marina Bay Sands also partnered with the Singapore Red Cross to organise a blood donation drive among its staff. Close to 100 units of blood was donated in six hours and almost half of those who participated were first-time donors.

National Day Fireworks preview and Play It Forward



Marina Bay Sands volunteers and beneficiaries from SHINE Children and Youth Services waiting for the fireworks display at Sands SkyPark Observation Deck.

60 children and their caregivers from The Salvation Army and SHINE Children and Youth Services enjoyed a special day out at the property on 27 July. From their spot on the iconic Sands SkyPark, the group enjoyed a visual display of the National Day Parade Preview, complete with state flag fly-past and an exhilarating display of fireworks.

Junior beneficiaries from SHINE Children and Youth Services also competed in a friendly race with their counterparts from Children's Wishing Well in this year's *Play It Forward*. Cheered on

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by staff from Marina Bay Sands, the kids aged 7-12 helped to raise a total of S\$150,000 for their respective charities by completing simple challenges on property.

Giving Marketplace @ Marina Bay Sands



Team Members interacting with a charity representative at the first Giving Marketplace held at Marina Bay Sands.

Marina Bay Sands organised its inaugural *Giving Marketplace* to create opportunities for Team Members to interact with 25 local charities such as The Art Faculty, SPD and Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS) and support the cause of their choice.

The three-day event, which was held at the IR's Heart of House areas, allowed the charities to raise awareness, raise funds through the sale of handicrafts created by their beneficiaries, and grow long-term volunteers among Marina Bay Sands' 10,000-strong staff.

Charity Dinners for Special Needs groups

Every year, Marina Bay Sands hosts the Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) and Cerebral Palsy Association Singapore (CPAS) for their charity dinners held at Sands Expo and Convention Centre.

Dr Christopher Tay, Chief Executive Officer of APSN, said: "APSN beneficiaries have gained immensely from Marina Bay Sands' continued support of their development over the past six years. From contributing to the development of the curriculum and facility of the APSN Community & College (ACC), to extending their support for our annual fundraising dinners, Marina Bay Sands has certainly gone the extra mile to help persons with special needs in Singapore."

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants, a theatre and an outdoor event plaza. Completing

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the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

Sands for Singapore, Marina Bay Sands' corporate social responsibility programme, is committed to helping Singapore in meaningful ways. By using our unique resources as well as mobilising our active volunteerism, we aim to create a positive difference in the lives of Singaporeans. Besides working with our designated charities, we further support beneficiaries including those related to youth and education.

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For high res images: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-FidEdBaixHRDpJcrQ3-8w_rtxoB1ofD