

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# 15 MULTI-NATIONAL DRAGON BOAT TEAMS RAISE FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY CHEST IN CHARITY DRAGON BOAT RACE

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**Singapore, July 11, 2010** – 180 avid multi-national dragon boaters rowed and muscled their way down the Bedok Reservoir in the Community Chest Charity Dragon Boat Race 2010 to raise about \$25,000. The adrenalin pumping event was supported by the Singapore Dragon Boat Association and was held in conjunction with the Singapore Dragon Boat Festival 2010 which began on 10 July 2010.

“The combination of sporting fun, through the engagement of colleagues, business partners and family members in activities such as the ‘Community Chest Charity Dragon Boat Race 2010’, and fund-raising to help the needy in our community, has become a popular way for people to donate to Community Chest in recent years. It is with this in mind that Community Chest has partnered the Singapore Dragon Boat Association in organising the charity race event to raise awareness and funds amongst dragon boat enthusiasts in Singapore for the needy,” said Mr Lim Siew Cheng, Honorary General Secretary of Community Chest Committee.

This is the first time that many different nationalities have come together to support Community Chest’s fund-raising initiative. Three companies, Hewlett Packard (HP) Singapore, Sembawang Corporation and Panalpina World Transport, including 12 expatriate teams participated in the 300m sprint race organised by the fund-raising arm of the National Council of Social Service. Companies like HP rallied their employees for the race and raised \$5,000.

Mr Hooi Siew Hoong, HP Singapore Dragon Boat Team Captain, said, “HP Singapore’s support and participation in the Community Chest Dragon Boat Race helps to foster positive team spirit and healthy competition amongst our employees, while at the same time, raise funds for a good cause. Through the event, we hope to increase the Dragon Boat community’s awareness in caring and sharing with the less fortunate.”

**COMMUNITY CHEST | The NCSS Fund-raising Division**

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The 12 expatriate teams are enthusiasts from the various Dragon Boat groups here in Singapore, such as the Filipino Dragons (Singapore), Austcham Singapore Dragon Boat Team, German Dragons Singapore, The Gaelic Dragons – Singapore, and the American Dragons of Singapore. Showing the greatest support was the Filipino Dragons (Singapore) which sent in five teams for the charity race. A growing number of Filipinos working in Singapore who are enthusiastic in the sport had motivated the paddlers to establish their own team here.

Mr Lovelino Arboleda Jr., President and Team Manager of the Filipino Dragons (Singapore), said, “We believe in Community Chest's vision to help the needy and less fortunate in our society. As active members of the dragon boat community, besides racing to win medals, we want to also reach out and help the community whenever we can.”

This year, Community Chest needs to raise \$55.2 million to support 161 social service programmes serving more than 320,000 people in need.

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## **Community Chest**

Community Chest raises funds on a yearly basis to meet the needs of the social service programmes we help support. Community Chest ensures that the fund-raising costs are kept to a minimum. As these costs are covered mainly by Tote Board and Singapore Pools (Private) Limited, every dollar raised by Community Chest will be made available to social service programmes under its care.

Community Chest has made it easier for individuals to donate from the comfort of their homes via websites such as [www.comchest.org.sg](http://www.comchest.org.sg) and [www.vpost.com.sg](http://www.vpost.com.sg), through the internet (DBS, UOB or Citibank) or phone banking (DBS or POSB) and even at SAM machines across the island. Individuals can also reap tax benefits on donations through hassle-free modes like the Community Chest's SHARE programme (the sign-up form is available at [www.comchest.org.sg](http://www.comchest.org.sg)) where one can make monthly donations via GIRO, credit card or payroll and have his or her tax deductions automatically included in their tax assessments.

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