

For Immediate Release

YMCA Conversation Series: Sowing Seeds, Growing Your Child's Potential

At the 5th instalment of the *YMCA Conversation Series: Sowing Seeds, Growing Your Child's Potential*, University YMCA (Uni-Y) Singapore will be organising a dialogue session for parents with intellectually-disabled children. To be held on Saturday, 14 March 2015 at YMCA of Singapore, the event aims to explore the possibilities to maximise the potential of the intellectually disabled and the avenues of support for them and their carers.

Ms Denise Phua, Mayor, Central Singapore CDC, will grace the event as the Guest-of-Honour, as well as sit on the dialogue session panel. Other panellists include:

- Mr Keh Eng Song, *Chief Executive Officer, Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS)*
- Ms Jeanne Seah-Khong, *Director, Joan Bowen*
- Ms Chia Ai Ling, *Programme Director, SG Enable*
- Ms Veronica Lim-Lowe, *Senior Family Life Educator, Rainbow Centre*
- Ms Lau Lee Fang, *Behavioral Therapist at Joyful Steps*
- Ms Chay Chee Sun, *mother of a child with intellectual disabilities*

The event also comprises an art and craft session for the children while their parents attend the dialogue.

The YMCA Conversation Series is a platform to engage and connect YMCA youth members and the public to share and exchange ideas in order to learn from one another, and from opinion leaders, the movers and shakers of society, who will be invited as panel speakers. The YMCA Conversation Series is organised by University-YMCA (Uni-Y) Singapore.

We cordially invite your journalists and photographers / cameramen to attend the event:

Date : Saturday, 14 March 2015
Time : 11.30 am – 3.00 pm
Location : YMCA of Singapore, Sidewalk Gallery Café (L1) and Tan Chin Tuan Rooms 1 and 2 (L4)

Programme

1130 Registration of participants/guests and lunch (Sidewalk)
1245 Opening Address by GOH (Tan Chin Tuan Rooms)
1255 Presentation by Panellists
1315 Dialogue Session
1420 Uni-Y Community Champions Programme presentation
1440 Refreshments and Networking session

For RSVP and media enquiries, please contact:

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About YMCA of Singapore

YMCA of Singapore is a volunteer-based Christian organisation that seeks to serve and impact all members of the community, regardless of race, language or religion, through programmes, services and enterprises to develop the body, mind and spirit. YMCA organises 16 structured and sustained YMCA-Tan Chin Tuan Community Service Programmes to enrich the lives of the beneficiaries from 32 partnering voluntary welfare organisations and self-help groups. The beneficiaries include the intellectually and physically challenged, out-of-school youth and youth-at-risk, abused and underprivileged children, the visually and hearing impaired, the elderly and the poor. Some of the other programmes include the YMCA-Lim Kim San Volunteers Programme, overseas community service programmes, rebuilding programmes for disaster-hit communities and YMCA Financial Assistance & Capability for Employment Scheme. YMCA was conferred the 2008 Outstanding Non-Profit Organisation Award by the National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre on 13 November 2008; and won the Charity Governance Award (CGA) in the Large Charities category on 25 October 2013. The organisation also runs social enterprises, such as the YMCA International House, YMCA Child Development Centres and Student Care Centres, YMCA School and YMCA Tertiary education programmes.

About Uni-Y Singapore

Uni-Y Singapore is the university service club of YMCA of Singapore, and it seeks to develop and empower youths to be servant leaders who will impact local and international communities. Founded in 2005, Uni-Y strives to create positive social impact through local and international community service programmes and social enterprise programmes, and at the same time, to deliver holistic enrichment to its volunteers and members through personal and leadership programmes. Uni-Y has student chapters in SMU, NUS and NTU.

On 6 July 2014, for its exceptional humanitarian efforts and outstanding contribution in cultivating a spirit of volunteerism and leadership amongst the youth of Singapore, University-YMCA Singapore (Uni-Y) was conferred the Singapore Youth Award 2014, the nation's highest accolade to honour exceptional young people who enrich the hearts and souls of the community and bring distinction to the nation. Uni-Y Singapore was also conferred the Ten Accomplished Youth Organisation (TAYO) ASEAN Award on 9 October 2014 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei.