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For immediate release

Frail elderly in the Western heartlands to receive a one-stop integrated home care services from TOUCH Home Care

1. Good news for the frail elderly and their caregivers living in the West. They can now receive affordable home care and home medical services right in their homes with the setting up of TOUCH Home Care's (THC) new Centre in Jurong. This follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between TOUCH, the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) and the Centre for Enabled Living (CEL) in March this year to develop home care services for frail elderly residents in Jurong East, Jurong West and Boon Lay.
2. Located at Block 457, Jurong West Street 41, THC (Jurong) is backed by a multi-disciplinary team of doctors, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and home care assistants. Mirroring its operation model in its Toa Payoh headquarters, THC (Jurong) will tap on existing community resources by partnering general practitioners and professional locum staff. It will also work closely with the hospitals and polyclinics, and assess client referrals from AIC and CEL so that social and home care services are better integrated.
3. Officially opened by Guest-of-Honour, Minister of State for Health, Dr Amy Khor today, THC (Jurong) is expected to serve some 300 residents in Jurong East, Jurong West and Boon Lay over two years. (Please refer to the enclosed client story and event programme.)
4. Said Mr Eugene Seow, Executive Director of TOUCH Community Services, "The opening of TOUCH Home Care in Jurong is a significant milestone in our 17 years of work with the elderly and their families in the heartlands. The needs are pressing and the challenges are great. TOUCH is thankful for this firm support from the AIC and CEL to help fill this service gap in Jurong to provide affordable and integrated home care services. The frail elderly who are discharged from the hospital can also enjoy our seamless service in the comfort of their homes."
5. THC (Jurong) offers the frail elderly the convenience of receiving a wide range of Home Help and Home Medical services including housekeeping, meals delivery, personal hygiene services, and transport and escort services to hospitals for medical appointments. Medical, nursing and therapy services including health monitoring, medication management, and wound dressing are also available. These services will benefit many of THC's clients, who may be home-bound and who require assistance in Activities of Daily Living (ADL), such as feeding, toileting, and personal grooming.

6. AIC and CEL will provide funding support of up to \$700,000 for two years for the setting up of THC (Jurong).

7. Said Dr Jason Cheah, Chief Executive Officer of AIC, “People today are living longer with more complex and chronic diseases. There is a need to expand the capabilities of service providers such as TOUCH so that they may serve more elderly who are frail but can remain at home with some support. AIC will be embarking on more of such collaborations to plug existing service gaps and facilitate the integration of care across the health system. This is aligned with our efforts to enable more Singaporeans to age in place at home and within the community they are familiar with.”

8. “The requirements of persons needing care and their caregivers are constantly evolving based on their day-to-day circumstances. What they need isn't a one-size-fits-all solution, but a personal and holistic infrastructure of support. I believe the western community will benefit with TOUCH Community Service's expansion of Home Care Services. The CEL will continue to work closely with AIC and VWOs partners in enhancing the capabilities in the social service centre,” commented Mr Chua Chin Kiat, Chairman of CEL.

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