

For Immediate Release

ISCOS ReGen Fund celebrates Ramadan with reformed offenders and families at the inaugural Breaking of Fast event

Singapore, 29 May 2019 – It was all joy and happy faces when over 60 reformed offenders and their family members gathered to share a meal at the first Breaking of Fast event held by ISCOS ReGen Fund (IRF), as they end their daily Ramadan fast today.

In the company of young and old, the families broke fast together at Fika Swedish Cafe and Bistro (Fika), with the meals fully sponsored by the restaurant. The event was graced by Special Guest Mr Amrin Amin, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Health.

“It is important for families and communities to come together as one and support each other in times of need. This is especially crucial for individuals who are rebuilding their lives and future with their loved ones, all the more so during the holy month of Ramadan” commented Mr Amrin Amin.

Every family also received cash, vouchers and over \$100 worth of goodies from IRF, Fika and other sponsors.

This event is organised for beneficiaries under the Fairy Godparent Programme (FGP) to promote familial and community bonding, especially for those celebrating Ramadan for the first time after their release. Through this new initiative, IRF hopes that the families can enjoy the celebrations like any other families in Singapore.

Mr Alex Yeo, Chairman of IRF Management Board said, **“In short, we simply wish to bring some festive cheer to these under our care.”**

In addition to Chinese New Year earlier this year and the upcoming Hari Raya, IRF will also celebrate other major festive seasons such as Deepavali and Christmas with the ex-offenders’ families this year. On average, the FGP reaches out to 350 children and 100 families every year.

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About ISCOS ReGen Fund

The ISCOS ReGen Fund is a charity fund with origins from ISCOS to offer support to children and families of reformed offenders from low-income families. Through the Fairy Godparent Programme (FGP), the main objective is to prevent intergenerational offending by empowering the children with the opportunity of a complete education and the skills required to be employable and financially independent in future.

The name ReGen is made up of 'Re' and 'Gen' – 'Re' embodies the notion of reintegration into society, renewed and reformed life while the term 'Gen' refers to the younger generation and families of reformed offenders.

The IRF Management Board comprises Mr Alex Yeo (Chairman), Mr Albert Kong (Vice Chairman), Mr Keith Tang (Honorary Treasurer), Dr N Varaprasad (Honorary Secretary) and Ms Caroline Lim (Member).

About Fairy Godparent Programme (FGP)

FGP is anchored on three major components: Student Development, Family Support and Home Environment. Under the Programme, ISCOS provides academic assistance through bursary awards, sponsored tuition and mentoring to the children of ex-offenders. We place emphasis on the importance of building strong family units through family bonding activities and parenting workshops.

Backed by the support from volunteers, we also help create conducive study corners for the children at their own homes through home reorganisation and/or painting projects. Since its introduction, thousands of children from low-income families have benefited from the FGP initiatives over the years.

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