



PRESS RELEASE

24 January 2008

BRINGING A SENSE OF HOPE, CHEER AND JOY FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

- Project Extreme Makeover by Hwa Chong Institution and CityCare

Eighteen low-income families residing in Lengkok Bahru will welcome this festive season with freshly-painted walls and new furniture in their homes as part of the *Extreme Makeover* project organised by students from Hwa Chong Institution (HCI).

Led by students from the Artemis Faculty Committee with their mentors from non-profit group CityCare, the project aims to help these families start the year afresh with a sense of hope and cheer, as well as help the students to better appreciate what they have. It also gives them an opportunity to interact with the families and better understand the daily struggles they go through.

About 450 students from HCI will help clean and paint the homes of these families over this weekend (26 – 27 January). During these sessions, some of these student-volunteers will also present short performances to keep the residents entertained. Groceries and furniture will be donated to the families at the end of the second day, when the students have completed the project.

Mr Baey Yam Keng, MP for Tanjong Pagar GRC, is the Guest-of-Honour for *Extreme Makeover* and will be gracing the event on Saturday.

In collaboration with Queenstown Lengkok Bahru Zone RC, and supported by Central Singapore CDC and the Shaw Foundation, it is hoped that through *Extreme Makeover*, the plight of these families and the dignity with which they conduct their lives will inspire the students to have greater social responsibility as well as concern for fellow Singaporeans.

CityCare is pleased to invite your reporter and photographer to cover the Hwa Chong Institution *Extreme Makeover* project:

Date: Saturday, 26 January
Time: 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm
Venue: Blk 52, Lengkok Bahru

There will be photo and interview opportunities with the organizers and volunteers.

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For media enquiries and attendance, please contact:

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About CityCare

CityCare was birthed out of a vision of a group of professionals who wanted to see social transformation in Singapore. It hopes to forge synergistic partnerships, linking schools and businesses with social services and causes through strategic philanthropy.

In 2007, CityCare led 33 community involvement programmes, conducted its training courses in 16 schools, collaborated on social projects with 5 corporate partners and served 17 voluntary welfare organisations. It has touched the lives of 1,376 beneficiaries.

More information on CityCare can be obtained from www.citycare.org.sg.

About Hwa Chong Institution

Hwa Chong Institution (HCI) is Singapore's premier independent school. HCI was established in 2005 with the merger of The Chinese High School (CHS) and Hwa Chong Junior College (HCJC). The merger of 2 of the nation's top schools was to facilitate the implementation of a truly seamless and broad-based 6-year Integrated Programme.



FACT SHEET

CityCare, a non-profit organisation, was birthed out of the vision of a group of professionals who wanted to see social transformation in Singapore by helping people to help people. They conceptualised the New Singaporean values and designed the curriculum to educate volunteers and to ignite the passion of volunteerism in them. CityCare believes that volunteers must move beyond just lending a helping hand to helping from the heart. Only then would they become social change-agent and life-long volunteers.

To this end, CityCare has designed 4 series of experiential learning programmes, The NEW SINGAPOREAN, The Leader in You, The BIG IDEA and DARE, to educate, encourage and empower the volunteers.



The NEW SINGAPOREAN is CityCare's 10-lesson programme designed to nurture active citizens to serve community with not just a helping hand, but a loving heart.

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