

**BRIEF REMARKS BY PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
FOR SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT ASSOC
PROF MUHAMMAD FAISHAL IBRAHIM AT TOTE
BOARD – ENABLING LIVES INITIATIVE GRANT
AWARD AND NETWORKING 2016 ON 1 SEP 2016,
3.00PM AT THE ENABLING VILLAGE**

Fong Yong Kian, CE of Tote Board

Ku Geok Boon, CEO of SG Enable

Ladies and gentlemen

Good afternoon.

1 Thank you for inviting me to join you today at the Tote Board – Enabling Lives Initiative Grant Award and Networking 2016.

2 The Tote Board – Enabling Lives Initiative is a very meaningful initiative that aims to improve the quality of lives of persons with disabilities and their caregivers.

This initiative sees Tote Board as a strategic funder in supporting social innovation projects that address cross-cutting disability issues.

3 As a Grant Management partner, SG Enable has reached out to more than 70 organisations through its various grant calls. I understand that to date, \$7million out of the \$23million in grant money has been committed for various projects to benefit persons with disabilities and their caregivers. Later this afternoon, we will see 2 new grant calls on Accessibility and Mobility, and Transition to Work, which will see the support of more worthy projects.

4 As we saw in the video earlier, caregivers such as Angie and Jothi have benefited from caregiver programmes that are supported by this Grant.

The other projects focusing on data and technology and transition management will also see persons with disabilities having greater access to information, support and innovations that can enable them to improve their quality of life and live more independently.

5 This Grant also aims to spur collaboration across different sectors, such as amongst voluntary welfare organisations, social enterprises, and research and higher learning institutes. SG Enable does not just match partners together through networking sessions and joint applications for the grant, but they also actively create platforms to promote the sharing of good practices and learning in social innovations.

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6 To this end, SG Enable has created a dedicated website for the Grant which will feature resources and toolkits, social innovation communities, and collaborative platforms for everyone to contribute their ideas and learn from one and another. I hope that all of you can participate actively and use this site to build an active community of like-minded organisations and individuals. Together, we can make meaningful impact on the lives of persons with disabilities and their caregivers.

7 Tote Board and SG Enable have also jointly embarked on developing an Impact Measurement Framework with the Institute of System Science (ISS) from the National University of Singapore. ISS will be sharing more about this framework later.

It is my hope that Tote Board and SG Enable can take the lead to demonstrate how we can move towards more evidence-based practices in the social service sector and develop more effective funding models that can achieve greater collective impact.

8 I am very excited to be here today to witness more ground-up initiatives to support persons with disabilities and their caregivers. I also look forward to the networking session later to see how all of us here can leverage each other's different expertise and resources to come up with

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good, innovative ideas to enable persons with disabilities to gain greater access to various types of information, move around more independently and transit more smoothly into employment.

9 Today's ceremony and grant call reassures me that there are passionate people around us who actually want to care for one another, in the best possible ways. I see groups who are pro-actively conducting research, gathering the right information and churning out innovations. If I may borrow a phrase from the video shown earlier, it helps us to 'build a more resilient and connected community'.

10 With these in mind, I wish Tote Board and SG

Enable all the best in this partnership and look forward to
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greater collaboration amongst all of you here today to
build a more inclusive society and to enable lives.

Thank you.