

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Together We are Stronger
Singapore Council of Women's Organisations Engages the Community
to Commemorate the International Day for the
Elimination of Violence Against Women.

Singapore, Wednesday 27 November 2019. In support of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO) has organised "*In Her Stride: Together We are Stronger*", the second part of the *In Her Stride* series that was launched in November 2018. The event that will be held on 30 November 2019 at the SCWO Centre with Ms. Sun Xueling, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of National Development, as the Guest of Honour.

The *In Her Stride* conference series was launched in 2018 to shed light on best practices in protecting and rebuilding lives of family violence survivors. Last year, we followed a survivor's journey to empowerment and a future without violence.

This year SCWO focuses on community engagement to further our efforts in ending family violence by driving the involvement of the community and women leaders towards the cause. To this end, we have partnered with **AkzoNobel** and the **Nanyang Academy of the Fine Arts (NAFA)** to recreate and repaint the SCWO mural. This redesign of the mural represents the community coming together to symbolically commit to eliminate violence against women in Singapore.

As part of the education segment of the event, SCWO member, the Society Against Family Violence will be conducting workshops on how to identify family violence and provide first-hand support to survivors to educate community partners as well as the public. Members of the public can also visit www.scwo.org.sg/youcansayno for information on the steps to take to A.C.T. (A-Awareness. C-Connect. T-Take precaution.) to deal with domestic violence in the community.

Activities include:

- Workshop conducted by **Society Against Family Violence (SAFV)** on how to identify family violence and provide first-hand support to survivors
- Sharing by a former Star Shelter resident
- Mural painting on the main SCWO Centre Wall
- Booths selling jewellery made by Star Shelter residents
- Art Exhibition by Star Shelter residents

Dr. June Goh, President of SCWO, said: “It is imperative that we continue to engage the community on discourse regarding violence against women. The theme of the event, “Together We are Stronger”, is a powerful message that represents the coming together of the community to further affirm the commitment of working towards eliminating violence against women in Singapore. SCWO is happy to collaborate with community partners like our members, as well as AkzoNobel and Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts to this end.”

Mrs Wee Wan Joo, Chair of the Star Shelter, said: “We are heartened to see the coming together of community members to support the Star Shelter – a crisis shelter which aids women to heal from the trauma of abuse and become self-reliant individuals. We need to continually engage the community in various ways like this to keep the conversation going.”

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About Singapore Council of Women's Organisations

The Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO) is the National Coordinating body of women's organisations in Singapore. We have more than 50 Member Organisations representing over 500,000 women in Singapore.

Incorporated in March 1980, the SCWO, having been founded by women, seeks to unite the various women's organisations, clubs, committees, groups and women leaders together, working in accordance with its various aims and objectives.

The SCWO seeks to co-ordinate these associations into a national movement and to act on their behalf in matters for which is authorised by its members.

It seeks to promote the ideals of **'Equal Space, Equal Voice and Equal Worth'** for women in Singapore.

Services

The SCWO offer a range of services mostly for women in need. They are the **Star Shelter**, the **Maintenance Support Central** and **Civil and Muslim Law Legal Clinics**.

Initiatives

The SCWO has various initiatives for women – to provide a platform for networking, education and inspiration through the **Women's Register (WR)** and bring awareness to the benefits of gender-balanced business through **BoardAgender**. It also celebrates the achievements of women through the **Singapore Women's Hall of Fame**.

Facilities

The SCWO has various facilities that caters to the public such as the **IT Hub**, **New2U Thrift Shop**, **Function Rooms**, and a **Library**.

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