



**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**20 December 2013**

## **CCT and its tenants spread festive cheer through inaugural 'Gifts of Joy' charity drive**

**Singapore, 20 December 2013** – To spread love and cheer to underprivileged children this festive season, CapitaCommercial Trust Management Limited (CCTML or the Manager of CapitaCommercial Trust (CCT)) organised an inaugural charity drive “Gifts of Joy” at four of CCT’s office buildings – Capital Tower, One George Street, Six Battery Road and Twenty Anson. Held from 2 December to 17 December 2013, the drive attracted positive response from tenants and staff who donated a total of 627 gifts and \$4,000 cash for 171 children from four beneficiaries – Infant Jesus Homes & Children’s Centres (IJHCC), Melrose Home (Singapore Children’s Aid Society), MINDSville@Napiri and Singapore Anglican Community Services Family Care Centre. Tenants were earlier invited to contribute brand new toys, clothes and sports items, and deposit the unwrapped gifts at collection points in the main lobbies of the four office buildings. Over two days, 53 employees of CCTML, CapitaLand and CapitaMalls Asia volunteered their time to record, wrap and deliver the gifts to the children at the beneficiaries.

Ms Lynette Leong, Chief Executive Officer of CCTML, said, “As we celebrate the year-end festivities, we want to remember that Christmas is a time to share joy, hope and love. We are introducing “Gifts of Joy” for the first time this year at four of CapitaCommercial Trust’s office buildings with the aim of bringing joy to the less privileged children. Through this tenant engagement initiative, we wish to encourage our tenants to join us in this charitable act. We also hope to inculcate in our staff the heart of service through the wrapping and delivery of the gifts to the beneficiaries. The good response from the tenants has spurred us to make "Gifts of Joy" an annual event on our calendar and at more of our office buildings.”

The beneficiaries welcomed this move by the Manager of CCT to collect and deliver the Christmas presents to their children. Mr Amargid Singh, Programme Executive (Volunteer & Philanthropy), Melrose Home, said, "With CapitaCommercial Trust's initiative, our children will still have the opportunity to experience the joy of Christmas. Coming from dysfunctional families, celebrating festive seasons in their own homes is not a norm. Thanks for bringing some cheer into the lives of our children and the gifts have certainly brought on many smiles. From all of us at the Children's Aid Society's Melrose Home – A big thank you!"

Likewise, Ms Jennifer Lim, Chief Executive Officer of IJHCC said, "During the festive season, it is all too easy to get caught up with the celebrations and merry-making. It is heartening to know that people still spare a thought for the underprivileged children in our society. We hope these children will remember the generosity shown to them and pay it forward."

The charity drive would not have been possible without the strong support of tenants who had contributed generously. Ms Linda Ho, an Assistant Manager of Standard Merchant Bank (Asia) Limited, who had made a few gift donations at One George Street said, "This is a brilliant initiative. You can imagine how the children's eyes sparkle and their faces light up each time they receive a gift. This is what I saw in my daughter whenever she receives gifts, so I know the joy it will bring to these underprivileged children, especially during the Christmas season." She added that she would participate in this charity drive again and involve her daughter as well.

Ms Jamie Tay, a Fixed Income Product Specialist at Amundi Singapore Limited even encouraged her colleagues to participate in the charity drive. Ms Tay, whose office is at Capital Tower, had together with her family, donated a total of 10 gifts, ranging from toy musical instruments, card games, beads to toy cars. She said, "Not every child in Singapore has access to the same resources, and we can all chip in to create warm and fun childhood experiences for the less privileged. The charity drive is also a timely reminder for us to take stock of our blessings and donate to someone in greater need. I also encouraged several of my colleagues to contribute to this initiative."

Meanwhile, staff like Ms Marilyn Lee, a Senior Finance Executive at CCTML made time to assist with the arrangement and delivery of the gifts to the beneficiaries. Ms Lee shared, “I’m glad that our company provided this platform for us and tenants alike to do something meaningful for the children. It was also a good way to bond with my colleagues. ”

With such positive response from the tenants and staff volunteers, CCT will extend this charity drive to more of its office buildings and provide the platform for more tenants to do their part for underprivileged children.

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### **About the four beneficiaries**

- **Infant Jesus Homes & Children’s Centres ([www.ijhcc.org](http://www.ijhcc.org))**

IJ Homes and Children’s Centres (IJHCC) has a rich and long history, beginning in 1854 when the first IJ Sisters, arrived in Singapore from France to set up schools for girls. Right from the time the school was first opened, babies were left abandoned at its gate (fondly known as the 'Gate of Hope'). Ever since then, the IJ Sisters founded a service to care for these abandoned children. This was the origin of what became known as the Convent Orphanage and Home for Abandoned Babies. Over the years, this service evolved with the changing needs of the social landscape of Singapore. While the residential care for children continued, day care service was offered alongside. Today, the IJ Sisters, together with the lay partners, remain called to the service of the poor and continue to serve the needy at the following locations: Infant Jesus Centre, Clementi, Infant Jesus Home, Galilee Centre, Oasis and The IJ Village. CCT’s “Gifts of Joy” will benefit 61 children cared for by IJHCC.

- **The Children's Aid Society – Singapore ([www.childrensaidsociety.org.sg](http://www.childrensaidsociety.org.sg))**

Children’s Aid Society is registered under the Societies Act and manages the Melrose Home. An Executive Committee is elected from among its members and is the governing body for the Home. Children’s Aid Society is among the oldest philanthropic organisations in Singapore, having been formed in the late 1890s as the St Nicholas Home. Its present name was established in 1902. Melrose Home provides a supportive environment for children between the ages of three to 18 years old, a "home away from home" for children and teenagers who need

care and protection in a residential setting. These are children whose parents or family members are unable to provide care or to supervise them. Children of other ages are admitted under special circumstances depending on their needs. The Home is situated in an elevated position with extensive grounds that include a playground, basketball court and football field. The 6,000 square metre property is owned by the Society. The Home has the capacity to provide quality residential care for 40 children and 25 teenagers. CCT's "Gifts of Joy" will benefit 46 children cared for by Melrose Home.

- **MINDSville@Napiri (<http://www.minds.org.sg/MVH>)**

MINDSville@Napiri is a multi-service centre in Lorong Napiri run by MINDS. It was officially opened in 14 April 2007 by Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports. The six-storey complex integrates four services under one roof - a Home and a Hostel/Group Home for adults with intellectually disability; a Children's Wing and MINDS third Training and Development Centre (TDC). It provides specialised residential care and service for intellectually disabled persons six years old and above. Respite care, short-term or long-term care are provided. Besides a daily routine which aims at improving the basic living skills of the residents, various programs and therapy are also run to enhance the residents' mental and physical well-being. CCT's "Gifts of Joy" will benefit 19 children cared for by MINDSville@Napiri.

- **Singapore Anglican Community Services Family Care Centre ([www.sacs.org.sg/fcc.htm](http://www.sacs.org.sg/fcc.htm))**

Set up in 1986, Singapore Anglican Community Services Family Care Centre provides temporary and safe accommodation and supportive service to persons experiencing family violence, and to empower them with healing and hope to re-integrate into community. The Centre is more than a shelter. It has multi-faceted programmes that look into the client's psychological, social and financial needs. The Family Care Centre aims to rehabilitate and empower our clients, so that they will be able to choose a life for themselves and their children that is free of violence, fear and oppression. It assists in the emotional and psychological healing of the women and children, and prepares the women for violence-free lives once they leave the centre. The staff at Family Care Centre work with the women to help them foster independence and develop better decision making skills. It strives to equip each client with essential skills that will increase their confidence to succeed in their various roles and responsibilities. CCT's "Gifts of Joy" will benefit 37 children cared for by Singapore Anglican Community Services Family Care Centre.

## **About CapitaCommercial Trust ([www.cct.com.sg](http://www.cct.com.sg))**

CapitaCommercial Trust is Singapore's first listed commercial REIT with a market capitalisation of S\$4.1 billion. CCT aims to own and invest in real estate and real estate-related assets which are income producing and used, or predominantly used, for commercial purposes. The total asset size of CCT is S\$7.06 billion as at 30 September 2013, comprising a portfolio of 10 prime commercial properties in Singapore, as well as investments in Malaysia. The properties in Singapore are Capital Tower, Six Battery Road, One George Street, HSBC Building, Raffles City (60% interest through RCS Trust), Twenty Anson, Bugis Village, Wilkie Edge, Golden Shoe Car Park and CapitaGreen (40% interest through the joint venture, MSO Trust).

In addition, CCT is a substantial unitholder of Quill Capita Trust with 30% unitholdings. Quill Capita Trust is a commercial REIT listed on Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad, with a portfolio of 10 commercial properties in Kuala Lumpur, Cyberjaya and Penang. Since 18 September 2009, CCT has been a constituent of FTSE4Good Index Series (FTSE4Good), a series of benchmark and tradable indices derived from the globally recognized FTSE Global Equity Index Series. FTSE4Good is designed to track the performance of companies meeting international corporate responsibility standards and forms the basis for over 70 different funds and investment products.

CCT is managed by an external manager, CapitaCommercial Trust Management Limited, which is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of CapitaLand Limited, one of the largest real estate companies in Southeast Asia by market capitalisation.

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### **Issued by CapitaCommercial Trust Management Limited**

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