

For Immediate Release

Bringing Family Day to the Homes of Beneficiaries

Singapore, 26 July 2020 – For the first time in history, ISCOS ReGen Fund (IRF) held its first virtual Family Day for its beneficiaries this morning. Over 300 children and families of reformed offenders came together on the Zoom platform to spend quality time over a slew of online family bonding activities.

In his welcome address, Mr Alex Yeo, Chairman of IRF Management Board shared on what prompted this virtual event: **“During this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, some lives and livelihoods may have been affected, such as drop in earnings or even loss of jobs. Many of us as parents would understandably prioritise putting food on the table and may find it hard to set aside time to spend quality bonding time with our children. When we add everything up, it can be mentally and emotionally challenging for the entire family, including our children, to adapt to the new norm.**

Our event today serves to remind everyone on how crucial it is to stay united as a family and support one another to ride through the tough times.”

Sponsored by T-Touch Fund and Baker McKenzie Wong & Leow (BMWL) this year, the annual Family Day is one of the major highlights under the Fairy Godparent Programme (FGP) to promote the importance of family bonding. Typically held at places of attraction in the past years, this year’s event called for an entirely different approach due to the safe distancing measures in place. After weeks of planning and hard work, the inaugural virtual Family Day was finally brought to fruition.

The event was supported by volunteers from BMWL, with contributions from Lickety Ice Cream and Waffles and Neo Garden Catering, to provide treats for the children and families.

In the safety of their homes, the 80 families enjoyed themselves over activities such as tote bag painting and clay making workshops with their loved ones. Focusing on the event theme “Dreams”, every family infused their own interpretation of dreams and aspirations into the artworks to win the coveted top prizes in the art contest. Mini lunch buffet sets were also delivered to each home so that the families can continue to bond over food after the event.

The virtual Family Day is one of the many initiatives by IRF to support children and families of reformed offenders who are not spared from the COVID-19 pandemic. Earlier in May, 100 families received essential items such as masks, hand sanitisers, disinfectant solutions and financial assistance under a new COVID-19 initiative named the Family Steady Pack. The FGP case managers maintained regular contact with the families to find out how they are coping and stepped in to offer assistance as necessary.

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About ISCOS ReGen Fund (IRF)

The ISCOS ReGen Fund is a registered charity fund to support children and families of reformed offenders. 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.

For more information, please refer to www.irf.org.sg and the social media channels ([Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)).

About Fairy Godparent Programme (FGP)

FGP is anchored on three domains: Student Development, Family Support and Home Environment. Under FGP, IRF provides holistic support through bursary awards, sponsored tuition and pro-social initiatives such as after school activities to the children of reformed offenders. We place emphasis on the importance of building strong family units through family bonding activities, parenting workshops, mothers' support group and festive celebrations.

With the support from volunteers, we also help create conducive study corners for the children in 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.

Media Contact:

Looi Jo-Anne
Manager, Comms & External Relations
Tel: 6805 0806
Mobile: 8233 2810
Email: joanne@iscos.org.sg

Esther Lee
Executive, Comms & External Relations
Tel: 6805 0805
Mobile: 9457 0084
Email: esther@iscos.org.sg