

Media Release

Dementia Singapore's Sold-Out Chari-Tee Golf Fundraising Event Affirms an Increasingly Supportive Dementia Community



The much-anticipated annual golf event aims to build stronger relationships with stakeholders among a growing community of donors.

[**Singapore, 28 March 2024**] More than 140 golfers packed the prestigious Sentosa Club on a Thursday afternoon to partake in Dementia Singapore's 2024 Drive for Chari-Tee fundraising golf event.

Following last year's successful debut, this year's sold-out event saw prominent figures, such as local actor-director Tay Ping Hui, Olympic swimming champion Joseph Schooling, and BBC News Chief Presenter Steve Lai, teeing off to the 18-course game at the Serapong Course.

Gracing the event as Guest-of-Honour was Speaker of the Parliament of Singapore, Mr Seah Kian Peng, who not only demonstrated his love for the game but also his support for the dementia cause.



Seah, in his address to the 200-strong guests at the event's appreciation dinner, reiterated our nation's concerns, noting how one in 10 seniors aged 60 and above has dementia, while the projected total is an alarming 150,000 cases by 2030.

"Cultivating an informed, compassionate community that embraces diversity is crucial in addressing dementia. And in this, Dementia Singapore continues its 33-year journey, advancing advocacy, person-centred care, innovation, and community empowerment", Seah added.

"It's also great to see that Dementia Singapore is putting a greater emphasis on caregivers", shared BBC's Steve Lai.

"I think this is a very pertinent issue that we need to face and handle in the near and far future," shared Tay Ping Hui, in response to how Singapore's ageing population will affect the growing number of people diagnosed with dementia. He stressed that "policies and infrastructure" will be key to helping those living dementia, with "everybody working together to achieve some (kind of) synergy".

Caregiving, he noted, is an often-overlooked part of dementia, adding that it is "something people do in solitude and would not complain about it because they are looking after the people they love and are trying to do the right thing".

Strength in diversity

Expanding the range of supporters is crucial in combating a fast-evolving invisible disability such as dementia, especially when local cases of Young-Onset Dementia is also on the rise.

This is reflected in Dementia Singapore's proudly diverse list of key donors and supporters, such as the event's presenter and co-presenter – Advisors Alliance Group and Gold Lite, respectively – and Hole-in-One sponsors Capella Auto and Verztec Consulting, among others.

Praising a growing commitment from corporate firms, Mr Jason Foo, CEO of Dementia Singapore, affirmed that "the enthusiastic support for this year's instalment – following its successful debut last March – says a lot about our ability to rally the likeminded behind the dementia cause, and just how informed and committed our circle of supporters have grown these few years".

More importantly, Foo asserted, "the funds raised will go far in helping us sustain and even build upon the effectiveness of our varied programmes and services, designed to better serve our growing dementia community".



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About Dementia Singapore

Dementia Singapore was formed in 1990 as Alzheimer's Disease Association to better serve Singapore's growing dementia community, increase awareness about dementia, and reduce the stigma surrounding the condition. As Singapore's leading Social Service Agency in specialised dementia care, Dementia Singapore aims to advocate for the needs of people living with dementia and their families; and empower the community through capabilitybuilding, knowledge, and consultancy; as well as deliver quality person-centred care innovations. For more information, visit <u>www.dementia.org.sg</u>.