



MEDIA RELEASE

PPIS WIN Fund

Singapore, Wednesday, 8 April 2020. As a pioneer Muslim women's organisation, PPIS recognises the need to be a source of support to Muslim women in difficult times such as the current COVID-19 situation.

PPIS is thankful for the assistance from the government as well as other national agencies. In solidarity, the organisation is establishing the PPIS WIN Fund worth \$150,000 to further enhance support and assistance for women to tide over these difficult times and to ensure that no woman is left behind.

PPIS hopes through this fund, Women In Need will emerge as WINNERS in overcoming the struggles that they face. Women are pillars of strength in families. In some, they are also the key caregivers to not only children but also their elderly parents and siblings.

The PPIS WIN Fund was announced yesterday (Tuesday, 8 March) by Senior Parliamentary Secretary (Ministry of Social and Family Development and Ministry of Education), Associate Professor Faishal Ibrahim during his speech in Parliament on the setting up of the M³ Resilience Taskforce.

In his speech, Assoc Prof Faishal reiterated the need to support women who lost their jobs due to the current situation or those who had to leave the workforce to care for the elderly in their families. The PPIS WIN Fund is established to meet these needs, amongst others.

President of PPIS, Mdm Rahayu Mohamed said: "PPIS hopes that through this fund, women are empowered beyond this difficult period. We want to be a part of their journey to realising their dreams and aspirations. The fund will be available for one year as we remain united to overcome these tough times."

How our women are affected

Through the work of six family services of PPIS, in the last two months since COVID-19, our Social Workers on the frontlines came across women and families:

- Who exceeded the criteria for national schemes, but have multiple needs such as an ageing parent and many young children,
- Who work in industries affected by COVID-19 and who experienced reduced or nil income as a result of retrenchment or company's downsizing,



- Whose children or parents are given Leave of Absence (LOA) or Stay Home Notice (SHN), affecting the family income, as women are unable to work because she has to care for those on LOA or SHN – especially daily-rated workers who are deeply affected,
- Who are issued SHN/Home Quarantine Order (HQO) and are likely to consume more electricity and water at home, as well as those who need food delivery.

Beyond supporting women and their families affected by COVID-19, PPIS WIN Fund hopes to reach out to women who have not only lost their jobs, but also had to give up working to care for their elderly parents and young children.

The fund could be used to support their aspirations to start a home or online business. This could be in the form of micro-financing or funding of training programmes that are not subsidised by national agencies.

In supporting women's aspirations, PPIS is also collaborating with DEWI, the women's subsidiary of Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SMCCI).

The fund is also open to women who face difficulties in pursuing training programmes that require co-payment after government's subsidies or who have utilised their SkillsFuture credit. The training programme should be one that is geared towards upskilling them or re-skilling to another job.

Application criteria

- Female Muslim who is Singaporean/Permanent Resident (PR)
- For non-Singaporean or non-PR female Muslim while her spouse/parents/children must be Singaporeans
- Who lost her job or had members of her family lost theirs, resulting in reduced family income after 23 Jan 2020
- Had a gross household income (GHI) of \$6,500 - \$9,000 and/or per capita income (PCI) of \$1,700 - \$2,000 before the family was affected by COVID-19
- Has school-going children and/or elderly parents living in the same household

Women who need enhanced financial or training support during this time can email info@ppis.sg for PPIS' family services to assess the case.



For media inquiries, please contact:

Farid Hamzah (Corporate Communications)

O: 6744 0258

M: 9368 3045

E: farid.hamzah@ppis.sg

About PPIS

Founded in 1952, PPIS (*Persatuan Pemudi Islam Singapura* or Singapore Muslim Women's Association) is a non-profit organisation focused on services for women, family and children. Our focus is on working with women of all ages in carrying out their multiple roles in society. PPIS runs three core community services namely; Family Services, Student Care and Early Childhood Education (ECE). With 16 centres islandwide, the services work together to provide quality and holistic support as well as developmental programmes for women and their families across the different phases of their lives.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.ppis.sg>