



**EMBARGOED UNTIL END OF EVENT, 18 JULY 2020 AT 1PM**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Fostering in Islam – PPIS’ Islam and Fostering: Webinar 2020**

**Singapore. Saturday, 18 July 2020.** In partnership with the Singapore Islamic Scholars and Religious Teachers Association (Pergas), PPIS Oasis – Centre for Fostering organised its inaugural ‘Islam and Fostering: Webinar 2020’ event this morning. The virtual event was also officiated by Guest-of-Honour, Assoc Prof Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF).

“During these difficult times,” said GOH, Assoc Prof Dr Muhammad Faishal, “It is all the more important that as a society, we band together to help those in need. There are children out there who could benefit from being cared for in a loving foster family. I would like to encourage everyone to spread the word on fostering so that we can give each child a good start in life.”

More than 50 couples, some of whom were current and prospective foster parents, attended the 3-hour event to learn more about fostering in Islam.

Recently, The Straits Times reported that there has been an [increase in foster families](#) and PPIS hopes to step up efforts to promote fostering and enhance support for the growing community of foster parents and children.

Over the years, PPIS Oasis has supported more than 80 foster parents. As the centre who supports the most Muslim foster parents, PPIS Oasis recognises the importance of creating a platform where they can learn and discuss fostering, especially in the context of religion. Through this platform, PPIS Oasis hopes that the foster parents are able to gain knowledge and address their concerns, while interested couples can listen and study from others’ past experiences.

“PPIS hopes that the event will motivate foster parents in their efforts, as well as inspire others from the community to step forward and start their own experiences with us. Fostering is a journey, and in our mission of strengthening families, we strive to support foster families every step of the way,” said Mdm Rahayu Mohamad, President of PPIS.

“Fostering is in line with the Islamic spirit of ensuring that children are protected, and brought up in a home filled with love and compassion,” said Keynote Speaker, Ustaz Irwan Hadi Mohd Shuhaimy; Deputy Director from the Office of Mufti (OOM) who was invited to share on the *fatwa* of adoption in Islam, and how some concessions can be applied for fostering. The guidelines, first shared during the ‘Conversation with Mufti’ event jointly organised by PPIS Oasis and OOM three years ago, has since helped to facilitate the recruitment of foster parents for the centre.



Other event highlights included sharing sessions by two renowned asatizah from Pergas, Guest Speakers, Ustazah Nadia Hanim Abdul Rahman, Head of Al-Wafa' and Ustaz Mohammad Yusri Yubhi Md Yusoff, CEO of Pergas. Ustazah Nadia spoke in the first part of the event, which was exclusively for current foster parents, on how they can draw strength from their faith, as well as overcome the challenges and issues faced.

“In working with PPIS, Pergas aims to increase awareness on the significance of foster parents in Islam and how we, as fellow Muslims, can contribute and help the vulnerable, such as foster children. Similarly, we also hope that there will be more foster parents within the community to care for our children,” said Ustaz Yusri. He presented in the second part of the event, which was open to the general public, and shared how they can better prepare themselves and show appropriate affection to foster children, among others.

PPIS remains cognizant to the issues faced by the community, including foster families, in the face of COVID-19. As such, the 'Islam and Fostering: Webinar 2020' event is an effort taken by the organisation in creating digital initiatives to further support the community during this difficult period.

#### **Guest-of-Honour:**

Assoc Prof Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim,  
Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) and  
Ministry of Education (MOE).

#### **Other Invited Guests:**

- Keynote Speaker, Ustaz Irwan Hadi Mohd Shuhaimy; Deputy Director, Office of Mufti (Religious Policy & Regulation), MUIS
- Guest Speaker, Ustazah Nadia Hanim Abdul Rahman, Honorary Council Member of Pergas & Head of Al-Wafa'
- Guest Speaker, Ustaz Mohammad Yusri Yubhi Md Yusoff, CEO of Pergas

#### **Event Details:**

Date: Saturday, 18 July 2020

Time: 10am - 1pm

Venue: Zoom

The event was held in English.

#### **For media inquiries, please contact:**

Nurulhusnina Azhar (Corporate Communications)

O: 6744 0258

M: 8198 0182

E: [husnina.azhar@ppis.sg](mailto:husnina.azhar@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.

### **About PPIS Oasis – Centre for Fostering**

PPIS Oasis is the third fostering agency in Singapore appointed by the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) in 2017. Over the years, the centre has served more than 80 foster parents and is actively promoting fostering to families in the community.

PPIS Oasis supports foster parents in their efforts to provide a safe and stable home environment for foster children through our therapeutic and support services. We facilitate the fostering journey by helping foster families develop a healing and healthy relationship with foster children – all while allowing these children to realise their potential and aspirations.

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