



MEDIA STATEMENT

Tuesday, 18 February 2025

PPIS responds to Budget 2025: 'Onward Together for A Better Tomorrow'

1. PPIS (Singapore Muslim Women's Association) appreciates the latest measures announced at Budget 2025 'Onward Together for A Better Tomorrow' speech delivered by Prime Minister Lawrence Wong. We commend the increased support for families with children, lower-wage workers, and former offenders. We also welcome new opportunities to enhance our efficiency and capabilities in serving the community more effectively and we are eager to actively participate in implementing these policies to benefit our clients.
2. PPIS is optimistic that the additional support for families with children are crucial and timely in tackling cost pressures, helping Singaporeans cope with the increased cost-of-living. The enhanced rates for the ComCare Assistance scheme to better support lower-income households with their basic living expenses will enable families to tap on such assistance and relieve their financial burden.
3. Additionally, the increase in CDC vouchers this year from \$500 to \$800 will support Singaporeans' cost of living pressures. The one-off \$500 in LifeSG credits will help defray a wider range of expenses for families with children. Our Family Service Centres (FSCs) collaborate closely with Social Service Offices (SSOs) to support ComLink families. PPIS looks forward to more comprehensive and customised support to help families in need.
4. PPIS recognises the enhancement of the Fresh Start Housing Scheme, which offers greater support to families transitioning from rental flats to homeownership. For many of the families we support, this increased grant of \$75,000 for first-time families with children offers a crucial opportunity to secure a home and improve their long-term stability.
5. With the further reduction in monthly full-day childcare fee caps in government-supported pre-schools and the New Large Families Scheme, PPIS acknowledges the importance of this as part of the plans to build Singapore that is more attuned to the



needs of families. PPIS echoes this with being in line with 'A Singapore Made for Families 2025' plan where all families are valued and supported across different chapters of life.

6. PPIS values lifelong learning and appreciates that SkillsFuture Level-up Programme was introduced to support mid-career Singaporeans in acquiring new skills. We look forward to the new SkillsFuture Jobseeker Support scheme that will kick off from April this year. This aligns with our goal to support women in enhancing their knowledge, capabilities, and professional growth, as evidenced in our Aspirations of Singapore Muslim Women Report.
7. As an organisation committed to empowering women and families, PPIS recognises the importance of lifelong learning in improving career prospects and financial stability. We welcome the enhanced support for lower-wage workers through upskilling initiatives. The enhanced tier of support under the Workfare Skills Support scheme will enable more individuals to upskill meaningfully, increasing their employability and economic resilience.
8. As part of the Government's increased support for the fund-raising efforts of charities and social causes in 2025, PPIS applauds the enhanced fundraising programme set aside by the Government for matching of donations to charities. We are confident the Enhanced Fundraising Programme will enable charities to enhance their programmes and services, enabling them to better support their communities. PPIS is also looking forward to the opportunity to tap into these grants to further enhance our own offerings.
9. PPIS Rise Above Halfway House has witnessed the critical role of stable employment in the successful reintegration of former offenders into society. We support the extension of the Uplifting Employment Credit, which encourages employers to provide second chances to those seeking to rebuild their lives. Gainful employment not only provides financial stability but also restores dignity and confidence. PPIS remains committed to advocating for second chances and working with partners to empower individuals on their journey of rehabilitation and renewal.
10. PPIS remains dedicated to collaborating with the community, public agencies, and likeminded partners. We will continue to empower and support women in realising their aspirations while navigating their multifaceted roles in society contributing to the collective resilience and well-being of our community. We encourage women and their



families to reach out to our different centres for further information and to access the support services available to them.

For media enquiries, please contact:

PPIS Corporate Communications

M: 9144 7476

E: shafiqah.salil@ppis.sg, nurulaqilah.zakaria@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 community services. PPIS is dedicated to working with women of all ages in carrying out their multiple roles in society. There are three core services, namely Family Services, Student Care, and a Residential Facility, serving as a secular halfway house for women engaged in community rehabilitation programmes. With 11 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.