

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SINGTEL & SCS 2009 RACE AGAINST CANCER

SingTel pledges \$200,000 to kick start SCS Help the Children and Youth Programme

SINGAPORE, 7 JULY 2009 – 11-year-old Alagan S/O Jayagopi looks like any other boy of his age. Unknown to strangers, Alagan comes from a cancer-stricken family fraught with financial and emotional difficulties. Alagan was diagnosed with leukemia at the tender age of five. Although his condition is now stable, he requires life-long medical attention.

His diabetic widowed mother works as a cleaner, bringing in a meagre salary which could barely cover the family's daily expenses. In order to supplement the household income, Alagan's 20-year-old sister works as a food-packer on rotating shifts so that she could look after her brother and her 14-year-old sister during the day. Since 2003, the Singapore Cancer Society (SCS) has been helping the family with financial assistance and providing milk supplements for Alagan under the Society's Welfare Aid programme. Coping with cancer has worsened the financial plight of needy families like Alagan's.

SingTel pledges \$200,000 to kick start "SCS Help the Children and Youth " programme.....

More help is on the way for children and youths like Alagan who are battling with cancer, as well as children in needy families whose parents are stricken with cancer. A pledge of \$200,000 from the SingTel Touching Lives Fund will kick start a new programme to help these children and youths whose lives have been affected by cancer. Called the "SCS Help the Children and Youth" programme, support will be provided in four areas - the school allowance grant and bursary schemes, counseling, mentoring and family engagement services. The financial assistance to help defray schooling expenses will ease the burden on the families whose finances are already strained due to the illness. Counselling, mentoring and family engagement services will provide psycho-social support to these children and youths who are often confronted with a range of emotions such as fears, depression, guilt or anger when coping with cancer or a sick parent.



SingTel & Singapore Cancer Society Race Against Cancer...

SingTel is joining the SCS to fight against cancer and to minimize the impact of cancer in the lives of young people. Its contribution of \$200,000 from its Touching Lives Fund will form part of the proceeds of the "SingTel & Singapore Cancer Society Race Against Cancer", a charity fun run organized by the SCS. The \$200,000 from the SingTel Touching Lives Fund will be used to set up a dedicated "SCS Help the Children and Youth" programme. Additional funds raised from the run will go towards funding other programmes and services, such as cancer treatment subsidy, hospice home care, welfare assistance and rehabilitative care for needy cancer patients, free cancer screenings and public education initiatives. SCS hopes to raise a total of \$500,000 from the Race Against Cancer.

Annually, the Society helps more than 1,000 needy cancer patients and reaches out to some 40,000 individuals through its community outreach and awareness programmes to encourage screening and early detection of cancers.

The SingTel & Singapore Cancer Society Race Against Cancer will be held on Sunday, 23 August 2009 at East Coast Park. Guest-of-Honour, Mrs Lim Hwee Hua, Minister in Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Finance and Transport, will flag off the 5 km and 10 km run.

Alagan as well as many cancer survivors and their families, caregivers and friends will be taking part in the Race Against Cancer. Cancer survivors need our support and they in turn are a source of encouragement to those who are battling with cancer. The Race Against Cancer is an event to celebrate life and to cheer the cancer warriors on.

"SCS is grateful to SingTel for the generous gift that will help to address the unmet needs of young people whose lives are affected by cancer. Very often, the children are neglected or traumatized when a parent is afflicted with cancer. SingTel's donation will provide immediate help to the children of cancer patients who are receiving treatment subsidy or welfare aid from the Society," said A/Prof Koo Wen Hsin, SCS Chairman.

Ms Jeann Low, SingTel Group CFO and Chairperson of SingTel's Touching Lives Fund, said: "We hope that the SingTel Touching Lives Fund can help improve the lives of young people who have

been affected by cancer. Our partnership with SCS will also open up volunteering opportunities for our staff to reach out to this group.”

Interested participants can register online now for SingTel & Singapore Cancer Society Race Against Cancer at www.raceagainstcancer.org.sg or on-site at the Singapore Cancer Society Headquarters from 3-21 August during weekdays and Borders @ Wheelock Place from 1-22 August during weekends (Appendix A).

About Singapore Cancer Society

Established in 1964, Singapore Cancer Society is a self-funded voluntary welfare organization which provides patient care services to needy cancer patients through its welfare, hospice home care, cancer treatment subsidy and rehabilitation support programmes. In addition, the Society also provides free cancer screening services and promotes cancer awareness and prevention through its public education and community outreach programmes.

About SingTel *Touching Lives Fund*

The SingTel *Touching Lives Fund* is SingTel’s annual corporate philanthropy programme to help the less privileged children and young people in Singapore. It was launched in 2002 to consolidate the Group’s community support activities. Since the Fund’s launch, S\$14 million has been raised for 19 charities under the auspices of the National Council of Social Service.

For further information, please contact Singapore Cancer Society:

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SingTel & SCS 2009 Race Against Cancer

- Date: 23 August 2009, Sunday
Time: 7.45 am – 11.00 am
Venue: Angsana Green, East Coast Park
Route: 5 km or 10 km
Participation Fee:
- \$30 for Adults
 - \$18 for Child – 12 years old or below / full-time students with student ID

Online Registration:

www.raceagainstcancer.org.sg

On-site Registration:

(a) Singapore Cancer Society

15 Enggor Street
#04-01 Realty Centre
Singapore 079716

Registration Hours:

Monday to Friday: 9.00 am – 5.30 pm

From 3 to 21 Aug 2009

(b) Borders Wheelock

501 Orchard Road
#01-00 Wheelock Place
Singapore 238880

Registration Hours:

Saturday and Sunday Only: 11.00 am – 8.00 pm

From 1 to 22 Aug 2009

- Payment by Cash and Cheque only
- Please make cheque payable to **Singapore Cancer Society**