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MEDIA RELEASE

(All figures stated in the press release are accurate as of 24 April 2023)



Breast Cancer Foundation and Khoo Teck Puat Hospital Unite to Establish First Breast Cancer Support Centre

Singapore, 26 April 2023 - Breast Cancer Foundation (BCF) and Khoo Teck Puat Hospital (KTPH) have come together to establish the BCF's first **Breast Cancer Support Centre (BCSC)** in Singapore. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing event was held today at KTPH. Associate Professor Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of National Development and Member of Parliament for Nee Soon GRC attended to witness this significant milestone.

The BCSC will be strategically located at the KTPH Breast Clinic, with the objective of being visible and present at a space where breast cancer patients go to for their medical consultations. The BCSC aims to offer comprehensive support and access to breast cancer patients in the northern region of Singapore as well as referrals from any part of Singapore. At the centre, a team of compassionate and trained BCF staff and volunteer befrienders will be on hand to offer guidance and support to newly diagnosed patients and those still undergoing treatment. They will provide **Benefits Advisory** services which includes financial aid and forms-filling support. On top of the hospital's current social aid services, these patients will receive additional help to navigate the process of finding sources of aid, befriender services and support groups. With its patient-centric approach, the BCSC is poised to make a significant impact in the lives of those affected by breast cancer in Singapore.

"Breast Cancer Foundation envisions itself to be the leader in breast cancer support in Singapore. We are totally committed to serving the breast cancer community. We at BCF, want every woman diagnosed with breast cancer, to know that she will not be alone. BCF is there to share courage and to walk the journey together with them. Setting up the Breast Cancer Support Centre will allow BCF

access to serve them more immediately,” said **Ms Staphnie Tang, President, Breast Cancer Foundation**.

“KTPH is honoured and pleased to partner BCF on this meaningful initiative. At KTPH, we emphasise an integrated and holistic approach to patient care. Having BCF’s support system on our campus complements our medical services and elevates the care journey for our breast cancer patients. We are pleased to offer this enhanced service to the breast cancer community in the north of Singapore,” said **Professor Chua Hong Choon, CEO, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital**.

The BCF Breast Cancer Support Centre is slated to open at the end of May 2023.

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About Breast Cancer Foundation

Breast Cancer Foundation (BCF) is a social service agency which advocates for the early detection of breast cancer and supports the breast cancer community in Singapore.

Established since 1997 in Singapore, BCF actively raises breast cancer awareness through talks, outreach events, research and publications that advocate for early detection through regular screening.

BCF supports those affected by breast cancer through psycho-social programmes, support groups and befriending activities.

BCF offers subsidies for prostheses and bras for lower-income women after their mastectomies via its Positive Appearance Scheme and runs a complimentary wig loan programme.

As a registered charity in Singapore, BCF is self-funded and is dependent on public donations to provide quality services and programmes for more women and their families affected by breast cancer.

BCF runs Singapore's first Breast Cancer Centre at Sin Ming Court. The Centre also welcomes members of the public who wish to find out more about breast cancer.

BCF provides Benefits Advisory guidance and aid to patients, especially the newly diagnosed, supporting them in their emotional, psychosocial, and financial recovery. Patients are supported with information on sources of financial aid. Healing Through The Arts (HTTA) programmes and talks are also introduced to support those in recovery.

For more information, visit www.bcf.org.sg.

For updates on BCF’s latest work and initiatives, follow BCF at @BreastCancerFoundationSg (Facebook), @bcfsg (Instagram), and Breast Cancer Foundation (LinkedIn).

About Khoo Teck Puat Hospital

Khoo Teck Puat Hospital (KTPH) is a 795-bed general and acute care hospital which opened in June 2010. Serving more than 550,000 people living in the northern sector of Singapore, KTPH combines medical expertise with high standards of personalised care, set within a healing environment, to provide care that is good enough for our own loved ones. Since its opening, the building has garnered numerous awards for its green and energy efficient design. KTPH also provides a wide range of outpatient specialist services.

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