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WELCOME ADDRESS BY CEO OF PRO BONO SG,

MR TANGUY LIM

LAUNCH OF LAW AWARENESS WEEKS @ CDC 2024

SATURDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2024

Minister for Culture, Community and Youth and Second Minister for Law, Mr Edwin Tong,
SC,

Chairman of Mayors' Committee and Host Mayor Ms Low Yen Ling,

Mayors Ms Denise Phua, Mr Desmond Choo, Mr Alex Yam, and Mr Mohd Fahmi Aliman,

Distinguished Guests, Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Introduction

1. Good afternoon, and thank you for joining us at the launch of Law Awareness Weeks@CDC 2024. I am delighted to see so many familiar and new faces here, all committed to our mission of equitable justice.
2. Your continued support highlights our shared goal of enhancing legal awareness and empowerment in our community.
3. Over the next few weeks, I am confident we will be inspired to take meaningful action.

About LAW@CDC

4. This year is a special milestone for us. We celebrate our 10th anniversary. When we started Law Awareness Weeks@CDC, we believe that everyone, regardless of their background, should have access to justice through legal education.
5. Over the last decade, we have certainly worked towards envisioning providing practical legal knowledge to help everyday people navigate the legal system. Our goal has always been to simplify complex legal concepts and make them accessible to all.
6. Last year, we reached about 2,400 participants through our talks and webinars. This is nearly 50% more than the previous year. Over nine years, we have connected with more than 15,000 people. We aim to keep growing this impact in the years to come.

This year's Theme and Topics

7. This year, we are focusing on an issue that is more relevant than ever – sustainability. In 2024, we have seen extreme weather events worldwide, making it clear that ecological protection is urgent. Our theme, “Law and the Environment – Building Sustainable Communities for the Future,” will explore how laws can help us foster sustainability in our daily lives. Through our talks and webinars, we will cover issues like green space protection, waste management and resource conservation, helping us all see how our choices can make a real difference for the environment.

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8. We are also excited to engage our next generation. Through school talks, we will highlight the crucial role young people play in protecting our environment. We will showcase inspiring youth-led initiatives, demonstrating the impact they can make.

Legal Clinics

9. Besides our LAW@CDC initiative, we continue to partner with the People's Association and CDCs through our Community Legal Clinics.
10. These clinics have been crucial in offering legal assistance to individuals in need. More than 20,000 people have been supported with legal guidance since their inception.

Volunteer Appreciation

11. Now, our success over the past 10 years would not have been possible without the dedication of our partners and volunteers.
12. We extend our deepest gratitude to the volunteer lawyers and anchor law firms who have dedicated their time and expertise to our legal clinics. Your commitment to justice has made a real difference in the lives of those seeking legal help.
13. Our deepest gratitude as well to our volunteer speakers and moderators who will be leading our talks and webinars. Your passion and knowledge are essential to making these events successful and impactful for our audience.
14. Finally, our deepest gratitude to our partners – the People's Association, the Community Development Councils, our Universities (NUS, SMU, and SUSS), the Singapore Corporate Counsel Association, and the Singapore Association of

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Social Workers. Your collaboration and support have been instrumental in the success of Law Awareness Weeks over the past decade. We look forward to many more years of working together.

Conclusion

15. As we kick off these weeks of talks and webinars, I hope we all leave inspired to take ownership as stewards of both our environment and our communities. Together, we can work toward a more just and sustainable future.
16. Thank you, and I wish you an enriching and engaging few weeks ahead.