



MEDIA RELEASE

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Mentoring SG launched to strengthen mentoring efforts among youths in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 9 December 2022 - A new mentoring office – Mentoring SG, was launched today by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Lawrence Wong at the National Mentoring Summit 2022. The Mentoring SG office will build on the progress made by the Mentoring Alliance for Action¹ (AfA) which was started in March 2021 to lead the national movement on mentoring. At the Summit, which was attended by close to 500 youths, corporates, mentoring organisations, educational institutes and professionals, DPM Wong formalised the transition of the Mentoring AfA to Mentoring SG. He commended the Alliance and its steering committee members for progress made in building the foundations of a strong mentoring ecosystem, specifically:

2 Attracting more professionals to be mentors: The Mentoring AfA rallied professionals to come forth and commit to mentoring youths. Since it was started, Mentoring AfA has trained 300 new mentors with the skills and knowledge to mentor youths. Mentoring AfA also reached out to employees at corporate organisations to raise awareness of the resources and opportunities that are available should they be keen to know more about how to embark on a mentorship. Investment solutions provider iFAST Global Markets will have its employee mentors involved in a light-touch mentoring programme with more than 50 students from ITE College Central in February 2023.

3 Developing a robust mentoring ecosystem: The Mentoring AfA intentionally sought partnerships across the public, people and private sectors in the past year and a half to ensure youths would have an array of mentors from different industries to confidentially explore their educational aspirations. For example, corporates such as Google which wanted to promote a corporate culture of mentoring would work with Advisory Singapore, a people sector organisation through the Mentoring AfA to introduce mentorship programmes in its workplace.

4 With the support of new partners and mentors who came on board the Mentoring AfA, close to 4,000 mentoring opportunities² were curated and offered to youths. To onboard new mentoring organisations into the mentoring space, a starter kit was also developed by the mentoring practitioners which guides new mentoring

¹ More information about the Mentoring AfA steering committee members can be found at mentoring.sg

² Mentoring opportunities include both informal and structured mentoring programmes. More information here: mentoring.sg/mentoring-format

organisations on what mentoring is about and the training that their mentors should undergo.

5 **Making mentoring easy to access for youths:** The Mentoring AfA set up a mentoring portal WeConnect³ for youths and mentors to have a comprehensive overview of mentoring opportunities on one common platform. Over 1,000 experienced mentors from varied professions have joined the platform and there have been more than 1,000 successful matches between mentors and mentees via WeConnect, with some mentors matched with two to three mentees. To better support way-finding of mentoring opportunities, the Mentoring AfA has also set up a first-stop website mentoring.sg, for youths and mentors to have a comprehensive overview about mentoring and seek out potential mentoring opportunities.

6 “Mentoring SG is a movement with the potential to transform Singapore. It can strengthen our inter-generational bonds by building a culture of mentoring where we learn from one another. Our Mentoring Alliance for Action has laid a strong foundation for this community-led mentoring movement. We have partnered schools, corporates, youth organisations to lend structure to this movement, by improving the quality of and access to mentoring opportunities and resources. I encourage more partners to come on board to join us in our journey to build our culture of mentoring in Singapore,” said Minister of State for Culture, Community and Youth & Trade and Industry Alvin Tan, and Advisor of Mentoring AfA.

7 Since the launch of Mentoring AfA, my team has worked hard over the past year to bring together many stakeholders on a common platform to promote a positive culture of mentoring. With the gaps and opportunities identified from the get-go, we were able to build up a pool of resources to uplift the quality of mentoring programmes for youths and build meaningful partnerships to widen the reach of our mentoring efforts. As we embark on the future of Mentoring SG, I look forward to leveraging on the good work that was set in place to become an effective platform which connects and amplify mentoring efforts amongst youths and partners,” said Kelvin Kong, Co-chair of the Mentoring AfA.

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³ Under Mentoring SG, WeConnect will be rebranded as MentoringSG Connect (MSC)

About The National Youth Council

At NYC, we believe in a world where young people are respected and heard and have agency to make a difference. Together with our partners, we develop future-ready youth who are committed to Singapore by instilling in them a heart for service, resilience, and an enterprising spirit. We acknowledge the diverse needs and aspirations of young Singaporeans and ensure our youth have opportunities to develop self-awareness, deepen community spirit, and be future-ready. We hear youth, we empower youth and are **HERE FOR YOUTH**.

About the Mentoring Alliance for Action

The Mentoring Alliance for Action (AfA) was formed in March 2021 to strengthen mentoring efforts and make mentoring accessible to all youths in Singapore. Led by the Mentoring Alliance for Singapore (MASg) and the National Youth Council (NYC), the Mentoring AfA collaborates with corporate partners, mentoring organisations, education institutions, youth groups, and professional organisations to nurture a community of partners committed to developing confident and resilient youth.

A 16-member Steering Committee was formed comprising members from the People, Public and Private (3P) sectors to champion the work of the Mentoring AfA in areas such as training and resources, partnerships and youth engagement.

About the National Mentoring Summit

The National Mentoring Summit 2022 is a ground-up initiative movement organised by the National Youth Council and Mentoring Alliance Singapore Limited (MASg). Riding on the momentum of the first three summits, the summit brings together stakeholders including corporates, mentoring organisations, schools and youths in the mentoring community to learn from one another, hear from speakers and panellists and build a community of mentoring practitioners and partners.

About the Mentoring Alliance Singapore Limited (MASg)

Mentoring Alliance Singapore Limited (MASg) is a registered non-profit company that believes in the importance of youth mentoring in Singapore.

The Alliance aims to promote a local mentoring movement, encouraging organisations and partners to foster positive youth development in the community. It hopes to expand its membership as well as partner base, with the purpose of collaborating on initiatives to further its cause by recruiting 1,000 volunteer mentors who can collectively contribute 100,000 hours in mentoring, so that every young person will have access to a mentor in his/her life.