



## ***NEWS RELEASE: IMMEDIATE***

### **SENIOR HUB OPENS TO SERVE 650 AND MORE**

1. On 26 May 2007, about 650 residents, mainly lonely seniors, celebrate the opening of Lions Befrienders (Bendemeer) Neighbourhood Link, the focal point of their community life, where the old age actively by taking part in wholesome activities and the young contribute to the community via volunteering.
2. Aligning with the government's "Many Helping Hands" approach to assisting the needy in the community, the Neighbourhood Link strives to relieve isolation of seniors living alone and render immediate help to them during emergencies or crisis situations, through the Alert Alarm System which the centre mans. Here, seniors enjoy active ageing via various social and enrichment classes conducted at the centre.
3. Seniors whose children are away at work in the day, like Mdm Yap Kim Lan, 78, finds her own friends and fun at the Neighbourhood Link, "Here I do not feel lonely and it's like being at home, surrounded by many friends whom I can sit-down, chit-chat, karaoke and play games with for hours!"
4. Minister of Information, Communications and the Arts, and Member of Parliament for Jalan Besar GRC, Dr Lee Boon Yang will grace the opening ceremony as the guest of honour.
5. Since 1995, Lions Befrienders has become the biggest voluntary welfare organisation of its kind. It reaches out to lonely seniors via the Befriending Programme and Outreach Programmes. Currently, it has about 1,000 registered volunteers helping around 3,800 seniors.
6. Lions Befrienders (Bendemeer) Neighbourhood Link is a seniors drop-in centre under the Outreach Programme. It is a one-stop centre for information on social services, especially for the vulnerable seniors, and a local community hub for activities and intergenerational bonding amongst the residents.

- The End -

**Lions Befrienders (Bendemeer) Neighbourhood Link Official Opening**

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> May 2007 (Saturday)

Time: 7.15pm

Venue: Blk 32, Bendemeer Road  
#01-799, Singapore 330032

Picture Opp:

- Minister cutting ribbon at entrance of centre
- Minister visits a senior residents' home

*NB: Minister will be arriving at 7.30pm*

You and your photographer/camera crew are cordially invited to the above event.

Attached is the programme sheet of the event for your reference.

Please confirm your attendance by 12.00pm, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2007.

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**LIONS BEFRIENDERS (BENDEMEER) NEIGHBOURHOOD LINK**  
Official Opening Ceremony 26<sup>th</sup> May 2007  
**Programme**

- 7.00pm      Arrival of Guests
- 7.30pm      Arrival of Guest-of-Honour  
Dr Lee Boon Yang, Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts  
Member for Parliament for Jalan Besar GRC
- Welcome Address by Lion Francis Ng,  
              President, Management Board, Bendemeer Neighbourhood Link
- Address by Guest-of-Honour, Dr Lee Boon Yang
- Unveiling of Opening Plaque
- Presentation of Plaques to Donors
- Presentation of Token Plaque to Dr Lee Boon Yang
- Performances
- Ribbon Cutting/ Tour of Centre/ Visit to Home of Senior(s)
- 8.00pm      Dinner Reception
- 10.15pm     The End