



JUSTICE FOR ALL

## Media Release

### Pro Bono SG Organises Annual Walkathon to Raise Funds and Awareness for Access to Justice

- Pro Bono SG's first flagship fundraiser since the rebrand from Law Society Pro Bono Services.
- Members of the legal fraternity, social service sector and the public join forces to raise awareness and funds for Pro Bono SG and the access to justice cause.

**SINGAPORE, 4 February 2024** – Pro Bono SG organised its first flagship fundraiser post-rebranding from Law Society Pro Bono Services. Just Jalan 2024, a hybrid walkathon, featured both a virtual walk and an in-person walk which took place this morning at OCBC Square.

In an effort to raise funds and increase awareness, supporters and the community have rallied together and raised over \$1 million, approximately more than 50% of which came from peer-to-peer fundraising on the Just Jalan 2024 website over a short period of just seven weeks. This collective effort stands as a testament to their shared dedication to the access to justice cause. The funds raised aim to strengthen Pro Bono SG's commitment to providing legal awareness, guidance, and representation for the vulnerable and disadvantaged in Singapore.

Dinesh Dhillon, Just Jalan Chairman, said, "For the last eight years, our annual fundraiser has always had a different theme, from a dinner called Just Makan in 2018 to a concert called Just Duet in 2022. With the rebrand, the charity wanted a signature event that could bring the community together better than ever. The choice of a walkathon as an annual flagship event is rooted in the monumental success of Just Walk in 2015, which raised more than \$2 million, including a dollar-for-dollar matching contribution from the government."

Gregory Vijayendran SC, Pro Bono SG Chairman, added, "The funds generated from our previous Just fundraisers have qualitatively and quantitatively enhanced access to justice over the years for the needy, vulnerable and indigent among us. Occasions like Just Jalan 2024 allow us to share our vision with a broader community, including our contributors and supporters to whom we are deeply grateful. We need to see the least, the last, the lost and the languishing in our legal system. In just the past year alone, Pro Bono SG's impact included touching the lives of close to 15,000 individuals and organisations as we fulfilled our mission."

To mark this special event, Guest of Honour, Ms Lisa Sam Hui Min, President of The Law Society of Singapore, flagged off the physical walk this morning which was attended by friends from the legal fraternity, donors, volunteers, students, and community partners. Ms Lisa Sam said, "Just Jalan 2024 is an excellent opportunity for the legal fraternity and the public to unite and support a good cause. This event is a timely reminder that it is a shared responsibility to make principles of justice accessible to everyone. Every little step affirming the commitment towards fairness and equality counts - hence, Just Jalan 2024!"

After seven weeks of fundraising on the Just Jalan 2024 platform, Team Shenanigans, led by Thio Shen Yi SC, Managing Partner of TSMP Law Corporation, has secured the title of Top Team Fundraiser. In tandem, Stefanie Yuen Thio, Managing Partner of TSMP Law Corporation, has claimed the honour of Top Individual Fundraiser. The couple's unwavering dedication to the cause of access to justice has not

#### Pro Bono SG

Registered charity with IPC status (UEN: 201700430E)

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only propelled them to the forefront of this fundraising initiative but also serves as an inspiring example of the impact that collective efforts can achieve.

Thio Shen Yi SC expressed, "I am overwhelmed by the ground up demonstration of how much the legal fraternity cares. Law firm partners, associates and trainees gave generously and also reached out to friends, family and clients to raise funds! This is a collective aspiration to ensure that the most financially challenged among us - be they Singaporeans or our migrant workers - have access to justice. I'm also tremendously encouraged that agencies like the Ministry of Law and SPS Rahayu in her personal capacity as a former practitioner have also taken the time to join the walk. Let's make sure that the least privileged have a voice when they most need it. Stef, myself and our puppy Monty are delighted to join in the effort to build a fairer and more compassionate society."

The physical walk covered a scenic 6km route from OCBC Square at the Singapore Sports Hub and guiding participants to the iconic Singapore Flyer before returning. Adding to the excitement, a mini carnival at OCBC Square featured a vibrant array of activities, including powerful vocals from Just Duet performers, captivating kids' performances, Lion Dance, and engaging entertainment booths like the Spin Bikes Challenge, Paper Fan Calligraphy, and a Fitness Station by Fitness First.

On 19 January 2024, Pro Bono SG launched its second Community Law Centre @ Realm of Tranquility after the successful pilot of their first Community Law Centre @ Tian De Temple, which helped over 900 clients facing legal issues ranging from family, estate, mental capacity, personal injury to other matters. Throughout its 16 years of service, Pro Bono SG has supported over 150,000 beneficiaries through its various services, such as the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS), Family Justice Support Scheme (FJSS), and Project Law Help for the non-profit sector.

For more information about Just Jalan 2024 walkathon, please visit <https://justjalan.probono.sg>.

**##END##**

### **About Pro Bono SG**

Pro Bono SG is a registered charity and Institution of a Public Character (UEN: 201700430E).

Pro Bono SG enables access to justice for the vulnerable and disadvantaged through legal awareness, advice and advocacy. Pro Bono SG runs various programmes to (a) serve the community (b) support its volunteers and (c) assist or collaborate on pro bono initiatives with other agencies.

For more information, please visit [www.probono.sg](http://www.probono.sg).

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