

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**EQUAL'S "CHRISTMAS AT THE STABLE" OFFICIALLY OPENS WITH STABLE TOURS,  
GUIDED ANIMAL INTERACTIONS AND A CHRISTMAS MARKET**



*Senior Parliamentary Secretary Eric Chua with EQUAL Board Members and team at a tour of the EQUAL stable.*

Singapore, 14 December 2023 – On 13 December 2023, EQUAL, a charity which partners with retired and rescued animals to offer animal-assisted programmes for persons-in-need, officially opened its annual outreach and fundraising event. Called **Christmas at the Stable**, EQUAL will open its doors from 14 - 17 December 2023 through ticketed entry, offering the public a rare glimpse into the world of animal-assisted services and how it supports various beneficiaries.

Guest-of-Honour Mr Eric Chua, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Ministry of Communication, Community and Youth (MCCY) and Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF), shared - "in this year of Celebrating Social Service Partners, it is heartening to see how EQUAL has built an entire community around some very special social service partners – their therapy horses and dogs."

"*Christmas at the Stable* is a heartwarming showcase of how corporates, homegrown businesses, social enterprises, volunteers and various community partners have come together to support EQUAL and its beneficiaries. I hope more members of public and corporates will continue to explore how they can partner with social service agencies, so that collectively we can all serve more persons-in-need."

With the gracious support of DBS Foundation, Rotary Club of Singapore and individual sponsors, EQUAL will also be hosting some 200 beneficiaries from children and youth homes, seniors from nursing homes as well as differently-abled friends, ensuring that they too can to partake in the year-end festivities with EQUAL.

"EQUAL's programmes help to build resilience, support mental health, and strengthen emotional well-being through structured animal-assisted programmes," says Sandra Leong, CEO of EQUAL. "With this being a relatively niche field of social service work, we are excited to invite the broader community to learn and support the work we do through our annual *Christmas at the Stable* event. We look forward to more support from individuals, community groups and organisations, as we continue to scale up our animal-assisted services and programmes for our beneficiaries."

An annual outreach and fundraising event, ticket sales and event proceeds from *Christmas at the Stable* will go towards providing the best care for EQUAL's animal partners and keeping its animal-assisted programmes accessible for their beneficiaries. *Christmas at the Stable* will feature stable

tours and guided interactions with some of the 16 horses and 7 dogs that EQUAL partners with, games, talks, workshops and a Christmas market of homegrown brands, local makers and social enterprises. Tickets are available at [bit.ly/EQUAL-Christmas-2023](https://bit.ly/EQUAL-Christmas-2023).

Those unable to attend the *Christmas at the Stable* event can still extend their support by making a year-end gift or Christmas donation via [www.giving.sg/donate/campaign/CATS2023](https://www.giving.sg/donate/campaign/CATS2023). These gifts will enable EQUAL to support more beneficiaries through its animal-assisted social services.

For more information, please read:

- **[Annex A: Christmas at the Stable programme and partners](#)**

*Images of EQUAL's Christmas at the Stable 2023 may be downloaded at [bit.ly/EQUAL-Media-Images-2023](https://bit.ly/EQUAL-Media-Images-2023)*

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#### **About EQUAL:**

EQUAL is a charity with Institute of Public Character (IPC) that strives to transform lives through Animal-Assisted Services. EQUAL partners with animals to provide experiential and educational programmes which help empower vulnerable persons such as children, youths, persons with special needs, families and seniors by enhancing their social and emotional well-being and supporting social integration – building resilient and inclusive communities.

To find out more, visit [www.equal.org.sg](https://www.equal.org.sg)

#### **For media queries, please contact:**

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**ANNEX A**  
**CHRISTMAS AT THE STABLE - Programme & partners**

**EQUAL | Christmas at the Stable**

**Dates & Time**

14 & 15 December 2023, 5pm – 9pm  
16 & 17 December 2023, 10am – 9pm

**Venue**

EQUAL, 100 Jalan Mashhor, S299177

**Admission**

\$20 for entry (inclusive of stable tour)  
*Tickets are available at [bit.ly/EQUAL-Christmas-2023](https://bit.ly/EQUAL-Christmas-2023), and are subject to Klook's platform fees.*

**Website**

[www.equal.org.sg/event/christmas-at-the-stable-2023](http://www.equal.org.sg/event/christmas-at-the-stable-2023)

**About Christmas at the Stable**

Celebrate Christmas and welcome the new year at EQUAL's *Christmas at the Stable* from 14 - 17 December 2023!

*Christmas at the Stable* is an annual event for members of public to meet EQUAL's herd and to learn about the animal-assisted services and programmes that we offer for vulnerable communities.

christmas@equal.org.sg' and social media links for 'www.equal.org.sg' and 'equal.sg'." data-bbox="422 198 872 641"/&gt;

*Christmas at the Stable* is also a celebration of the contributions and support of our donors, volunteers, community partners, corporates and other social service agencies we work with, and will feature repurposed Christmas lights from Orchard Road, a Christmas market featuring homegrown businesses and social enterprises, as well as games, talks and workshops.

Proceeds from the event will go towards the care of our animal partners and keeping our programmes accessible for the beneficiaries we serve.

**What to expect**

*Introduction to animal-assisted learning and fun for all ages*

From a tour of EQUAL's stable-home to 16 horses, which include retired racehorses and polo horses, as well as 6 mini horses-to guided interactions with EQUAL's animal partners, ticket holders will get a glimpse into how EQUAL's animal-assisted programmes support the well-being and development of social, emotional and communication skills of children and youth, persons with special needs, and the elderly.

Activities during the event—some of which involve learning how to care for or interact with horses safely—will be complemented by engaging games and art activities, which suitable for all ages.

#### *In celebration of sustainability, circularity and conservation*

In an extension of EQUAL's dedication towards sustainability, circularity and conservation, *Christmas at the Stable* will include art activities utilising old horseshoes, plastic recycling workshops by Plastify, as well as talks on conservation of wildcats by Singapore Wildcat Action Group, and on the topic of coexistence with native wildlife by Wild Space, a conservation events organization, in conjunction with Our Wild Neighbours, a national initiative to raise awareness about living alongside wildlife in our city.

Through the support of Singapore Tourism Board, Orchard Road Business Association and Q's Advertising, EQUAL's premises and stable will also be decked out in repurposed 2022 Christmas lights and decorations from Orchard Road during the event.

#### *Community-building and giving back*

*Christmas at the Stable* is a celebration of the contributions and support of various community and corporate partners, as well as the coming together of different individuals, organisations and social enterprises to uplift the communities that EQUAL serves.

EQUAL regularly collaborates with galleries and artists to host satellite artwork exhibitions within its premises, often with part of the proceeds from artwork sales donated back to EQUAL. During *Christmas at the Stables*, in collaboration with Gallery 1819, members of the public are invited to view the exhibition titled *Reflection*, featuring a collection of landscapes and mixed media art by artist Lisa Teo.

The Christmas market at *Christmas at the Stable*, largely supported by IN GOOD COMPANY as part of their #abettercompany initiative to give back to communities, will feature pop-ups by homegrown brands. These include IN GOOD COMPANY, Plain Vanilla, Mud Rock Ceramics and Rough Beauty, all of whom are donating part or all their proceeds in support of EQUAL. Young homeschoolers under Little U will also be fundraising for EQUAL during the event, setting up a booth to sell their handmade creations at the Christmas market.

Besides food and beverage offerings by brands including Common Man Coffee Roasters and Birds of Paradise, EQUAL's *Christmas at the Stable* will also be a chance to support local makers, through hands-on, drop-in workshops by Roger&Sons, Sculptable, and more.

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### **Christmas at the Stable is supported by the following partners:**

#### *Sponsors of beneficiaries' attendance*

- DBS Foundation
- Rotary Club of Singapore
- Bernard Yu
- Nadia Tan
- Annie Lim

#### *Christmas lights at the EQUAL stable & arena*

- Q's Advertising
- Orchard Road Business Association
- Singapore Tourism Board

#### *Food*

- Cook This Bake That by Eleanor

- Marymount Bakehouse
- Ryan's Grocery
- 365 Food
- My NoNNA's
- The Yeo Sisters

#### Gelato & Drinks

- Birds of Paradise Gelato Boutique
- Common Man Coffee Roasters
- Coffee by Leftside
- Wines4you by Aurum Mestika Sejati

#### Performances

- Voices of EQUAL
- Vermicelli Cello Ensemble
- DJ & music by Leftside

#### Other partners

- Sunray Woodcraft Construction
- Lek Kwong Electrical
- RDA Singapore

#### Christmas market

- IN GOOD COMPANY
- Mud Rock Ceramics
- Pass It On
- Plain Vanilla
- Cocoa Trees
- Rough Beauty
- Saor Leather
- Wings of the Dawn
- Ewclase
- MeetArts
- OFFCUT by Allegro Print
- The Salve Co.
- Goodcycle Environmental Technologies
- See's Candles
- Tsutsumi Square Wrap
- Bon Amici
- The Curious Meeple
- Homeschoolers under Little U

#### Talks

- Wild Space & Our Wild Neighbours
- Singapore Wildcat Action Group
- Damien & Mey Tan

#### Workshops

- Plastify
- Roger&Sons
- Sculptable