

For Immediate Release

Over 500 children of inmates and ex-offenders recognised for academic achievements at the NeuGen Bursary Award Ceremony

Singapore, 19 January 2025 – Joy and smiles filled the air as children and youths received their awards at the NeuGen Bursary Award ceremony. This year, bursaries and book grants worth a total of \$189,850 are given out to over 500 children and youths from low-income families of reformed offenders, as part of NeuGen Fund’s (“NeuGen”) initiative to celebrate their dedication and efforts in studies.

The ceremony was graced by Mr Eric Chua, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Culture, Community and Youth & Social and Family Development. Prior to the award presentation, Mr Chua gave an encouraging speech to recognise the recipients’ hard work in academic pursuits and commended the collective support from corporate and community partners. The bursary award initiative is collectively supported by Sheng Siong Group, iWOW Technology Limited, Charles & Keith Group Foundation, Julius Baer and Catholic High School Class of 69/71.

Held over two days 18 & 19 January 2025, the event also marked the first time the award ceremony was held at Just BrewIN, a café cum community space at Race Course Road. It is newly opened by Industrial & Services Co-operative Society Limited (ISCOS), a co-operative for ex-offenders with the vision of creating an inclusive and conducive space where ex-offenders and their families could unite to build a stronger, more tight-knit community. Some of NeuGen’s festive events and workshops have been successfully held in Just BrewIN in the last few months.

A Secondary 3 student, “Alicia” (not her real name) was one of the proud recipients of the Outstanding Achievement (OA) Award which honors students for exceptional academic performance. Along with her siblings, Alicia has benefitted from NeuGen’s tuition programme for over five years with admirable dedication and motivation to excel in her studies, as shown in her consistently good results. This achievement has been a source of relief for their single mother, the family’s sole breadwinner, who has been deeply grateful for the support.

- End -



About Bursary Awards and Book Grants

Target Groups: Children of inmates and ex-offenders from low-income families, from Primary to tertiary education level (ITE / Polytechnic / Junior College / Local University).

Objective: To motivate, encourage, and affirm students' efforts in their studies, despite their challenging circumstances. We aim to imbue a sense of perseverance in them when they are faced with stress in school and grow their resilience to bounce back from obstacles.

Rationale: As part of building up the holistic well-being of our beneficiaries, we believe that education is crucial for the children to realise their potential and move up the social ladder. The cash and vouchers awarded to eligible students can be used to pay for essential school items or supplement any other educational needs.

History: Since its inception in 2011, over \$1.1 million worth of funds has been disbursed to more than 3,700 beneficiaries (up until 2023).

Award Quantum:

AWARD	BOOK GRANT	BURSARY	BURSARY WITH OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT (OA) AWARD <i>Recipients receive an additional \$300 cash award</i>	(NEW) GOOD PROGRESS AWARD *ELIGIBLE FOR 2024 TUITION SPONSORSHIP STUDENTS ONLY <i>Recipients receive an additional \$100 cash award</i>
RESULTS CRITERIA	AL score 25-30 OR 45%-54% Overall End-of-Year Results OR CGPA 1.8-2.19 out of 4 OR CGPA 2.25-2.74 out of 5	AL score 13-24 OR 55%-79% Overall End-of-Year Results OR CGPA 2.2-3.19 out of 4 OR CGPA 2.75-3.99 out of 5	AL score 4-12 OR ≥ 80% Overall End-of-Year Results OR CGPA ≥ 3.2 out of 4 OR CGPA ≥ 4 out of 5	Significant improvement in Overall 2024 Results from Mid-Year to End-of-Year.
PRIMARY 1-2	\$200 cash	N/A	N/A	N/A
PRIMARY 3	\$200 cash	\$250 cash	N/A	N/A
PRIMARY 4-6	\$250 cash	\$350 cash	Bursary + \$300 cash	\$200 cash
SECONDARY 1-5	\$350 cash	\$500 cash	Bursary + \$300 cash	\$200 cash
ITE, POLY, JC, LOCAL UNI	\$350 cash	\$600 cash	Bursary + \$300 cash	N/A



About NeuGen Fund

Founded in 2018, NeuGen Fund is a registered charity with an Institution of a Public Character (IPC) status, dedicated to serving children and families of reformed offenders. Through the Neu Empowerment Model, NeuGen engages beneficiaries meaningfully in various academic and pro-social initiatives with the primary goal of preventing intergenerational offending.

Addressing intergenerational offending poses significant challenges. When a family member commits an offense, the impact extends beyond livelihoods and discrimination. Such situations can exert a strong influence, potentially perpetuating cycles of crime for children.

NeuGen believes that every child deserves a chance in life. We aim to expand impact by reaching out to more children and families in these situations, striving to realise the vision of a caring and inclusive society where lives are productive and self-reliant. Individuals or organisations sharing our vision are invited to connect with us at hello@neugen.org.sg to explore how they can contribute to our cause.

Website: www.neugen.org.sg

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @neugencharity

Media Contact:

Looi Jo-Anne

Senior Assistant Director
Communications & External Relations
Mobile: 8233 2810
Email: joanne@iscos.org.sg

Afiqah Khairinah

Executive
Communications & External Relations
Mobile: 8721 7045
Email: afiqah@iscos.org.sg

