

NEWS/BUSINESS/FINANCE/LIFESTYLE EDITORS [For Immediate Release]

Community Business Announces Winners for Inaugural 2022 Community Business Awards

Promoting Responsible and Inclusive Business Practices in Asia

Hong Kong, 26 May 2022 – Community Business, a leading not-for-profit organisation advancing responsible and inclusive business practices in Asia, today revealed the winners of its <u>2022 Community Business Awards</u>. The results were announced at the <u>2022 Community Business Virtual Awards Ceremony</u> sponsored by Citi on Thursday 26 May. Ahead of the awards announcement on Wednesday 25 May, Community Business hosted the 2022 D&I in India Best Practice Virtual Conference sponsored by Publicis Sapient, showcasing the insights and learnings from finalists from the India award categories.

The India Virtual Conference featured a keynote from Kameshwari Rao, Chief People Officer of Publicis Sapient. She talked about the importance of D&I with her D&I journey. Following Kameshwari's keynote, participants attended breakout sessions featuring best practice sharing from finalists of the four India award categories: Advancement of Women, Building Disability Conference, LGBT+ Inclusion and D&I Champion of Change. The Conference also featured a session entitled "Fostering Inclusive Culture" conducted by the Exclusive India Conference Sponsor, Publicis Sapient.

"We had an overwhelming response to our awards in India this year. With some excellent work featured among many organisations. As always at Community Business, we believe in a robust process for shortlisting the nominations and choosing the finalists. It was indeed a difficult task for the judges to pick one among so many winners. I can only say that the bar has been truly raised. The quality of work we witnessed during judging left us in awe and giving us a deep sense of satisfaction seeing the incredible progress in the space of D&I" said Sandhya Manoj, Country Head, India at Community Business.

"We are excited to partner with Community Business for this marquee event. At Publicis Sapient, we place people at the center of everything we do and cultivate a workplace that promotes diversity, equality and inclusion, empowering everyone to be themselves. We are passionate about creating experiences that recognise and value individuality and collectively contribute to fostering mutual understanding, acceptance and knowledge in society. Through this partnership, we hope to encourage business leaders and D&I experts to share important ideas about the best DE&I practices for making room for different voices and integrating different points of view within their own organisations," said Sanjay Menon, India Managing Director at Publicis Sapient.

The Virtual Awards Ceremony featured stand-up comedian, Vivek Mahbubani as MC, a stretching session by Andrew Cox from Joint Dynamics, a musical performance from The Harmonics Choir Hong Kong and a wheelchair dance performance from We Are One. The Ceremony also featured a keynote session entitled "The Faces of Asia" conducted by Dimuthu de Silva and Janelle Mims from Community Business where they discussed the differences and similarities that define and unite the region.

"At Citi, we are committed to building a more diverse, equitable and inclusive culture. This is a commitment we proudly share with Community Business and we are pleased to be a part of the 2022 Community Business Virtual Awards Ceremony. These awards recognise the leaders in our community and organisations that are paving the way



forward across the industry. It is important that we measure our progress and share best practices to keep improving. Together, we can make significant progress and encourage the changes we want to see. We drive innovation by embracing diverse teams and ideas, and we look forward to further advancement in Asia Pacific," said Aditi Mahadevan Nair, Asia Pacific Lead for Talent, Learning, and Diversity and Inclusion at Citi.

Introduced for the first time this year, the Community Business Awards are designed to celebrate responsible and inclusive business practices in Asia by shining a spotlight on strategic, proactive, impactful and sustainable approaches across the region.

"I was astounded by the number organisations and the diversity of industries from across the region that submitted nominations for this inaugural year of the awards. By taking part, they have demonstrated that commitment to D&I and employee wellbeing lies at the heart of their business strategy, especially as we know how important this work has been during the last two years of this global pandemic. It was also impressive to see some organisations applying for awards for work they have done as part of their pandemic response. We thank all of those who submitted nominations or nominated others. The importance of advancing responsible and inclusive businesses as well as employee wellbeing is crucial to creating a better workplace environment for all of us and those that come after us," said Peter Sargant, CEO at Community Business. "We hope that through the Community Business Awards we provide an opportunity to catch our breath and celebrate success, but also create momentum and build a library of best practices from leading organisations and individual leaders, for others to learn from and perhaps even emulate.

With a number of high-calibre nominations for Community Business Awards across 16 award categories, Community Business is pleased to announce the following winners for each of the awards:

Award	Winner
Responsible and Inclusive Business	
Responsible Business Leader in Asia Award sponsored by Thomson Reuters	Angel Ng, Citi
Employee Network in Asia Award	Citi
Pioneering Initiative in Asia Award sponsored by Northern Trust	Allen & Overy
D&I in Asia Intersectionality Award sponsored by Standard Chartered	Linklaters
Promoting Social Inclusion in Asia Award	Google
Employee Wellbeing	
Work-Life Harmony in Asia Award	Talawakelle Tea Estates
Physical Wellbeing in Asia Award sponsored by Shell	Marriott International
Emotional Wellbeing in Asia Award sponsored by Intel	Booking.com
LGBT+ Inclusion	
LGBT+ Inclusion Champion in Asia Award sponsored by Credit Suisse	Ada Ho, Equinix
LGBT+ Ally in Asia Award sponsored by Manulife	Odile Thiang, Mind HK



LGBT+ Newcomer in Asia Award sponsored by Shell	Standard Chartered Bank (Taiwan) Limited
Transgender Inclusion in Asia Award	Thoughtworks Technologies India Private Limited
D&I in India	
Advancement of Women in India Award sponsored by Credit Suisse	Infosys Limited
Building Disability Confidence in India Award sponsored by Goldman Sachs	Wipro Limited
LGBT+ Inclusion in India Award sponsored by Goldman Sachs	Credit Suisse
D&I Champion of Change in India Award sponsored by LSEG	Aditya Batavia, formerly of Thoughtworks

Details of the initiatives for each winner can be found here.

The award winners were selected from a shortlist of <u>finalists</u> by a <u>Judging Panel</u> comprising of:

- at least one external expert/experienced subject matter professional
- one senior leader from the Award sponsor (if relevant)
- at least two representatives from Community Business

For more details about the 2022 Community Business Awards, please click here.

To view the 2022 Community Business Virtual Awards Ceremony, please visit our <u>YouTube</u> <u>Channel</u>.

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About Community Business

Community Business is a not-for-profit organisation (Hong Kong Charity Number 91/6560) whose mission is to lead, inspire and support businesses to have a positive impact on people and communities. A recognised leader in advancing responsible and inclusive business practices in Asia, Community Business facilitates networks, conducts research and events, leads programmes and campaigns and provides consulting and training. Our focus on responsible business is aligned to four mission-led themes:

- Building responsible leadership
- Tackling workplace inequality
- Ensuring employee wellbeing
- Promoting social inclusion

Founded in 2003 and headquartered in Hong Kong with a presence in India and working with dedicated partners and consultants across Asia, Europe and the Americas, Community Business works with companies of all sizes and from diverse industries across Asia, harnessing the power of business to drive social change. For more information, please visit our website at www.communitybusiness.org.

Media Contacts - Community Business

Emily Moss

Head of Social Impact emily.moss@communitybusiness.org

Eliana Lam

Programme Manager, Events eliana.lam@communitybusiness.org