

KWEK HIAN CHUAN HENRY

郭献川

“Singaporeans want a caring government that listens, one that actively creates opportunities for all – regardless of background, race, religion, and beliefs – and to live life to the fullest. I will fight for that.”



Background

Kwek Hian Chuan Henry is an executive director of a homegrown investment, trading and management consulting company.

Before joining politics, Henry served in the grassroots of Kebun Baru and Chong Pang constituencies, on committees about town planning, management, transport and elderly social service support networks. He was also Branch Secretary of Chong Pang PAP.

Henry studied in Chinese High School and Victoria Junior College before graduating from Stanford University with degrees in economics and management science. During his youth, he tutored inmates at Kaki Bukit prison school. This shaped his belief that society can and must do more to help individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds succeed.

Henry previously worked in McKinsey & Co, working with senior management of global firms to develop strategies and manage organisational change. Before that, he was with the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB), promoting and evaluating investment projects for Singapore.

Henry enjoys reading, sports such as volleyball and skateboarding, and exploring different cultures.

Work as an MP

Since September 2015, Henry has been MP for Kebun Baru constituency in Nee Soon GRC.

Kebun Baru has many elderly residents and some financially needy ones. Henry has started several programmes for them. Among them are Kebun Baru Cares, which helps needy young families break the poverty cycle. The intensive ten-month-long mentoring programme trains participants in money management and nutrition, helps them find quality childcare and after-school care, and gives them career guidance. When the new Kebun Baru Community Club opens its doors in 2017, it will work with social enterprises to serve free lunches to needy residents every weekday. To help the elderly and less mobile, Henry has looked into more barrier-free access in Kebun Baru, including at the upcoming MRT station. He also advocates for pro-elderly policies through the PAP Seniors Group (PAP.SG).

Henry is actively involved in youth and civil society engagement. He supports several NGOs like Child @ Street 11, a unique childcare center for children from low-income and challenging backgrounds, and Very Special Arts, which helps the disabled express themselves through the arts. He is on the panel of the People's Association Youth Movement (PAYM), which grows youth through community service, policy discussions and interest groups. Before joining politics, he helped Ground-Up Initiative, an NGO that builds sustainable communities, establish a permanent campus in Nee Soon. He continues to work closely with them. He is also adviser to clan associations like 汾阳郭氏公会 and 惠安公会.

Henry heads the SGSecure movement in Nee Soon GRC and is on MINDEF's ACCORD committee to facilitate community support for national defence and National Service.

In Parliament, Henry has spoken about the importance of nurturing innovation in Singapore, and helping all Singaporeans thrive in the new economy. He serves on the Government Parliamentary Committees for Culture, Community and Youth and Finance, Trade and Industry.