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EVERY CHILD, THE BEST THAT THEY CAN BE



At the starting line, some children may be in "cars", while others may be on "scooters" or "bicycles". Sadly, and often through no fault of their own, some may have to run with their own two feet—perhaps even barefoot. In the absence of a conducive environment and positive role models, those running barefoot are at highest risk of eventually being left behind.

Mentoring children is at the heart of our work at Life Community Services Society. We believe that every child deserves a fair chance to succeed in life, and that every child can be the best that they can be!

Through this latest edition of our newsletter, we hope you will be inspired by the power of mentoring and the power of community. Join us in making a difference, one child at a time!

THE POWER OF MENTORING

FRIENDS2GATHER: A COMLINK PROJECT

Friends2Gather is a community programme by Life Community Services Society, in partnership with MSF SSO@Bedok and MOE UPLIFT Programme Office.

Launched on 29 December 2022, the programme aims to develop socio-emotional skills, cultivate positive learning experiences, and increase school connectedness by fostering mentoring relationships between mentors and children aged 6 to 10 from vulnerable backgrounds.

"It has been heartwarming to see relationships and friendships develop between our kids, their caregivers, and the volunteer mentors."



Source: LinkedIn post by the Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore (MSF)



Mary (not her real name), 8, comes from a challenging family background. Her mother, a canteen vendor and single parent supporting four children, faces the additional hurdle of her spouse being currently incarcerated. Despite Mary's quiet and shy demeanour, she possesses remarkable talent in art and dance. When she joined Friends2Gather (F2G) last year, it was evident that she struggled with literacy and numeracy skills, leading to disinterest in school and eventually truancy. Through F2G, dedicated mentors have provided her encouragement and assistance, guiding her in her homework and helping her build confidence.

Stories like these underscore the positive impact that mentoring can have on young individuals facing challenging circumstances. While unlocking their full potential will be a gradual, non-linear, and often rocky process, we are propelled by the prospect of who they can become.



LOVE CAME DOWN @ CHRISTMAS



An annual Christmas Carnival bringing love, joy, and hope to our children and families



On Saturday, 2 December 2023, we blessed 450 children and families from our various programmes through "Love Came Down @ Christmas", an annual Christmas carnival that aims to bring love, cheer, and hope. This year's Carnival was held at Radin Mas Community Club, and we were honoured to have Ms Tin Pei Ling (Member of Government Parliamentary Committee for Social & Family Development) grace the event.

From bouncy castles, to yummy-licious carnival food and beverages, to games and arts and crafts, the atmosphere was absolutely delightful. The carnival also gave our beneficiaries (both past and current) a platform to serve alongside our community, taking on roles such as photography, doing stage performances, and providing logistical support, among others.

A number of our beneficiaries were also presented Good Progress Awards for their academic performance in school. A big shout-out to Mothership for inspiring and encouraging the youths with these cash awards!



DARE TO DREAM BEYOND

Deutsche Bank's annual Dream Beyond Concert on 25 November 2023



Sabrina, our Life Student Care programme manager, alongside the three performers from LCSS

Three courageous and remarkable girls from Life Student Care (Yishun), aged 10 to 12, captured the spotlight at Deutsche Bank's annual concert. These young talents were the product of a transformative journey after attending introductory Ruan sessions, paving the way for their inclusion in the Deutsche Bank (DB) Talent Development Programme.

With their parents' unwavering support, the girls embarked on personalised one-on-one training in January 2023, with Ms Foong Chui San from the Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO). Despite living a long distance from each other, both Trainer Foong and the girls were determined not to let that become a barrier to learning.

"You believed that we could try and not let practical barriers stop us from seeing the potential in a child being unleashed." - Moi Kwai, CEO of LCSS

The impact of this programme has been nothing short of remarkable, creating a positive impact on the lives of these young girls.

Joy (not her real name), 12, has experienced significant personal growth. Engaging with the Ruan has made her more mature, fostering the ability to listen and think more deeply. She is now more self-confident and self-disciplined, and has taken the initiative to manage her consumption of sugary snacks.

Serene (also not he real name), 10, has likewise undergone a massive transformation. She has become more vocal and expressive, putting an end to bickering with her friends. Embracing a newfound interest in music, she has enthusiastically seized the opportunity to learn a new musical instrument.

These heartening stories illuminate the transformative power of the Dream Beyond Concert and the DB Talent Development Programme, showcasing not only the musical growth but also the personal development of these young talents. Deutsche Bank's support, coupled with the commitment of the trainers, have played a pivotal role in nurturing these girls into confident and expressive individuals.



The 8th edition of LCSS's annual Charity Golf Tournament, Golf For Life!, was held on 14 July 2023 at the Singapore Island Country Club.

With the generous support of our sponsors, donors, and volunteers, we raised over \$240,000, which will go towards helping over 900 children and youths from vulnerable backgrounds, empowering them to be the best they can be!

The event was graced by Guest of Honour, Mr Seah Kian Peng (Speaker of Parliament and MP for Marine Parade GRC) and Special Guest, ESM Mr Goh Chok Tong.

If you missed us last year, join us in **Golf for Life! 2024**, which will be held on **Friday**, **28 June 2024** at **Tanah Merah Country Club**, with Mr Seah Kian Peng joining us once again as Guest of Honour.

Reserve Your Tee-Time!
Where Friends Unite for a Charitable Round of Golf
Contact Evelyn at 6387 3700
or email charitygolf@life-community.org



CHARITY TRANSPARENCY & GOVERNANCE AWARDS 2023

LCSS is honoured to receive the MCCY Charity Transparency Award for the second consecutive year. This prestigious accolade is a testament to our organisation's commitment to upholding exemplary transparency and governance standards.

The award not only celebrates our achievements, it also serves as an inspiration for other charities to adopt similar best practices and standards of excellence.



LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY (LCSS)

is a member of the National Council of Social Services (NCSS) and an Institution of Public Character (IPC). Established in 1996, we serve over 900 children and youths aged 4 to 16 from vulnerable backgrounds, empowering them through care and mentoring. Our vision is to help every child be the best that they can be.

OUR 5 CORE PROGRAMMES



Friends of Children & Youth

Children with parent/s presently or formerly incarcerated Target age: 6 - 16 Island-wide



MightyKids, Families & Community

Children and youth who are disengaged, latchkey or pre-at-risk Target age: 4 - 16 Telok Blangah Centre



Life Student Care

Community Project to serve after-school care needs Target age: 7 - 12 Hougang, Sengkang. and Yishun



EduGrow for Brighter Tomorrows

Children from low-income families in Marine Parade Target age: 5 - 13 Jointly owned by The Hut Limited & Life Community Services Society



Friends2Gather

Mentoring support for children residing in public rental homes Target age: 6 - 10 Bedok

Help change children's lives today!







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