

EMPOWERING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES THROUGH CARE AND MENTORING



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LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY

Annual Report for Year Ended 31st March 2018

Life Community Services Society (LCSS) was registered as a Society on 23rd March 1996. LCSS became a member of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS) on 20th June 2001 and a member of the NCSS General Fund in August 2003. LCSS was registered under the Charities Act on 22nd January 2002. We were conferred with the Institute of Public Character status in 2003.

Charity Registration Number : 01545
ROS Registration Number : ROS 106/1996WEL
Unique Entity Number : S96SS0100H
Registered Address : 5 Stadium Walk #04-04/07
 Kallang Leisure Park
 Singapore 397693

Board Members



Mr Nicholas
Goh Cher Shuie,
Chairman



Mr Shaun
Tan Zhonghao,
Vice Chairman



Mr Seow Kiat Wang,
Secretary



Dr Gilbert
Tan Yip Wei,
Treasurer



Mr Goh Kng Yan,
Asst Treasurer,
Emeritus Chairman



Dr Tan Kok Beng,
Member

Bankers : 1. Maybank
 2. Standard Chartered Bank
 3. The Development Bank of Singapore
 4. United Overseas Bank

Auditor : Baker Tilly TFW LLP

1996 – 2018

22 years of dedicated
community service by the
Grace of God.

VISION

Outreach to the
Community.

MISSION

To empower children
and families through
care and mentoring.

5 CORE SERVICES

Friends of Children



Provide care and support for children (7-13yrs) with parent/s presently/formerly incarcerated through Social, Physical, Emotional, Educational and Dollars S.P.E.E.D intervention.

Friends of Youth



Befriend and mentor youths (12-19yrs) with parent/s presently/formerly incarcerated by harnessing their energy and talent into positive outcomes through Social, Physical, Relational, Emotional, Academic and Dollars (S.P.R.E.A.D) intervention.

Life Student Care



Provide quality student care services to primary school children by focusing on the total development of the child in a safe and caring environment, through a holistic Social, Physical, Intellectual, Creative, Emotional and Spiritual (moral) (S.P.I.C.E.S.) programme.

MightyKids, Families & Community



Serve and mentor the community children and youth; affirming and nurturing them within a loving and learning environment. Our focus is on building their Character, Competency and Connection through creative and enriching activities.

EduGrow for Brighter Tomorrows



Strengthen social mobility of children from low income families by adopting a relational approach where community mentors are matched to the children, supporting their aspirational, character, educational, financial and relational growth. This is a joint project with WeCare@Marine Parade.

LCSS TIMELINE

2017



- Christmas Extravaganza
- Appointed KidSTART partner agency by ECDA

2014



- Opening of Activity Centre in Leisure Park Kallang
- Received Friends of Nan Chiau High School award
- Received Against Family Violence Appreciation award
- Organized 2nd Run for Life with 3800 participants

2012

Opening of
4th Life Student
Care in Meridian
Primary School



2008



- Featured in The Straits Times "Group helps kids whose parents are in prison"
- Received Letter of Commendation from Prison Link Centre (Changi)

2018

Opening of 5th
Life Student Care
in Park View
Primary School



2016



- LCSS 20th Anniversary commemorative book launched by Mrs Mary Tan
- Launch of EduGrow for Brighter Tomorrows programme – Collaborative effort between LCSS & WeCare@MarineParade

2013



Inaugural of Run for Life
with 2000 participants –
Featured in The Sunday
Times & BeritaHarian

2009

Opening of
MightyKids, Families
& Community centre
in Telok Blangah



2007



Launch of Friends of
Youth Programme

2005

- Awarded Best Grandparenting and Intergenerational Bonding Programme
- Opening of 3rd Life Student Care in Yishun



2003



- Conferred Institute of Public Character (IPC) status
- Awarded Certificate of Recognition for the Family Life Ambassador Programme

2001

- Member of National Council of Social Service
- Opening of 2nd Life Student Care in Sengkang



2006

- Featured in The Straits Times "Charity at Home"
- Received Letter of Commendation from Singapore Prison Service



2004

Launch of
Friends of
Children
Programme



2002

Registered
as a charity



1999

Opening of
1st Life
Student Care
in Hougang



1996

Registered as
a society
(Non-Profit)



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Singapore's external environment is becoming more complex. Its population is increasing and more diverse. Its economy is transforming to harness growth drivers. Technology is changing how its citizens interact. Economic volatility, slower wage growth, concerns on social mobility are evidence that economic and social fault lines are emerging. Public expectations are rising and our citizenry is more vocal. Social needs are evolving in size and complexity. In order to stay relevant in this vast changing world, Life Community has to constantly scan the environment, review its processes, innovate to ensure it is meeting to the needs of its beneficiaries, and invest in its people to serve more effectively and efficiently.

Life Community has many strengths and its continued growth is testament of the hard work and effort put in by the staff members and the management team. There is clear evidence of support from various stakeholders in contributing to the growth and success of the organisation. It has a committed leadership and a team of highly talented and passionate individuals who are committed to reach out to the community.

In 2017/18, it ventured more upstream in its outreach efforts with its appointment as a partner agency of ECDA for the KidSTART program. It has also embarked on a consultancy project with KPMG supported by NCSS to improve its volunteer management process as well as identifying new volunteer opportunities. It is also working collaboratively with the CARE Network agencies on providing support for children with parent/s in prison. In January 2018, it successfully opened its fifth student care centre at Park View Primary school providing quality student care services in the community.

I take this opportunity to thank all our donors, volunteers and staff for standing by Life Community through the

"Life Community has many strengths and its continued growth is testament of the hard work and effort put in by the staff members and the management team. There is clear evidence of support from various stakeholders in contributing to the growth and success of the organisation. It has a committed leadership and a team of highly talented and passionate individuals who are committed to reach out to the community."

years. We are also grateful to new partners like Capital International and Ascendas Singbridge for coming on board to support us. To my fellow board members, thank you for journeying together.

Thank you all, and may God Bless you and your family,
Nicholas



CEO'S MESSAGE

孩子是国家栋梁,是国家未来的主人翁。我们的下一代会是个怎样的社会,就得看我们怎样辅佐他们。那也意味着,建立下一代是我们每个成人现在的责任。

Children are the pillars of the future, the kind of future our society will be, will depend on how we nurture our next generation now.

As indicated by the former Minister of Social and Family Development, Mr Tan Chuan Jin, "Singapore's Gini coefficient which stands at 0.458 in 2016 is amongst the highest in developed countries, suggesting that the rich-poor gap is an area of concern with some children from poor families finding it tough to move out of the poverty trap."

In the last 22 years, Life Community Services Society remain focused on reaching out to the community with a mission of empowering children and families through care and mentoring.



Collectively, the five core programs, namely, Friends of Children & Youth, MightyKids, Families and Community, Life Student Care, and EduGrow for Brighter Tomorrows serves over 980 children/youth and 450 caregivers. In tandem with our mission and the government's direction to tackle social challenges upstream, Life Community was appointed a partner agency of the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) to pilot the KidSTART program. This program brought us deeper engagements in the grounds of Geylang Serai and Kreta Ayer pilot region. We are honoured to play a part as a community partner to harness the strengths of the families by reaching out to them.

"No one cares how much you know, until they know how much you care" (Theodore Roosevelt). The key is how we build a community of care even before issues occur so that when something happens the care network already exists. It is the relationships that ultimately matters when it comes to changing lives.

On behalf of the team, I like to express our gratitude to every person who has contributed to the cause of Life Community. All the efforts put together have made it possible to build such a community of care, strengthening the core of our future generation, and leaving no children behind. To God be the Glory!

With sincere thanks and appreciation,
Moi Kwai

"No one cares how much you know, until they know how much you care". It is the relationships that ultimately matters when it comes to changing lives.

LCSS MAJOR EVENTS 2017/2018

BUILDING INTO THE LIVES OF THE CHILDREN

READER TODAY, LEADER TOMORROW



"He learnt not to give up reading a book and enjoyed going up to Bus Molly (a mobile library)."

"He finds the Bus Molly very fun, read a lot of books and team work with the Volunteer."

Dr Seuss famously wrote, "The more one reads, the more things one will know. The more one learns, the more places one will go."

Words populate and define our world – 100 children ignited their passion for reading, closely guided by 45 Deutsche Bank (DB) volunteers from a reading programme

supporting the National Library Board's National Reading Movement. To inculcate in the children a love and appreciation for reading, they were treated to a scavenger hunt in the National Library, had volunteers read to them one-to-one, and even pledged themselves to be avid readers. The children returned home with pre-loved books to further grow their love for reading.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE, HEALTHY MIND

Regular physical activity is an important part of staying healthy, and increases children's focus, motivation and confidence in school and life.

Long-time LCSS supporter Deutsche Bank (DB) organised a fun-filled sports day at The Arena for 95 children. The most powerful way to teach is by example, and the 27 volunteers were great role models in promoting active and healthy lifestyle habits.

The children worked in groups and competed alongside one another for trophies. They had plenty of fun, running and going wild in the green field despite the hot sun. They were treated to a scrumptious lunch and were given magic cubes as Children's Day



gifts. The children presented thank you cards and a thank you cheer to appreciate the volunteers – they definitely hope to participate in more of such activities again!



GOLF FOR LIFE 2017

Raising funds for our children



The annual LCSS charity golf fundraiser, Golf for Life, was held on 4th August at Warren Country Club. We raised a total of S\$258,000 from the event, which will go towards assisting the children from our six core programmes. This is also the third consecutive year that our guest-of-honour, Mr Seah Kian Peng, Member of Parliament for Marine Parade GRC

and long-time supporter of LCSS, has gone the extra mile and graced Golf for Life. Special mention goes out to our diamond sponsors – Credence Partners, DG Packaging, and NTUC Fairprice Foundation. LCSS is blessed to have committed donors – we thank all our donors for their continued support year after year!



STRANGERS TO FRIENDS, FRIENDS TO FAMILY



Together with SportCares, EduGrow organised an overnight camp at Camp Challenge Sentosa from 22 to 23 November 2017. Through a series of simulated activities, the children in our programme learnt the importance of resilience and conscientiousness, as well as how to anticipate and be

better prepared for new challenges. They also learnt to be positive role models for their younger siblings, and in the process strengthened the close friendships they had built among themselves. Many left the camp with a longing heart, and requested to have a camp again next year.



BORN TO LOVE LCSS STAFF RETREAT 2017



The LCSS Staff Retreat & Appreciation Day was held in Malacca from 25th to 26th August 2017. It was an amazing opportunity for our teammates from various departments and centres to bond over an itinerary comprising good food, a river cruise, a visit to the iconic Jonker Street night market, and a tour of ZenXin Organic Farm.

Expounding on the theme Born to Love, Emeritus Chairman Goh Kng Yan encouraged staff members to serve the community with unconditional love, as it is where one has gone about his work in love that the Lord will affirm and say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."



CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA SHARING LOVE, JOY AND PEACE TO THE WORLD

On 1 and 2 December 2017, for the first time, over 800 participants (including beneficiaries, volunteers and staff from across our various programmes and centres) gathered under one roof at Kallang Leisure Park to celebrate Christmas.

100 children were given chance to perform on stage. They were then treated with a buffet, and presents to go home with (generously sponsored by the employees of Johnson and Johnson).



Clockwise from top-left:
Group photo with children performers and LCSS staff / children enjoying the Christmas story



Clockwise from top-left:
Children having their party food in between fun-filled activities / a child is having her turn at the archery station / a winner in the blessed draw posing for photo with LCSS CEO, Ms Lam Moi Kwai / children receiving Christmas presents sponsored by Johnson & Johnson

One corporate partner expressed her delight, saying, "Thank God for all of you for hosting such a great event this year. I believe the children are very blessed. I, too, am blessed by your community contribution. We are glad that we are able to partner with you in this season of giving."

Another volunteer said, "It has been our honour and pleasure to be able to help



one of the centres had the children dancing to the hit song Gangnam Style / a child is waiting for her balloon sculpture to be completed

out at LCSS' Christmas event. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve these youths together."

The children were ecstatic to have participated in the event. A parent who was present commented, "Well done to everyone for all the games, food and programmes. I could hardly tell that this was LCSS' first time organising such an event."

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN & YOUTH

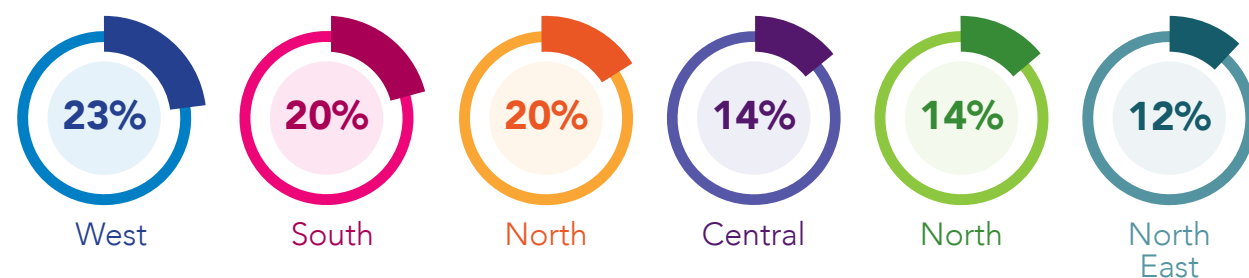


Friends of Children provide care and support for children (7-13yrs) with parent/s presently/formerly incarcerated through Social, Physical, Emotional, Educational and Dollars S.P.E.E.D intervention.

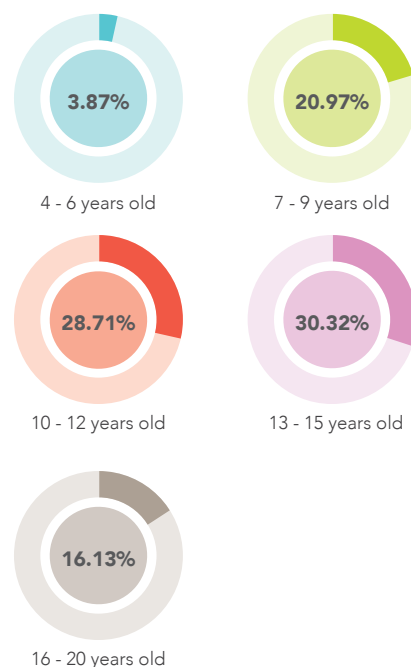
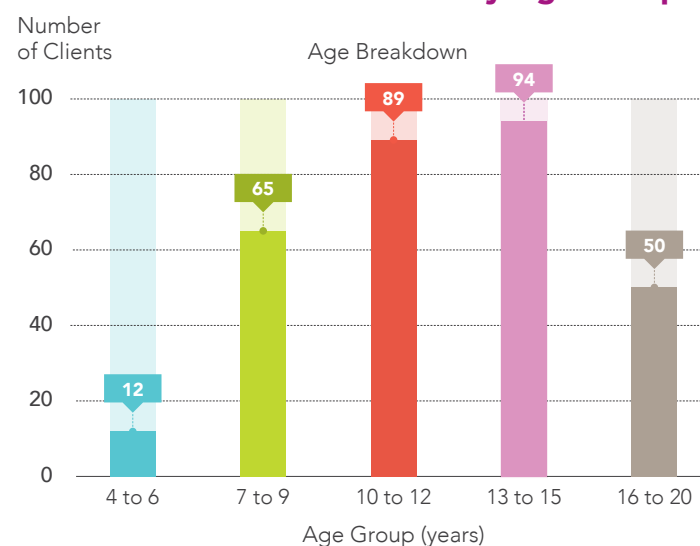


Friends of Youth befriend and mentor youths (12-19yrs) with parent/s presently/formerly incarcerated by harnessing their energy and talent into positive outcomes through Social, Physical, Relational, Emotional, Academic and Dollars (S.P.R.E.A.D) intervention.

Distributions of FOCY clients by Districts



Distributions of FOCY clients by Age Group



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR (BUILDING RESILIENCE)

PROGRAMME FOCUS



Emotion Quotient
Managing of emotions



Decision Making
Thinking positively when faced with



Social Skills
Having good social relationships



Self-Esteem
Having positive self-esteem

SERVING 620 CLIENTS & THEIR CAREGIVERS WITH 135 VOLUNTEERS OVER 83 ACTIVITIES



Developing character



Building Confidence



Building aspirations



Social interactions



Teamwork



Instilling values



SUCCESS STORY - CASE STUDY

*Irene was only 7 years old when she saw her mother for the first time in 2015 when Irene's father brought her home to consume drugs in the house together. Unfortunately, the reunion was short-lived as her mother was arrested by the CNB in 2015.

Despite the short time with her mother, Irene had become attached to her mother, and her only wish was for her mother to be there for her when she feels sad.

Before her father was released from prison in 2014, Irene could only see her father when her aunt brought her and her brothers along for visits to her father in prison. Even after his release, he was uninvolved and still relied on Irene's maternal aunts and grandmother to take care of his children. In 2016, he left the house to start another family of his own and shortly after, in Feb 2017, he was arrested for falling back into his drug consumption habits.

With both parents only released in 2020 and 2024 respectively, the responsibility of caring of Irene and her two brothers fell back onto her maternal aunt and grandmother.

Irene joined the Friends of Children and Youth (FOCY) programme in October 2015. A caseworker from Life Community visited Irene regularly, providing her with care and emotional support. Irene could confide in her caseworker about the challenges she faced. The caseworker journeyed together with Irene through her highs and lows.

Irene also joined the Dance Interest Group under Life Community in 2016, and through it, made many new friends and was given many opportunities to perform together with the dance group at Life Community's events. With each performance, Irene grew in confidence and gained higher self-esteem.

A befriender was attached to Irene to play the role of a mentor and friend. Apart from meeting her regularly, bringing her to different places such as the library, park and shopping malls, she also lends a listening ear to Irene, providing Irene with further social, emotional and academic support. Irene's



Irene, enjoying her Dance Interest Group

befriender even went the extra mile and suggested for Irene to receive tuition services provided by her church.

Through her caseworker's support and counselling with the aim to ensure that Irene be more resilient to life, Irene no longer has any bitter or angry feelings towards her father for leaving the family. Her pure heart still believes that her parents are good people and now, Irene is patiently counting down to the day of her mother's release to be reunited with her again. In the meantime, Life Community will continue to walk hand in hand with Irene and the family to provide holistic support in whatever way possible.

**Not her real name*

MIGHTYKIDS, FAMILIES & COMMUNITY



MightyKids, Families & Community serve and mentor the community children and youth; affirming and nurturing them within a loving and learning environment. Our focus is on building their Character, Competency and Connection through creative and enriching activities.

PROGRAMME FOCUS



Character
Positive behaviour
and values
Positive role
modelling



Competency
Literacy
Life skills
Leadership



Connection
Family bonding
Community
engagement



DISCOVERING THE GEM IN THEM

*John exclaimed, "Teacher, I try very, very hard to change but sometimes I get overly excited that I did not know what I was doing" John pleaded innocence after he cracked the TV screen with his fist. Despite his challenging behaviour, we discovered through the following emergency, that deep down inside, John has a heart of compassion.

*Edward screamed and cringed in pain on the floor when he was scalded with hot soup. John immediately stopped his computer game and ran to help Edward. John led Edward to put his scalded hand under the running tap. Then he ran back to the kitchen to get ice cubes from the refrigerator. He placed the ice cubes onto Edward's hand to cool down the burning sensation. Later when asked how he knew what to do, John replied

**Not his real name*



sheepishly that he got scalded before and knew how painful it can be. John was affirmed for his quick thinking and actions, and for his spontaneous help extended to an injured person.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

SERVING 129 CLIENTS & THEIR CAREGIVERS WITH 153 VOLUNTEERS OVER 50 ACTIVITIES



Build Esteem



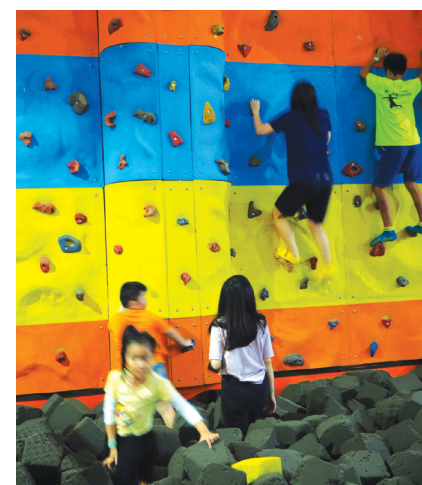
Cultivate Reading



Social Interactions



Mentoring



Intergenerational Bonding



Peer Learning



Social Interactions

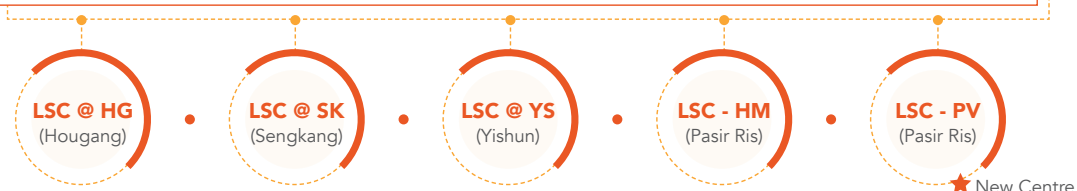


LIFE STUDENT CARE

Life Student Care provide quality student care services to primary school children by focusing on the total development of the child in a safe and caring environment, through a holistic Social, Physical, Intellectual, Creative, Emotional and Spiritual (moral) (S.P.I.C.E.S.) programme.



LIFE STUDENT CARE CENTRES



SUPPORTING **462 CHILDREN** WITH **518 VOLUNTEERS**
OVER **91 ACTIVITIES**



Character Building



Supermarket & Sandwich Making



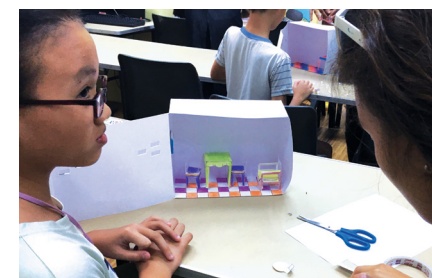
Army Open House



SCRATCH Programme



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES



My Dream Home



Learning from Dad



Soccer Match



Christmas Party



Amazing Race



Gardens by the Bay



Read for LIFE



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES



Badminton



Team Bonding



Zumba Workout



Sea Aquarium



Chocolate Party



Healthy Lifestyle



Reading Programme



Cleaning At NParks



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



Serving the elderly



Gummy Bear Dance



Master Chef Family Bonding



Ukulele Talent



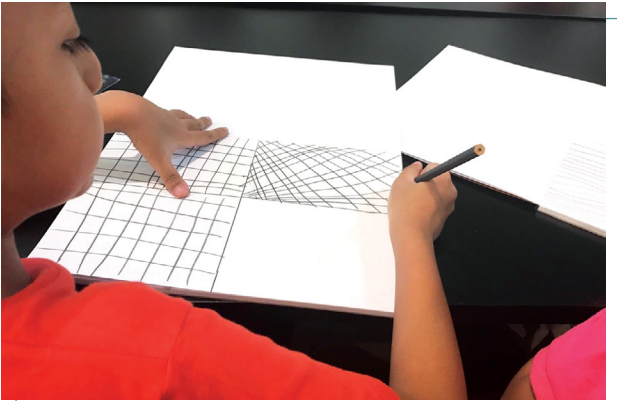
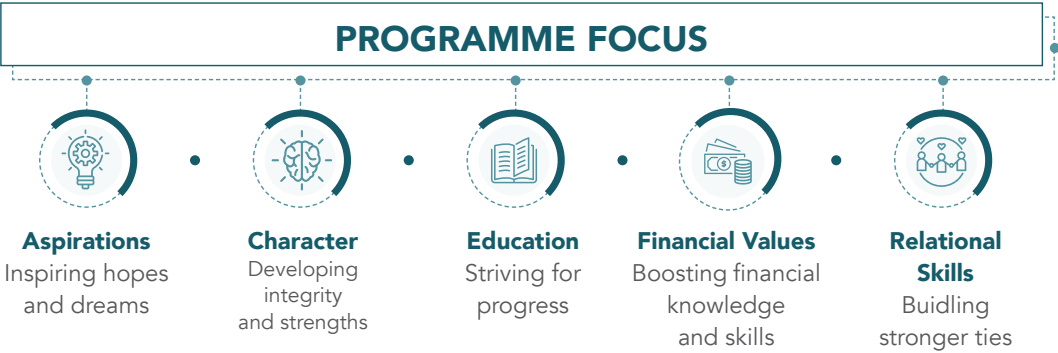
Children Performance



EDUGROW FOR BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

EduGrow for Brighter Tomorrows is a family-centric, early intervention pilot initiated as a partnership with WeCare@MarineParade. It is targeted at Kindergarten 2 to Secondary 1 children from lower-income families residing in Marine Parade.

EduGrow aims to enable these children to be on a path of upward social mobility, by building on their Aspirations, Character, Education, Financial Values & Relational Skills.



SUCCESS STORY - CASE STUDY



*Minghao is an 11-year-old boy who has been with EduGrow since 2017. He lives with his immediate and extended family in a rental unit. Minghao has a slight stutter which resulted in low self-esteem. His parents were on the verge of divorce due to domestic violence which further affected him emotionally.

EduGrow has been supporting Minghao academically through group academic coaching in English and Mathematics, and even provided a volunteer to teach him skills to cope with his stutter. EduGrow also introduced a mentor to Minghao who would visit him weekly without fail. The mentor was able to help Minghao process his family situation and understand the issues surrounding his parents' relationship.

Thanks to the dedication and support from the EduGrow staff and volunteers, Minghao is now better able to cope with his stutter, and has shown improvements in his academic performance. He continues to enjoy a positive relationship

with his parents and understands the difficulties they face in their husband-wife relationship.

While it is heartening to see Minghao progress, he still has a long road ahead of him. Minghao continues to struggle with English and Mathematics. The tutors, volunteer mentor, and staff will continue to support him emotionally and academically.

"It has been a privilege to join Edugrow for Brighter Tomorrows community, ably administered by the wonderful team at Life Community & WeCare@MarineParade.

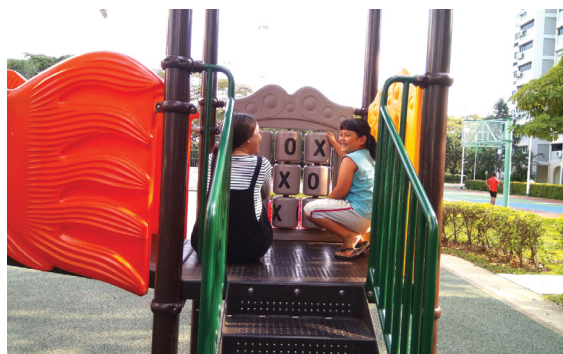
They say life is a race, and it's great to have the chance to help walk a little bit of the way with these young ones, and hopefully share with them some experience and tools to help them run their race.

It will take time to bear fruit, but I'm glad the Edugrow team has helped us get started. Hopefully we will continue to make that little bit of difference."

- Mr James Chia, EduGrow Mentor, (2016-current)

*Not his real name

VOLUNTEER MENTORS – THE UNSUNG HEROES!



Learning through fun activities



Reinforcing positive learning



Providing Guidance and emotional support



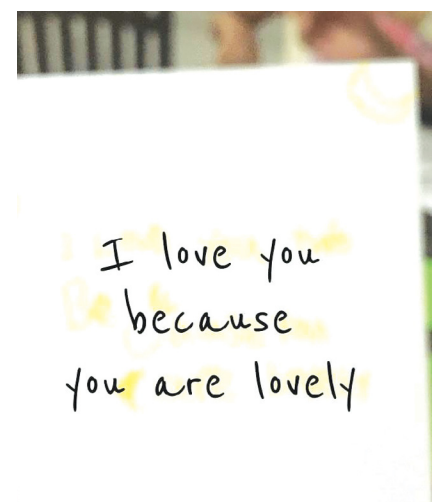
Orientation Programme



Over thirty committed mentors each contributing an average of 40 hours a year



Training and workshops



Sharing of experiences



Peer Learning





HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

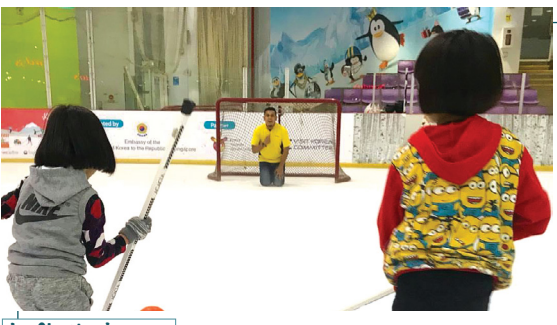
SUPPORTING **49 CHILDREN** & THEIR CAREGIVERS WITH **40 VOLUNTEERS** OVER **33 ACTIVITIES**



Food Distribution



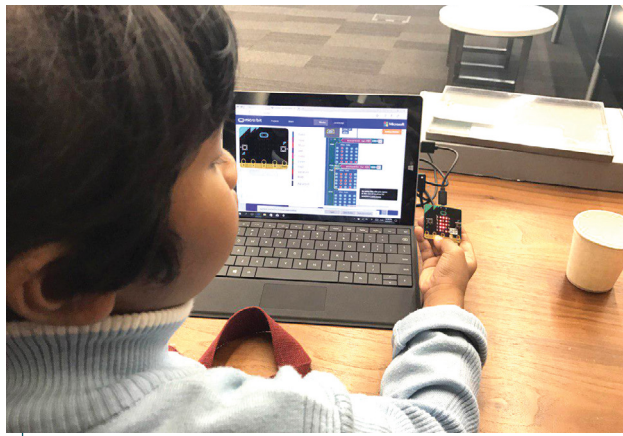
Army Open House



Ice Skating Lessons



Financial Values



Micro:bit Workshop



Thomson-East Coast Line Information Centre

KIDSTART

KidSTART is a pilot programme led by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) to enable children from low-income families to have a good start in life.

LCSS steers coordination work for one of the key programme components, KidSTART Groups, for children aged 1-3 and their caregivers in Kreta Ayer/Bukit Merah and Geylang Serai areas. Our role is to conduct initial outreach to families and also provide support to facilitators and families on the ground as well as at parent experiential and family excursions.

KidSTART Groups are weekly community-based sessions led by trained facilitators and are aimed at enhancing parent-child interactions and child development outcomes. These are based on the

"It is a joyful experience for us to be involved in this initiative, although it is at the same time a lot of hard work," says our KidSTART coordinator project manager Ms Ann Tan. "It is all worth the while when we see the positive parent-child interactions, and the power of close connectedness within the community at work. Of course, the smile on the faces of the children just melts my heart."

Supported Playgroups concept, in which structured and regular group-based sessions support parent-child pairs in relating with one another.

PILOT LOCATIONS



Jalan Kukoh



Spooner Road



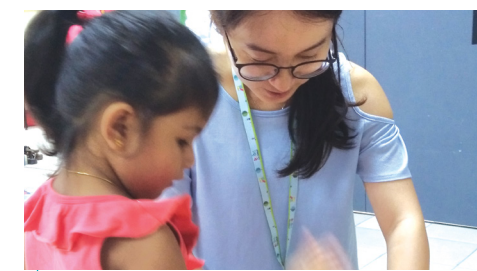
Macpherson



Henderson



Develop the child's language skills and boost reading!



A child's brain grows the fastest before they turn three years old



Fun activities to prepare the child for school!



Build the child's social skills!

CORPORATE OFFICE

5 Stadium Walk
Kallang Leisure Park, #04-04/07
Singapore 397693

Tel : 65-6387 3700
Fax : 65-6387 3768
Email: lcsc@life-community.org

LIFE STUDENT CARE CENTRES

Life Student Care (Hougang)

665 Hougang Ave 4 #01-365
Singapore 530665
Tel : 65-6489 8720
Fax : 65-6385 3217
Email: hglsc@life-community.org

Life Student Care (Yishun)

611 Yishun St 61 #01-199
Singapore 760611
Tel : 65-6755 0678
Fax : 65-6851 8816
Email: yslsc@life-community.org

Life Student Care – Park View (Pasir Ris)

(within Park View Primary School)
60 Pasir Ris Dr 1 Singapore 519524
Tel : 65-6282 2969
Email: pvlsc@life-community.org

MIGHTYKIDS, FAMILIES & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CENTRE

32 Telok Blangah Rise
#01-267
Singapore 090032

Tel : 65-6270 7198
Fax : 65-6270 7848
Email: mkfc@life-community.org

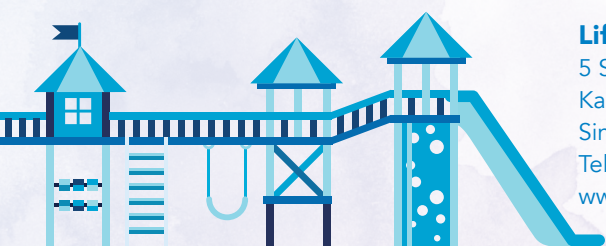
Life Student Care (Sengkang)

306C Anchovale Link #01-77
Singapore 543306
Tel : 65-6489 8718
Fax : 65-6312 3498
Email: sklsc@life-community.org

Life Student Care – Happy Meridians (Pasir Ris)

(within Meridian Primary School)
20 Pasir Ris St 71 Singapore 518798
Tel : 65-6581 0087
Fax : 65-6581 0116
Email: hmlsc@life-community.org

The Annual Report should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements which comes as a separate booklet. The required disclosures in conformity to the FRS (Financial Reporting Standards in Singapore) and Code of Governance for Charities and Institutions of a Public Character issued by the Charity Council (April 2017) are contained in the audited financial statements.



Life Community Services Society

5 Stadium Walk, #04-04/07

Kallang Leisure Park

Singapore 397693

Tel: 6387 3700

www.life-community.org