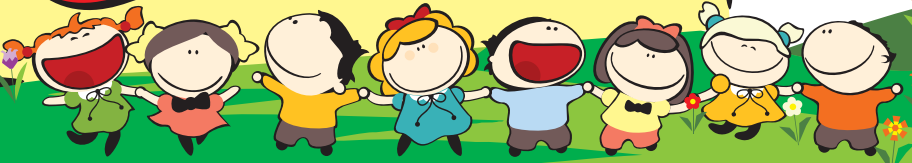


LifeComm

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Life
Community
...to live and leave a legacy



Message from CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters of Life Community,

We are in a very exciting era of rapid change. In the social service sector, we have seen a lot more development in the last 2 years than what we may have experienced in the last decade. The pace is gaining momentum and the environment multifaceted. Locally, we see both the MNCs and SMEs getting more active and creative in doing their part to give back to society. The social needs of our society are also getting more complex.

I am privileged to have a chance to steer this ship into the God-given purpose for which Life Community has been called. My predecessors, James Wong and Amy Chong, together with their teams, have sown relentlessly into the ministry, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank God for them and their families and the many unsung heroes who have quietly sown behind the scene to support the organization for the last 18 years. It would be difficult to name them individually; nonetheless, together with the Board of Directors, we salute all of them.

In this issue of LifeComm, you will hear some of the stories of our volunteer partners, and the voices of our beneficiaries. Life can be very difficult for some children but we never lose heart for we know that there are people, like you, who are willing to support the less fortunate and touch lives.

"Each of us is a unique strand in the intricate web of life and here to make a contribution"
-Deepak Chopra. We have all been created uniquely as individuals. No two persons are alike. Life offers each of us a unique experience. And we are a sum of the choices we make. We are what we are due to the choices we make, the people we interact with, and our reaction to each interaction. We all have a limited shelf life. We get only one shot at life. We cannot repeat or replay our days. We do not ask for anything in return but that our beneficiaries would one day grow up to be contributing individuals, who would when the opportunity arise, give a helping hand to another who needs it.

LAM Moi Kwai

Volunteer's Journey with the Vulnerable



Steven, an engineer by profession, shares with us his journey as a volunteer tutor with Life Community.

"I was introduced to Fabien in 2012. I met up with him weekly. Initially, I wanted to help with science or math. However, after the first few meetings, I realized that he needed help for ALL his subjects. The greatest challenge for me was that Fabien did not have a foundation from which I could work up from. I had to lay this foundation.*

Fabien had missed a great deal of education in his initial years due to his family situation. He only started formal education at the age of 12. He entered school at the Primary 4 level, having to mix with children 2 years younger than him. This gave Fabien the time and an opportunity to catch up before attempting the Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE).

Despite coming from a dysfunctional family, Fabien has always been optimistic and cheerful, which is the most memorable part in working with him. He never blamed anyone for his circumstances. He chose to remain forward-looking. Whenever possible, he also extends a helping hand to his classmates and friends.

Fabien's lack in life did not stop him from progressing. The road has been a steep incline for him. He is constantly challenged to put in more effort into his study especially with secondary school syllabi being much harder."

At age 14, Fabien attempted his PSLE. To everyone's delight, Fabien, who could barely read or write at age 12, passed his PSLE. Fabien now has a much brighter future ahead of him because of the guidance and support that Steven and other volunteers have provided him and his family over the years.

JOIN US TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Email lcss@life-community.org for more info on **volunteering opportunities** with us!

*Not his real name



Donors, Volunteers and Staff (DVS) Appreciation Dinner

This year, our theme was 'Deeper Roots... Greater Heights'. We took the opportunity to appreciate all the stakeholders who have sown into Life Community's work so that we can have deeper roots to grow to greater heights. This in turn, enables us to 'plant' values and beliefs deeply into our children, youths and their families with the hope that they will grow and do great things as 'stable trees'. We are honored to have **Mr Sim Gim Guan**, CEO of the National Council of Social Service to grace the event as our Guest-Of-Honor, together with his wife.



To encourage our partners of the good work done over the years, Samantha*, aged 16, a beneficiary of Life Community's services shared, *'When I was approached to come up here and share, I thought to myself, why don't I take this opportunity to give back to LCSS# since they have helped me a lot and to say thank you.'* She shared

with our guests the various social, physical, educational and emotional needs that were met since she was in Primary 1.



Guests were entertained with a debut performance by our very own youth band - Youth Band Interest Group Junior (YBIG Jr). These 'raw' talents sang a song that has inspired them to overcome their challenges and to be brave to showcase their talents.



Mr Alfred Wong, Managing Director of Noel Gifts International Ltd, shared his heart for the beneficiaries of Life Community. As a key partner in Life Community's charity run – Run For Life, Mr Wong called for SMEs to join in this worthy cause to reach out to the children, at-risk youths and their families.

Donor Awards



Mr Wong Toon Jin, founding partner of **ADDP Architects LLP** has played a key role in the conceptualizing and designing of our new corporate office at Kallang Leisure Park. ADDP has been a long-time supporter of Life Community.

Mr Nicholas Goh, CEO of **Verztec Consulting Pte Ltd** has shown a steady stream of support through events such as Run for Life, Charity Golf and our Charity Art Exhibition. Verztec has also been providing creative and educational outings for the children in the Friends of Children programme.



Volunteer Awards



CHOI Hye Mee one of our dedicated partners, organized our very first Christmas Charity Art Exhibition! She has been a valuable partner with LCSS since 2010. Her contributions include organizing concerts and art enrichment classes for our children.



Alban Salord has been partnering Life Community since 2011. He is a mentor and motivator to his befriended child. Alban and his wife have also consistently made themselves available to help out at our year-end party with not just their befriended child, but with the other children as well.

Madeleine Ong shows much passion and compassion for the child she is befriending. Having committed for more than a year, Madeleine is described by her befriended child as her 'best adult friend'. She helps her child academically, emotionally and socially.



Partnerships



Deutsche Bank English Immersion Programme

The English Immersion Program was conducted by about 20 volunteers from Deutsche Bank on alternate Fridays. Each session, English & Math were taught in a creative way, using various themes to build on the children's imagination and encouraging their verbal and written expression. 30 MKFC# children were enrolled in this 3 month program. Thank you for making learning fun!



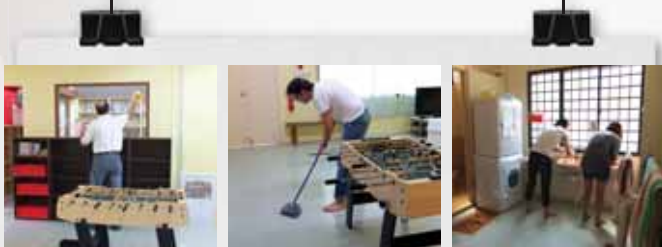
**MightyKids, Families and Community*



Build-a-bike with Microsoft

The team at Microsoft turned what was supposed to be purely a team building exercise of building bicycles from scratch, into a time of charity and giving. The Microsoft staff was surprised that the bicycles they built were to be given to LCSS' children and the best part – they were able to present it to the children themselves!

The children were also kept in the dark about receiving their very own bicycle. One of our girls was so grateful she requested to say "thank you" to everyone in Microsoft (top right). She wasn't the only one. One caregiver shared: *"Thank you so much... Jerry told me about the event... He was terribly excited about it... And he enjoyed himself very much...we are both very grateful...It's the coolest bicycle I've seen & Jerry has."*



Johnson & Johnson

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Staff from the Global Emerging Innovation Johnson and Johnson Vision Care Department visited MKFC to spruce up the place and give it a new and refreshed feel. After their hard work of cleaning the centre, the staff went the extra mile to cook a delicious pasta meal and chicken wings for 15 of the children and youths. This was a delightful treat for the children and youths who usually eat staple food.



Mission to Mars Robotics Workshop by Seagate

50 students benefitted from the 'Mission to Mars Robotics' workshop sponsored by Seagate.

The students learnt about the structure of machines through hands-on Lego building. Simple machine concepts like gears and pulleys were introduced. The 20 Seagate volunteers helped students to build the machines together and the children had



fun in a friendly competition which was held using their assembled machines.



Creativity time, any place!

Our FOC children were engaged in a day of creativity and fun as they were taught how to patiently design mini mosaic photo



frames with the help of their cheerful volunteers from Verztec Consulting Pte Ltd. Our children went home with their instant photos in their beautiful masterpieces as a memento for the day. The Mosaic workshop was special because it was the first outing to be held at our very own Activity Centre at Kallang Leisure Park! With the successful run of the workshop, we look forward to many more fun-filled outings coming our way! This event would not have been possible without the dedicated team of volunteers, our partner and long-term supporter of our cause – Verztec Consulting.



Go-Kart Outing With Porsche Club

Our 35 children and youths got their hearts pumping as they rode in Porsche cars, courtesy of Porsche Club members, and had a valuable one-on-one time with their volunteers as they zoomed down the streets of Singapore. They then headed down to the track for an afternoon of Go-Karting.

The outing, organized by Porsche Club, aimed to motivate our children and youths that with the right amount of perseverance and hard work, they can reach for their dreams. Thank you Porsche Club, till we meet again!



Outing to S.E.A. Aquarium with Microsoft



The pufferfish 'suffers' what is akin to a heart attack each time it puffs up and the mudskipper is actually a fish—these were some of the things that the children learnt on the educational tour to S.E.A. Aquarium sponsored by Microsoft. In all, 36 children from our

Friends of Children programme participated in the event together with 27 volunteers from yet another CSR team from Microsoft. Through the outing, the children learnt more about marine life and were given a visual treat to the underwater world and vast array of sea creatures. The theme for the event was 'Life is a voyage, focus on the destination', where the children were encouraged to focus on where they want to get to in spite of the storms they might encounter in their lives.



Scaling New Heights with Nielsen Consulting

Nielsen Consulting partnered with Life Community for a fun-filled time of rock-climbing. The 50 children and youths from Life Community were joined by 80 volunteers from Nielsen Consulting. The children and youths overcame their fears as they scaled the high walls. They learned to manage their expectations by assessing their own capabilities and the difficulty of the wall. As they climbed, they were determined to reach the top. In spite of their fatigue and dwindling strength, they endured the pain and persevered on. When they failed, they picked themselves up, re-energized and re-strategized before trying again. It was indeed an impactful and meaningful outing for the children and youths!



Johnson & Johnson 'Dream High' Trampoline Park Outing

'Dream High' was the theme of this March holiday's outing to the newly built AMPED, Trampoline Park at Jurong. Through the outing, we explored the children's dreams and encouraged them to have the confidence to work towards achieving them. We hoped to instill a positive attitude towards life and that "Dreaming High" is the first step towards a fulfilling life.

Our children got to interact with the staff from J&J, who took time out of their work to be with our children. Some of our children shared that interacting with the volunteers and making friends with them was what they enjoyed most during the outing.



Abandoned

Shane's father was incarcerated for illegal money lending. His mother left him in the care of his paternal grandmother and they are in the process of a divorce. Since his release, Shane's father has had a new girlfriend, and is planning to start a family with her. Shane's grandfather is currently incarcerated on drug-related offences.

8 year old Shane is living in a rental flat with his grandmother who works as a cleaner. She suffers from high-blood pressure and experiences pain in her legs and hands. Shane's grandmother is dependent on medication in order to continue working to provide for Shane. She is financially burdened with her health issues.

Shane and his grandmother rely on financial assistance to get by. Life Community provides food ration to alleviate some of the financial stress. Shane struggles emotionally. He misses his parents and wonders why they don't visit him. We are also working with Shane with issues of abandonment and the vulnerability of losing his grandmother. Work with Shane is a long journey. Life Community needs your support to continue to support Shane emotionally, educationally and socially as he matures and not 'abandon' Shane in his circumstances.



I want to help!

NOTE: It is important to state your NRIC/FIN number to receive a 2.5 times tax deduction.

Please fill in the form and send it to 5 Stadium Walk, Kallang Leisure Park, #04-04/07, Singapore 397693 OR fax it to 6387 3768.

Personal Particulars

Name (as in NRIC):

Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms/Mdm _____

NRIC/FIN No.: _____ Tel No.: (HP) _____ (O) _____ (H) _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Email: _____

I would like to:

A) Make a donation to the work in LCSS the amount of:

S\$100

S\$200

S\$500

**Monthly / Annually / One-time*

S\$1000

S\$ _____

Cheque No.: _____

Cheque payable to "Life Community Services Society"

This is a *personal/corporate donation

Company Name: _____ UEN No.: _____

AUTHORISATION FORM FOR CREDIT CARD PROCESSING

Name on Card: _____ Card Expiry Date: _____

Card No.: _____ - _____ - _____ Type of Card: *Visa / Master / Diners / AMEX

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Delete appropriately*

We will be sending you our regular updates. If you do not want to receive them, please tick the box.

Our Services



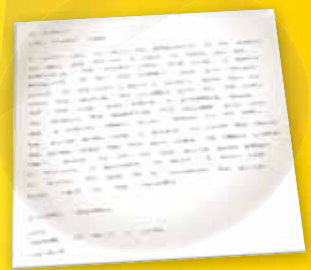
"I used to have low confidence in my studies because I've been failing. I was worried for my PSLE that I will not pass my Math as I have not passed for years. After aunty from Life Community introduced me a tutor in the 'I coach U' programme, I was able to pass my math test for the first time and I got interested in math again. During PSLE, aunty taught me how to use mind maps to revise my studies as I like to draw. I found it interesting, and I'm using it for my secondary school studies."
 ~ Andrew*, 12 years old



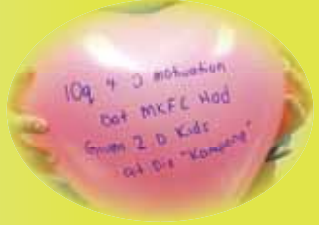
"Over the years, if LCSS didn't guide me, I would have gone astray like my sister did who also did wrong things last time. LCSS brought me for speech therapy every week when I was young. They also help me with my skin allergy."
 ~ Samantha*, 16 years old



"...I really appreciate all the support, love and patient given to my sons...
 ...I sincerely thank Sharon (Life Student Care Supervisor) for accepting my youngest son who is a special needs child. Thanks to April (teacher) for giving extra love and patient to Lucas. By taking extra step for my son when he needs support most...
 ...I also like to thank Ms Yayah as a counsellor for giving extra help to the children..."
 ~Lily, mother of two sons attending Life Student Care



"10q 4 D motivation Dat MKFC had given 2 D Kids at Dis 'Kampong'".
 ~ Ms Samantha, mother of Shasha



*Not their real names

Check out our Brand New Activity Centre!

Life Community Services Society has recently been given a new activity centre at Kallang Leisure Park! This new site has enabled Life Community to enhance its services to its clients. Children, youths and caregivers now have a place to come to for activities, interest groups, hang-out, counselling and trainings! The youths have been so excited with the enhancement of programmes and the facilities which cater to their needs. We are now able to provide our children and youths a safe environment to learn and grow as individuals while having fun!

Our corporate office operations have also relocated to the same place to be at the heart of all the hype and activity!

