

LifeComm

Issue No: 08/2012 • MICA(P) 047/01/2012

Life
Community
...to live and leave a legacy



Message from CEO

James Wong

Thank you for running this marathon with us

This being the last newsletter for the year, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you A Happy & Blessed Christmas and A New Year filled with joy, good health and great success.

Life Community is grateful for your valuable partnership. Through your generous donations and precious time invested to shower love and care to our clients, many lives are being touched. Examples of some "breakthroughs" include:

- Families reconciled after the release of the incarcerated parent resulting in a more loving and secured home for the children
- A child's simple joy of having food on the table
- A child showing interest in his studies

There are, however, many who are still in need of help under our 4 core services, namely, Friends of Children and Youth, Life Student Care and MightyKids, Families and Community.

The life of Sam* (Right) who was physically and sexually abused, and others under our care, compel us to run this marathon with them and their caregivers. We earnestly seek your support to raise \$400,000 for this fiscal year. Your donation goes towards funding the various initiatives – food rations, bursary, financial assistance, counselling, 'I Coach U', care and intervention programmes. Please give generously to enable us to bring love and hope to the 950 clients we are serving of different races & religious backgrounds.

Once again on behalf of the board, management and staff, we wish to express our grateful thanks for all your past, present and future contributions. Above all we thank God for His favour, faithfulness and grace in seeing us through the last 16 years. God Bless.

MUM DEAD, FATHER JAILED, CHILD ABUSED

Sam* is 8 years old. His mother died when he was very young and his father is in prison for drug consumption. His grandmother worked all day, clearing tables at a food centre and Sam was left to fend for himself. At age 7, he was molested by a stranger he had met while waiting for his grandmother at the food centre.

As a result, Mdm Jun*, Sam's grandmother, put Sam in the care of a babysitter. She soon discovered marks on his body and realised that he was being physically abused by his babysitter. Eventually, Mdm Jun had to find someone else to care for her grandson.

LCSS brought Sam to make a police report on the sexual abuse. Sam and his grandmother were also provided food ration, financial assistance and emotional support. Volunteer befrienders were recruited to support Sam academically as well as emotionally.

In 2012, Mdm Jun was diagnosed with a heart condition and was told that she had little chance of survival if left untreated. The surgery had life-threatening implications. Mdm Jun became anxious and shared this concern with our staff.

LCSS decided to get her a second opinion. This time, a very experienced heart surgeon comforted her and shared with her a more realistic view of the risks involved in the surgery. Comforted, Mdm Jun successfully underwent her heart surgery and is now resting at home, in their one-room rental flat.

We hope to improve their standard of living by cleaning up their flat, providing Sam with a study table and a bed and putting him under our 'I Coach U' programme. LCSS staff continues to visit and monitor Sam and Mdm Jun.

*Not their real names

Partnerships

Have a Community Service Responsibility to fulfill? Why not partner with us?! Here are some snapshots of the organizations, institutions and companies that have partnered us! Contact us for volunteering opportunities for 2013!

"I feel so happy... I feel so loved."



*Molding my dreams with my hands. Thank you **Verztec** for helping me create my ambition.*

'I must say last Saturday was awesome (and a very fulfilling day) for many of us! The kids are very lovable and we enjoyed the interaction session with them a lot'
~ **Nicholas Goh**, CEO, Verztec Consulting

'...a pleasant and unforgettable weekend'
~ **Cindy Chew**, Marketing Executive, Verztec Consulting



Deutsche Bank staff together with 100 Friends of Children's (FOC) kids got up close and personal with some feathered friends! It was an awesome time of fun and learning to kick start the June holidays!



*Who knew hand-made ice-cream was so easy to make and so delicious!! **Seagate** took children from Life Student Care – Hougang and Happy Meridians to experience ice-cream making. The children were overjoyed with the opportunity to make and indulge in their very own ice-cream!*



A wonderful day of learning and water play thrilled the children from MightyKids, Families and Community (MKFC)! The **Girls' Brigade** showed the children that learning at the Science Centre can be very fun!

Our Services

Life Community aims to reach out to the community to empower children and families through care and mentoring. Here are what some beneficiaries have to say as we endeavour to fulfil this mission.



To provide care and support for children (7-13 years old) with parent/s presently/formerly incarcerated.



"I like to show you Natasha's progress card. She had improvement in her maths n English subject. I'm so grateful n like to thanks to you for all your support n helping hand for me n Natasha all these while. May only God bless you with his mercy for your kindness. Thank you."*

~ **Mdm Nur***, grandmother and sole breadwinner.

To befriend and mentor youth (12-19 years old) with parent/s presently/formerly incarcerated.

"Thank you very much for all the help for me and my daughter for so many years. My family has our rental home now and is ok. Please say thank you to everyone for me."

~ **Mdm Soh***, caregiver in the programme for 5 years.



To reach out to primary school children in the community (regardless of race, language or religion) by rendering affordable quality student care services and focusing on the total development of the child in a safe and congenial "home" environment.

*You are the water,
We are the seeds
We been watered by you,
We Grow
As we continue our journey
To an adult plant.*

~ **JT***, 9, a poem for his teacher



*"Please help me convey my heartfelt thanks to **Mrs Alison Tan** for her care and guidance she has given to my son. I am aware that he still has problems in his social interactions within the centre and will try to guide him along and emphasize the importance of team building to him. I appreciate the patience of **Mrs Tan** and all the other care givers at LSC when they deal with him and sincerely thank you for all your efforts. I look forward to work together with you to improve my son's social behaviour, academic development and character building. Thank you."*

~ **Mrs Chin***, An appreciation email from a parent.



To affirm each child and motivate him/her to Lead Intentional Fruitful Empowered life. We work with latchkey children living in the Telok Blangah vicinity

"The parenting talk was very helpful for me. It was good! I enjoyed it and learnt a lot."

~ **Mr Koh***, father of 2 kids living in the community.





I want to help!

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

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:

**Monthly / Annually / One-time*

☐ S\$100 ☐ S\$200 ☐ S\$500 ☐ S\$1000 ☐ S\$ _____

Cheque No.: _____ ☐ This is a personal donation
Cheque payable to "Life Community Services Society"

☐ This is a corporate donation

Company Name: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

UEN No.: _____

B) Know more about LCSS through a presentation.

☐ **Yes**

C) As an organisation, take the children for educational field trips/outings.

☐ **Yes**

D) Know how to include Life Community Services Society in my will.

☐ **Yes**

AUTHORISATION FORM FOR CREDIT CARD PROCESSING

Name on Card: _____ Card Expiry Date: _____

Card No.: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Type of Card: *Visa / Master / Diners / AMEX

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Our Vision –
Outreach to the community

Our Mission –
**To empower children and families through
care and mentoring**



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LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES SOCIETY

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LIFE Stories

Reuben Siew, a caseworker with Life Community - Friends of Children programme, has worked tirelessly for over 4 years. His journey with us has not been without sacrifices and challenges. Reuben, together with the team, has worked beyond the call of duty, through weekends to meet the needs of clients. He shares more about his journey with us.

Why Join? - Introduce love and hope to children and families through the programmes and activities is what attracted me to join LCSS.

Greatest Reward - Observing a child's progressive response to the love and hope they receive through our programme and activities.

Your Motivation - I am humbled to be one of the persons to plant a seed of love & hope in the child's life. That keeps me going in this job.

Biggest Challenge - The biggest challenge would be to identify and work through the root issue of each child.

Most Memorable Client - A 14 year old client who had no interest to engage with me and was involved in crimes. Despite this, I persevered to maintain the relationship with him. Once, he ran away from Singapore Boys Home and fell sick. He called me for help. He then decided to turn himself in to the Home together with me. I realized that the caseworker-client relationship is an important element that needs to be established to pursue a positive change in our clients' lives.

Reuben has just mentioned one of the many lives that LCSS encounters. Below are two more lives LCSS continues to reach out to and impact with your support.



BAD, BETTER, BEST

Alexander* joined our Life Student Care (LSC) Centre last year when he was in P1. He was involved in a number of fights in the centre. To help him, our staff taught him the proper social skills needed to interact with other children and also appropriate and useful actions to express himself. Collaboration between the parents, in-house counsellor and the staff also played a part. After 8 months, there has been significant change in his behaviour. He is now showing more self-control and with reminders from teachers and his parents to approach teachers for help, he has been involved in fewer fights. We believe that he will continue to improve with the partnership among the caregivers.



Broken Dreams?



My name is Raudah* and I am 12 years old this year. While my friends are studying in their nice homes and nervous about their PSLE, I cannot concentrate on my studies because of what is happening at home. I have been kicked out by my father a few times. My mother and brothers had to wander around for a whole day before they can come back home. I just realized what my father was really doing when he said that he was "smoking". I saw a picture of a white powder and lighter on my teacher's health education PowerPoint slide a few weeks ago that looks the same as what my father does. I can't study at home because my father's friends come over at any time, sometimes at night too, and the house will be full of smoke when they're here. It is hard for me to think about my future because of what is happening now. I want to do well in my exams and **to be a doctor next time, but I don't know how.**

*Not their real names

thank you FOR your donations