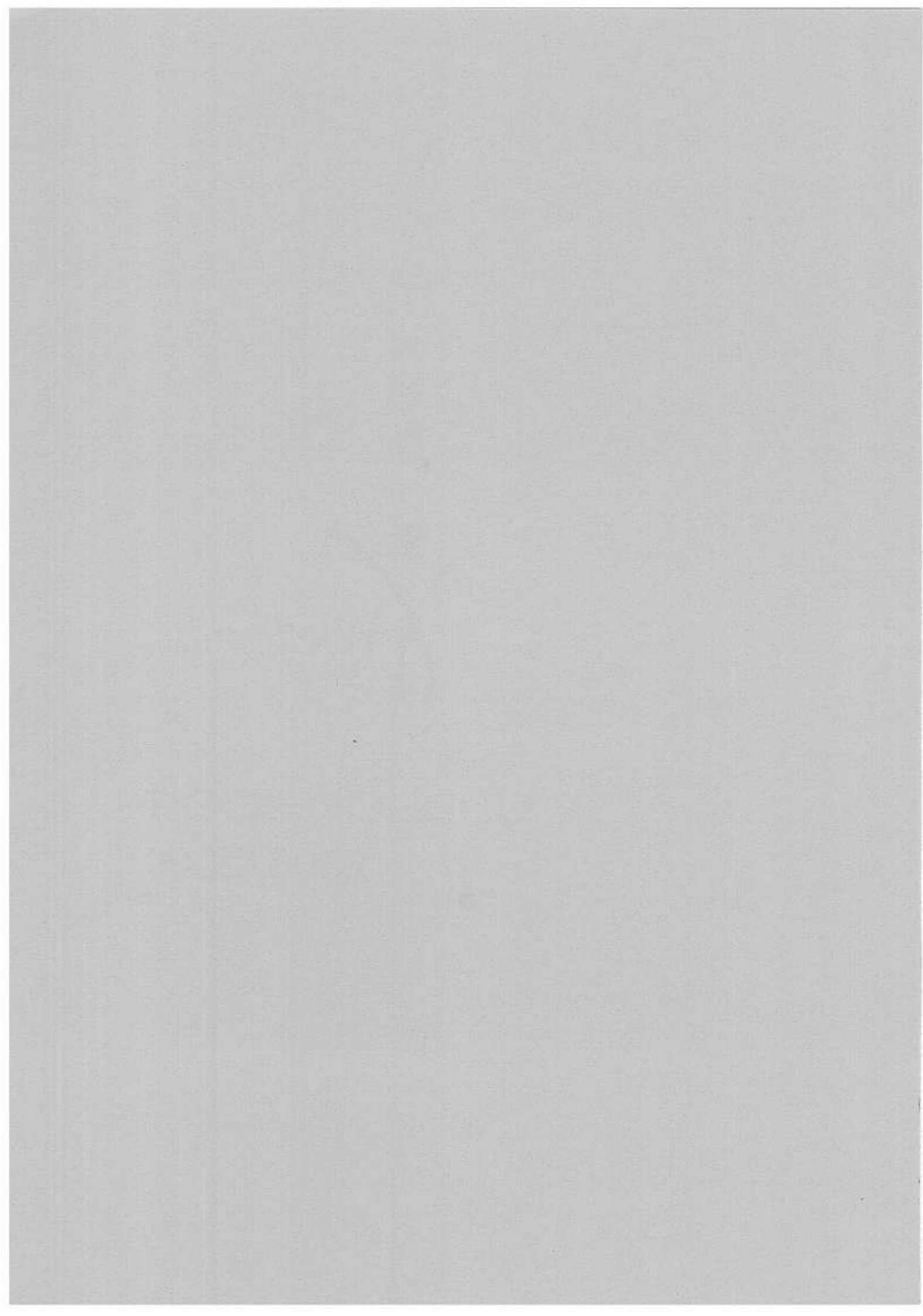




annual report
2008/2009



from the executive director

Woodlands Social Centre continued in her efforts to extend a helping hand to assist the poor and needy in our community throughout 2008. We are seeing an increasing number of these families knocking on our doors. We offered them both practical assistance in the form of food rations, short term cash assistance and free tuition for their children, as well as counseled them on their other family related issues. We hope that families through our assistance and encouragement will be able achieve self reliance over time. With the current economic crisis, we see the need to gear ourselves up to face the challenging task of meeting the needs of more families caught in the economic storm.

Looking back over the last ten years, our Evangel Kindergarten has done well, based on the high demand for places from Pre-nursery to Kindergarten 2 levels. Besides the daily delivery of the curriculum, the Kindergarten continued to introduce enrichment programmes and activities to stimulate the inquisitive young minds of our children.

Our two Evangel Student Care Centres also continued to draw good response from parents who trusted our service by placing their children with us during their working hours. Our goal is to provide holistic quality service to the children so that parents feel assured of our care and support given to their children.

During the year, the Management looked into compliance to the Code of Governance established by the Charity Council. We also printed our new publicity brochures with our new logo.

Concerted efforts on the part of the Management Board, staff members, volunteers and donors were crucial for the effective delivery of our programmes and services throughout 2008. I thank God for each and every one of them for their support and contribution in many different ways that have made 2008 another fulfilling year for Woodlands Social Centre.

The demand for our services in the year indicates that they are still relevant in meeting the different needs in the community. We will continue to run them and will also review to see what else we can do. By God's grace we will strive to uphold our vision to be a caring and responsive social service provider.

Mrs Evelyn Chong
Executive Director

Mission Statement

Woodlands Social Centre
exists to provide integrated
social and educational services
to meet the needs of residents
and strengthen families
in the Woodlands Community
to the Glory of God.

Vision Statement

A caring and responsive
social service provider,
touching and enhancing
individual and family life in
Woodlands and beyond.



Woodlands Social Centre Profile

Woodlands Social Centre was established as a Society on 28 September 1999 and registered as a Charity on 17 April 2002.

Unique Entity Number (UEN)	:	S99SS0135G
Charity Registration Number	:	001561
IPC Registration Number	:	IPC000131
Registered Address	:	1 Woodlands St 83 Singapore 738488
Bankers	:	DBS Bank Ltd Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited
Auditor	:	Tan Ai Ming & Co. Certified Public Accountants, Singapore
Statement of Accounts :		The audited statement of accounts for the financial year ended 28 February 2009 is attached.
Governance Checklist : Compliance Level	:	WSC has complied with all the applicable guidelines of the Code of Governance for IPCs. (Full checklist is available at www.charities.gov.sg)

Management Board

The following members were elected to the Management Board for the 2007/2009 term of office.

Chairman	:	Rev Dr Kenny Fam
Vice-Chairman	:	Rev Edward Chau
Secretary	:	Mr Ling Lek Suan
Treasurer	:	Ms Phyllis Chong
Asst Treasurer	:	Dr Liu Te Chih
Member	:	Mr Raymond Wong
Member	:	Mr Cheong Mun Sang (resigned in May 2008)
Member	:	Mr Mathew Pereira (co-opted in May 2008)
Member	:	Ms Liu Oi Choo
Member	:	Mrs Felicia Tan
Member	:	Ms Chang Yok Siom

Staff

Executive Director : Evelyn Chong
Principal, EK : Alice Chan
Supervisor, ESCC (W)/ : Spencer Tan
Administration Manager
Supervisor, ESCC (C) : Anna Xiao
Social Worker : Wong Yoke Yee
Programme Coordinator : Puspparani Kannan
Administrator : Irene Ng

Evangel Kindergarten : Sharon Chai
Teachers : Moira Siow
Sherlyn Ong
Jesxeca Khoe
Diana Tok
Ng Keng Lang
Stella Lim
Tan Bee Bee
Angeline Tan
Phyllis Goh
(wef 27 Aug 08)
Geraldine Quek
(wef 28 April 08)

Teacher Assistants : Josephine Tay
(till 17 Feb 09)
Doreen Tay
Yau Hwee Ling
(wef 23 Jun 08)

ESCC (Woodlands) : Chia Geok Hin
Teachers : Eileen Ong
Mark Tan

ESCC (Canberra) : Amelia Au
Teachers : Josephine Ho
Terence Huang
(till 02 April 08)
Geraldine Pae
(wef 12 Aug 08)

Cooks/Assistants : Chew Cheng Ten
Chin Ahi Tin
Ho Meng Phang
Loh Choon Eng
(till 31 Jan 09)
To Lee Kwee
Toh Suan Chew
(wef 02 Feb 09)

EVANGEL KINDERGARTEN



Evangel Kindergarten provides a holistic Christ-centered educational environment for every child's learning and development.

Student Enrolment

Level	Number of Classes		Average Monthly Enrolment	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Pre Nursery	2	2	24	25
Nursery	4	4	80	79
KI	4	4	80	83
KII	4	4	79	87
TOTAL	16	16	263	274

Children's Outings

Term	Date	Venue
2008 Term 1	4 & 5 March 08	Watch a puppetry show at Victoria Theatre
2008 Term 2	15 & 16 May 08	Green Valley Organic Farm
2008 Term 3	21 & 22 Aug 08	Singapore Zoological Garden
2008 Term 4	8 Oct 08	Shopping Trip (K2 only)

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Enrichment Classes

The kindergarten organized a variety of enrichment classes for our children to participate in, after normal school hours. These classes include Speech & Drama, Creative Writing, Chinese Characters Made Fun, Art, Science and Mathematics. Parents were encouraged to sign their children up for these classes based on their child's interest.

During the year end holidays, special programme to prepare our K2 children for Primary One were conducted. It included lessons on English, Hanyu Pinyin and Mathematics.

Visit to Fuchun Primary School

Our K2 children were invited to Fuchun Primary School on 10 July 2008. The children had a wonderful time experiencing what primary school life would be like. The visit was planned to help the graduating cohort make a smoother transition into their primary school education.

Registration for 2009

Registration was opened to the public from 14 to 31 March 2008. The response was over-whelming and a balloting exercise was conducted on 12 April 2008 to allocate the limited Pre-Nursery and Kindergarten One places.

Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

The team from the National Myopia Prevention Programme was at Evangel Kindergarten over a period of four days to conduct screening for defective vision in the children of Kindergarten One and Two. The children were also educated on the importance of good eyesight and proper eye care. The objective of the programme was to prevent or delay the onset of myopia progression in children through good eye care habits.

Orientation Day

Parents were invited to attend the briefing session on the key policies and procedures of the Kindergarten on 8 November 2008, our Orientation Day. Booths were set up by the enrichment programme providers to provide information to parents about their programmes. The newly designed Kindergarten uniform and PE attire were also introduced to the parents on this day.

Meet-The- Parents' Sessions

Meet-The-Parents' session was held twice in 2008, during the second and the fourth terms. Teachers met with the parents to share and discuss each child's progress using the compiled portfolio of the child. This proved to be useful as parents were able to see a sample of their child's work. Photographs, checklists and documentation were also collated and shown to the parents. These two days proved to be an effective platform for communicating with the parents and strengthening the partnership between the Kindergarten and the parents.



Fire Drills

Fire drills were conducted in the Fourth Term. The aim was to better prepare the children and staff for a prompt evacuation in the event of a fire or emergency.

Total Defence Day

In conjunction with the Total Defence Day, officers from Woodlands Fire Station were invited to the Kindergarten on 13 February 2009. Children were taught about fire safety. The children were thrilled by the demonstration and participated eagerly during the question-and-answer session.

LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The Learning Support Programme provides early intervention and learning support services to children with various learning difficulties and disabilities. It helps children to learn and acquire skills at their own pace, to overcome their difficulties towards learning and to become more socially and academically independent learners. Through this support they are able to cope better academically in a mainstream school.

The teaching and learning activities were focused on academic and literacy development using a multi-sensory approach. Each child goes through a specially tailored programme conducted twice a week for one hour each session.

Number of students

Level	Number of students
Kindergarten Two	5
Primary One	3
Primary Two	2
Primary Three	1
Primary Four	3
Total	14

Our students at the primary level have made progress in their literacy skills. In addition two of our primary school students have graduated from the programme. We have also received positive feedback from parents and are glad to see that our programme has been able to benefit the children.



READING PROGRAMME

The Reading Programme:

- Targets children from low-income, non-English speaking families.
- Aims to build a strong foundation so that they will eventually read and write English well.
- Employs fun and experiential learning tools.
- Uses phonics to help children to read faster and better.

The programme focuses on developing vocabulary, grammar and reading skills. We also want to see children develop an interest in the English language and to use it confidently.

The reading programme was attended by 25 children, ranging from 5 to 9 years old. A half hour daily programme was extended to 13 ESCC P1 students while the remaining 12 children attended weekly one-to-one or small group sessions conducted by one staff and two volunteers.

EVANGEL STUDENT CARE CENTRES

Our two Evangel Student Care Centres aim to provide a cozy environment for children to enjoy going to. This is a daily care and guidance programme for primary school children who would otherwise go back to an empty home. We focus on instilling character and discipline in the children. We also focused on building good relationships with the parents.

Both our centres had full or close to full capacity throughout the year. Both centres continued to receive satisfactory service evaluation reports from both parents and children.

ENROLMENT

ESCC (Woodlands)

Average monthly enrolment in 2007;	58
No. of students served;	93
No. of students withdrew during the year;	25
No. of students received fee assistance;	25

ESCC (CANBERRA)

Average monthly enrolment in 2007;	60
No. of students served;	79
No. of students withdrew during the year;	22
No. of students received fee assistance;	07

Families who were on the MCYS fee assistance scheme received a further fee subsidy of \$20 from ESCC.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR IN REVIEW

During the mid and end of year school holidays special activities and outings were organized. Here are some highlights of the year.

AT ESCC (WOODLANDS)

Sembawang Park Picnic

Located at the edge of the northern coast, Sembawang Park is just a 10min bus ride away. Our students were delighted to visit the park again as they were treated to a special lunch and had great fun playing at the big open space.

Dragon Fruit Farm Visit

The dragon fruit is such an interesting looking fruit. Our students learnt about how the tree is grown, and the fruit harvested. They were also treated to a dragon fruit drink. Yummy!



Swim at Jurong East Swimming Complex

This is the first time that ESCC visited the Jurong East Swimming Complex. What was more exciting was that the facility had a bigger play structure at the children's pool, as compared to that at Woodlands Swimming Complex. The students had a splashing good time!

Singapore Science Centre Visit

Even though ESCC has been to the Singapore Science Centre several times before, the students were still able to learn new things. The Singapore Science Centre continually introduces new exhibits, making each of our visits an interesting one.

ESCC (CANBERRA)

Vegetable Farm Visit

The visit to Bollywood Veggies Farm helped our students to understand more about vegetable farming. In the process, we also hope that our students will be encouraged to consume more vegetables for a healthier diet.



Changi Airport Visit

Changi Airport is Southeast Asia's largest airport. This visit allowed our students to better appreciate the technology, systems and processes used for the smooth running of our airport.

Asian Civilisation Museum Visit

The visit to the Asian Civilisation Museum enabled our students to better appreciate Singapore's unique multiracial composition. This visit also exposed our students to the customs and practices of various people groups, such as those from China and Indonesia.

COMBINED ACTIVITIES

Newater Visitor Centre Visit

Our students visited the Newater Visitor Centre and were immersed in a world of water and technology. The visit provided much information as to how Singapore manages to meet her need for water, in a fun and entertaining way!

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Reading Programme

With the support of our Reading Programme, ESCC Woodlands is able to provide 13 new Primary 1 students with a daily half hour reading programme from January 2009. This is to equip the students with better reading skills. Students who do well will "graduate" from this programme and are not required to attend it further.

Tuition by Student Volunteers

ESCC Woodlands continued to enjoy the commitment of volunteers who came to coach the students at ESCC in their school work. The lives of these volunteers from Anderson Junior College were enriched as they contributed to the lives of the children at our centre.

Interactive Character Building Stories

"...There is no one watching. What should Mary do?"

This is just one of the possible ways a story is told so as to allow children the opportunity to decide how they would respond to the challenge. The story teller will then help children process their thoughts and lead them to making the appropriate choice, thus forming good character and habits.

Interaction & Sharing Time

During the daily interaction and sharing time, different students are given the opportunity to share their feelings and voice their thoughts to the teachers as well as their peers. These sessions not only helped the teachers and students understand each other better, but also sharpened their ability to express themselves.



family & welfare service

CASEWORK & WELFARE ASSISTANCE

During the year under review, WSC served a total of 93 needy families, referred through the church, friends of current clients, nearby family service centre and walk in. The profile of our clients is shown in the tables below.

Client Profile by Ethnicity.

Ethnicity	Percentages
Malays	52%
Chinese	35%
Indians	11%
Others	2%

Client Profile by Marital Status.

Marital Status	Percentages
Married	64%
Single	17%
Divorced	11%
Widowed	5%
Separated	3%

Of the families we served, 61 received practical help in the form of food ration and short term cash assistance. We also helped parents with their job search, and school going children were offered free tuition, transport and school allowances. All these measures helped to alleviate the financial strain that these families faced. Apart from rendering financial assistance, we also equipped parents with budgeting and job search skills, as well as helped them understand issues surrounding housing and children's education. Our practical assistance, coupled with encouragement, made it easier for these families to work towards self reliance.

WSC partnered Woodlands Evangelical Free Church (WEFC) in reaching out to the residents of Block 852 Woodlands St 83. This block comprises of one and two room rental flats and is located across the church. Many of the families have a household income of less than \$1,500 and have school going children or elderly to care for. Hence, we will continue to extend a helping hand to the residents there by providing practical assistance, especially in this unfavourable economic climate.

We are expecting more families and individuals to seek assistance from our Centre in 2009 due to the economic crisis. Between January and February 2009, we have already received 15 new referrals requesting for help. Even as the government laid out quick measures to help Singaporeans from various demographic groups, we have identified opportunities to fill in service gaps. We will be complementing national schemes by providing interim assistance for the needy and disadvantaged individuals and families.

COUNSELLING SERVICE

We served 32 cases with a total of 43 clients, through our face-to-face counseling service. Marital issues were the main concern of the majority of the cases, with a few others presenting with family related issues, interpersonal relationship issues and mental health concerns. As in previous years, 91% of the clients were Chinese, 70% of the cases were initiated by female clients, and 95% of the cases were self referred.

ANNUAL BURSARY AWARD



Through the Woodlands Social Centre (WSC) Bursary Award, we aim to provide financial assistance to students from low-income families to help them pay for school fees, uniform, stationery, transport and other school-related expenses. These students must also have satisfactory academic results before they were considered for the award.

WSC received 61 applications from 6 primary schools, 3 secondary schools and children of our casework clients. Most of the new applications came through schools, with the recommendation of their teachers.

About 12 volunteers did home visits to interview the applicants' families. A total of \$4,250 worth of Bursary awards was disbursed to 15 primary school students of \$150 each and 10 secondary school students of \$200 each.

The Bursary was awarded to the students at the "Christmas with the Community" event organized by Woodlands Evangelical Free Church.

TUITION PROGRAMME

WSC offered free weekly tuition to children from our needy cases to help them in their school work. This programme was very well received by our casework families. We had 64 students from Primary 1 to Secondary 5 on this programme in 2008. With determination and effort from both tutors and students, we are delighted that 20 students showed improvement in their studies.

The tuition programme was supported by 54 dedicated volunteers. These volunteers were from Anderson Junior College, National Junior College, Raffles Junior College, WEFC, WSC staff members and members of the public. We are thankful to all who gave their time weekly to befriend and coach the students.

Marriage Preparation Programme

The Centre continued to run this pre-marital programme titled "Building a Healthy Marriage" endorsed by the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports. More courting couples are seeing the need to attend such programmes before tying the knot

Between March 2008 and February 2009, 20 couples signed up and successfully completed this programme. Among the 40 participants, 95% were Chinese, 52.5% were 25 to 29 years old and 37.5% were 30 to 34 years old. Each couple attended three individual couple sessions held mainly on Saturdays to suit the couples' work schedules. Upon completion, each of them received a \$70 rebate from MCYS through the centre



In the course of facilitating couple's discussion on the topics covered, the Counsellor also addressed some of the concerns they were experiencing in their relationship. All the couples gave positive feedback on the programme which had met their expectations and goals to be more aware of and better prepared to face the many challenges they would encounter on their marital journey.

Staff Training & Development

We are committed to the continual professional development of our staff.

At Evangel Kindergarten, two teachers successfully completed the English Communication Skills Course accredited by MOE in June 2008. Six teachers attended a Music workshop "Together We Make Music" in November 2008. One teacher has attained her Diploma in Preschool Education - Leadership. Three other teachers have also attained the Advanced Diploma in Early Childhood Intervention (Special Needs) from Ngee Ann Polytechnic in February 2009. Currently five teachers are pursuing their Diploma in Early Childhood Teaching and another one at Leadership level. Our teachers are constantly bringing new ideas, new teaching methods and creativity into our classrooms.

At the Evangel Student Care Centres, two teachers completed the "Certificate in Children Services (Out of School Hours Programme)".

The LSP Programme Coordinator attended the "Certificate in Education Studies (Special Education)" course.

Other training workshops attended by staff include "Working with Children with Special Needs: Introduction to ADHD", "Cognitive Behavioural Therapy -Introduction", "Therapeutic Intervention: Working with Men in Extra-Marital Affairs", and "Food & Beverage Safety and Hygiene Policies and Procedures".

our grateful thanks

TO OUR DONORS AND SPONSORS

We would like to thank all our donors for their generous contribution towards our social service programmes.

To our faithful volunteers

Anderson Junior College	Leung Vivien
Ang Engracia	Lim Guang Rong
Cai Dong Chen	Lim Kenneth
Canlas Paolo Roberto	Ling Yoke Fong
Chen Jonathan	Liu Xin Cheng
Cheo Wei Sheng	Loh Eliza
Cheong Suzanne	Loh Renfred
Chng Lena	Loo Jolene
Chong Chee Yee	Low Angelina
Choy Chun Kong	Low Claire
Chua Vera	National Junior College
Eliathamby David	Ng Francis
Eliathamby Irene	Ng Jenny
Fam Abel	Pang Eleanor
Gao Ophelia	Per Cheng Hui
Chia Geok Hin	Pereira Natasha
Gwee Chia Hong	Pereira Theresa
Gwee Cindy	Phan Stephaine
Ho Hamiza	Phyllis Chong
Ho Hiang Kwee	Quah Caryn
Ho Luke	R. Avinassh
Hong Xinyi	R. Santosh
Hwa Chong Institution	Raffles Junior College
Irene Tan	Seah Jasper
Jason Lim	Yap Aik Seong
Kannan Puspparani	Teo Shun Bin
Khoe Yvonne	Soh Seng Gim
Lam Yoke Peng	Song Anna
Lee Clarence	Sullivan Mike
Lee Hern Ern	Sum Lai Fun
Lee Jia Yun	Tan Cedric
Leow Anthony	Tan Wee Theng

Tan Yan Chong

Tay Lucille

Tay Zoey

Teo Shun Li

Teoh Felicia

Toh Kai Sheng

Tong Jessica

Tsen Jia Chi

Voo Mimi

Wang Xiaoli

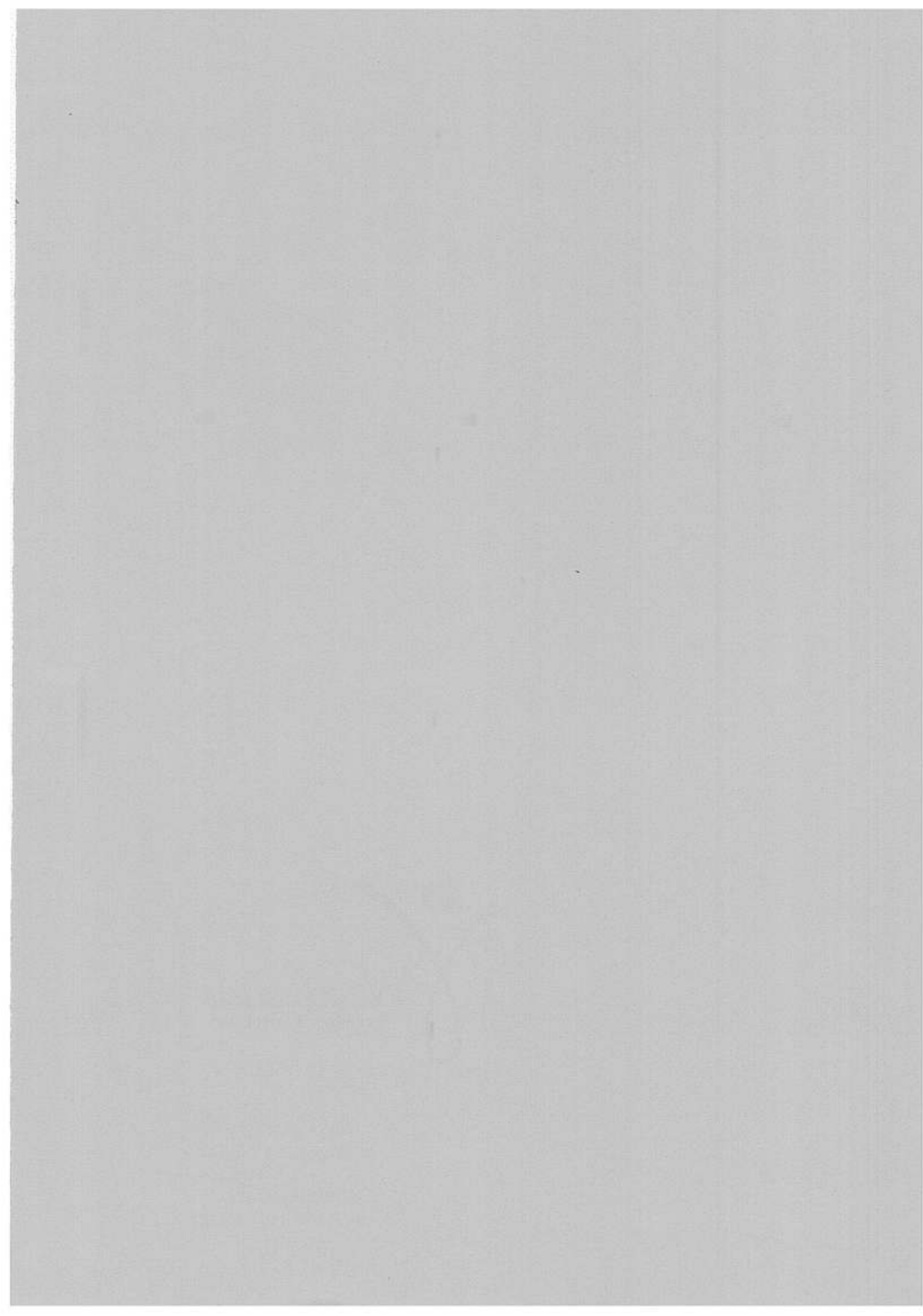
Yam Ethan

Yam Xinyi

Yang Fan

Yeo Mui Lin

Yong Lik Ing





1 woodlands st 83
singapore 738488
t. 6365 5234
e. info@wsc.org.sg
w. www.wsc.org.sg