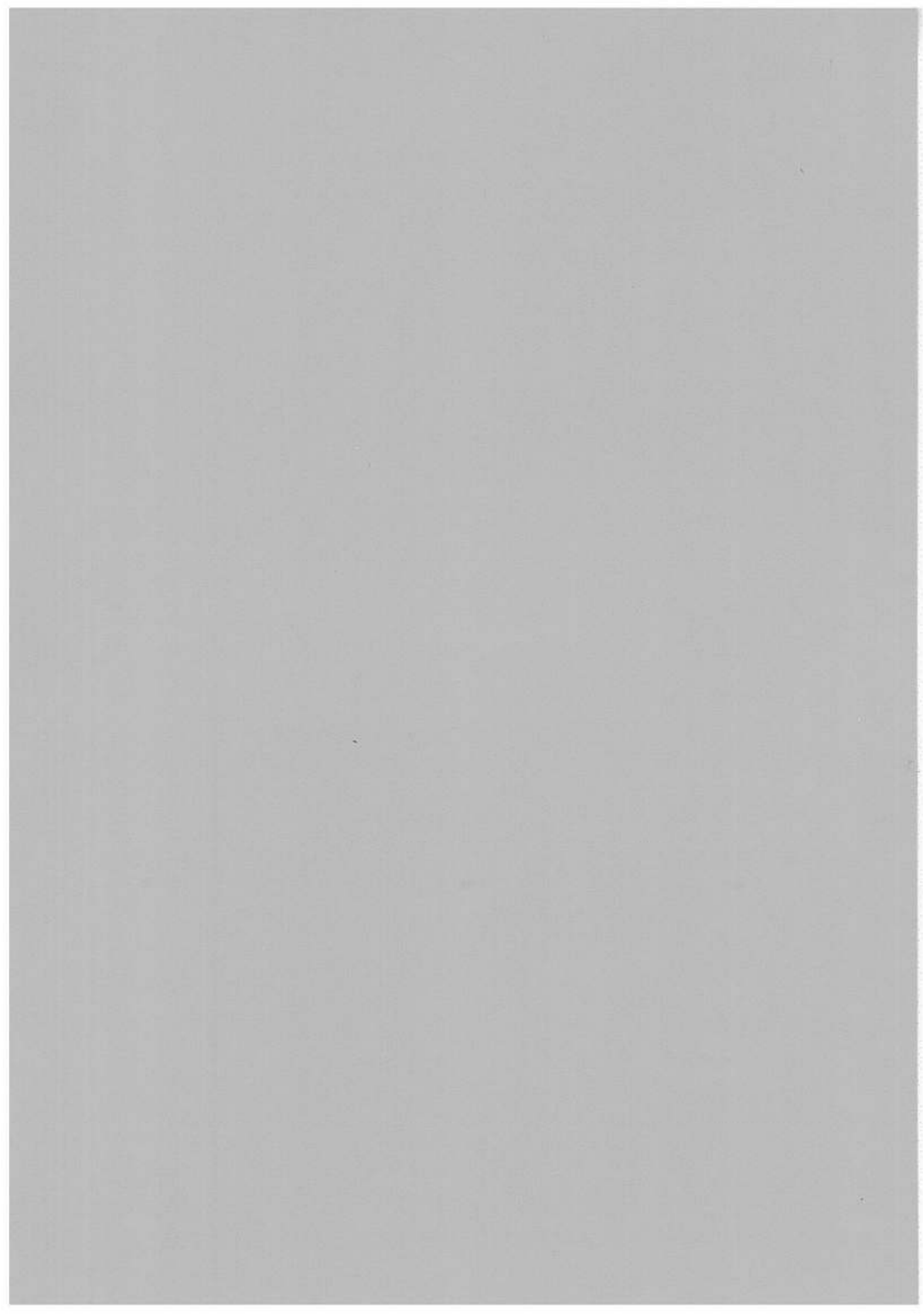




annual report
2009/2010



from the executive director

As in previous years, Woodlands Social Centre's priorities in 2009 continued to focus on children's academic and care services as well as helping families establish stability in their family situation and work towards more self reliance. We continued to run our academic programme in our Kindergarten and Learning Support Programme, care services through our Student Care Centres. The demand for these services tells of their relevance to meeting the needs of the community in Woodlands.

Practical assistance in the form of food parcels, short term cash assistance, free tuition for their children, as well as counselling on relationships and other family related issues were extended. We are happy to see some of the families breaking through their crisis and attaining some degree of stability and become more self reliant. For others who are still struggling with their hardships, we continued to hand hold them through the year.

This year has been very challenging for the kindergarten. She needed to find a suitable venue in Woodlands to temporary relocate to for up to two years as the church that the kindergarten is housed in will be undergoing reconstruction starting March 2010. After much searching, we finally managed, through the support and recommendation of our MP Ms Ellen Lee, to get HDB to permit us to build up the void deck space at Blk 801 Woodlands St 81 for the kindergarten's use. The second half of 2009 saw the development of Blk 801 void deck ready for the kindergarten's move in March 2010.

As for our two Evangel Student Care Centres, both did well in 2009, operating at full capacity. The staff focused on making the care service a pleasant one for the students and on strengthening relationships with both children and parents.

Woodlands Social Centre was able to deliver her programmes and services effectively throughout 2009 despite running on lean staff strength. I thank my colleagues for their contribution in making this possible. I also thank all our volunteers particularly the tutor volunteers for their tireless efforts coming week after week to coach our clients' children in their academic work.

We are thankful for another good year with adequate resources to operate our services and meet the needs of many. By God's grace we look ahead to continue with our mission and 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 2010 is attached. |

Management Board

The following members were elected to the Management Board for the 2009/2011 term of office on 24 May 2009.

| | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------|
| Chairman | : | Rev Dr Kenny Fam |
| Vice-Chairman | : | Rev Edward Chau |
| Secretary | : | Mr Ling Lek Suan |
| Treasurer | : | Ms Liu Oi Choo |
| Asst Treasurer | : | Mr Mathew Pereira |
| Member | : | Mr Raymond Wong |
| Member | : | Ms Phyllis Chong |
| Member | : | Mrs Felicia Tan |

Staff

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Executive Director | : | Evelyn Chong |
| Principal, EK | : | Alice Chan |
| Supervisor, ESCC (W)/ Administration Manager | : | Spencer Tan |
| Supervisor, ESCC (C) | : | Anna Xiao |
| Social Worker | : | Wong Yoke Yee |
| LSP Coordinator | : | Puspparani Kannan (PT) (till 31 Dec 09) |
| LSP Teacher | : | Bethany Wong (wef 2 Jan 10) |
| Social Work Assistant | : | Belinda Chua (7 Jan to 31 Mar 10) |
| Administrator | : | Irene Ng |

Evangel Kindergarten Teachers : Sharon Chai
 Moira Siow
 Sherlyn Ong
 (till 20 Nov 09)
 Jesxeca Khoe
 Diana Tok
 (till 10 July 09)
 Ng Keng Lang
 Stella Lim
 Tan Bee Bee
 Angeline Tan
 Phyllis Goh
 Geraldine Quek
 Lee Yen Ling
 (wef 9 July 09)
 Tina Ng
 (wef 28 Jan 10)

Teacher Assistants : Doreen Tay
 Yau Hwee Ling
 Esther Cheah
 (wef 23 Mar 09)

ESCC (Woodlands) Teachers : Eileen Ong
 Mark Tan
 Daniel Tan

ESCC (Canberra) Teachers : Amelia Au
 Josephine Ho (PT)
 Angeline Pae

Cooks/Assistants : Chew Cheng Ten
 Chin Ahi Tin
 Ho Meng Phang
 To Lee Kwee (PT)
 Toh Suan Chew

Our Services and Contact Details

Children, Family & Counseling Services : Blk 830, Woodlands St 83, #01-33
 Singapore 730830
 Tel: 6365 5234
 Email: info@wsc.org.sg
 Website: www.wsc.org.sg

Evangel Kindergarten : 1 Woodlands St 83
 Singapore 738488
 Tel: 6365 3071
 Email: ek@wsc.org.sg
 Website: www.wsc.org.sg

Evangel Student Care Centre (Woodlands) : Blk 830, Woodlands St 83, #01-33
Singapore 730830
Tel: 6365 0076
Email: escs@wsc.org.sg
Website: www.wsc.org.sg

Evangel Student Care Centre (Canberra) : Blk 503B, Canberra Link, #01-23
#01-33, Singapore 752503
Tel: 6853 5813
Email: escs@wsc.org.sg
Website: www.wsc.org.sg

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 | |
|-------------|-------------------|------|---------------------------|------|
| | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 |
| Pre Nursery | 2 | 2 | 25 | 26 |
| Nursery | 4 | 4 | 79 | 80 |
| KI | 4 | 4 | 83 | 80 |
| KII | 4 | 4 | 87 | 86 |
| TOTAL | 16 | 16 | 274 | 272 |

Children's Outings

| Term | Date | Venue |
|-------------|----------------|--|
| 2009 Term 2 | 20 & 12 May 09 | Duck Tour |
| 2009 Term 3 | 26 & 27 Aug 09 | Botanic Gardens |
| 2009 Term 4 | 2 & 3 Sept 09 | AVA (K2 only) |
| 2010 Term 1 | 10 & 11 Mar 10 | Watch Play "Bear and Chicken Get Ready for School" |

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR IN REVIEW

We Share

The Kindergarten Two children of Darul Makmur Mosque Kindergarten were invited to our Kindergarten on 11 March 2009. Being the host, our Kindergarten Two children interacted and treated our guests with hospitality. They prepared hand-made friendship wrist bands for our guests. There was a kite-making session for the children. They had an enjoyable time and we have met the objective of promoting inter-racial understanding and harmony among the children as well as fostering friendships.

Racial Harmony Day

Children and teachers dressed up in the traditional costumes of the different races of Singapore on Racial Harmony Day, 21 July 2009. The teachers explained the various costumes worn by the different races. Traditional kampong games like five stones, chapteh, paper ball, hopscotch and congkat were also introduced to the children. They had a great time playing these games. The children even learnt how to make traditional egg jam (kaya). It was both fun and meaningful learning more about the other races.





Meet-The- Parents' Sessions

Meet-The-Parents' sessions were held twice in 2009, in the second term on 28 & 29 May 2009 and in the fourth term on 12 & 13 Nov 2009. Teachers shared and discussed the academic progress of the children with their parents using the compiled portfolio. This was 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 sessions are effective platforms for communicating with the parents and strengthening the partnership between them and the Kindergarten.

To inculcate better toilet hygiene and etiquette in young children, Restroom Association of Singapore conducted the Happy Toilet Talk at the Kindergarten on 30 and 31 July 2009. It was an enriching experience for all participants. The children showed an increased awareness about their toilet manners and in keeping the toilets clean following the talk.

AVA

The children of the K2 classes made a trip to AVA (Agri-food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore) on 2 & 3 September 2009 to attend a talk on Responsible Pet Ownership. This was extension learning from the classroom. The children had the opportunity come close with some small common pets and they also learned basic knowledge of how to take care of them. Most importantly, the children learned that it is a life time commitment to adopt pets.

Graduation Concert

It was the last graduation concert held at the church premise on 20 November 2009 before the church reconstruction project starts. Children of all levels put up a spectacular performance. 90 K2 children proudly graduated and received their Kindergarten Certificates from our senior pastor, Reverend Kenny Fam. It was indeed a memorable event.

LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAMME



The Learning Support Programme (LSP) provided early intervention and learning support services to children with mild to moderate learning disabilities. Individualised learning goals were developed for each child and the one-to-one setting helped the children learn at their own pace to cope better in the mainstream schools.

The teaching and learning activities carried out in the year focused on the English Language and literacy skills coaching using a multi-sensory approach. Each child goes through one-hour sessions once or twice a week.

Number of students

| Level | Number of students |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Kindergarten One | 2 |
| Kindergarten Two | 4 |
| Primary One | 6 |
| Primary Two | 1 |
| Primary Three | 3 |
| Primary Four | 1 |
| Primary Five | 2 |
| Total | 20 |

Our students have made progress in their literacy skills. We have received positive feedback from parents and student care teacher of the students. We are glad to see that our programme has benefitted the children.

READING PROGRAMME

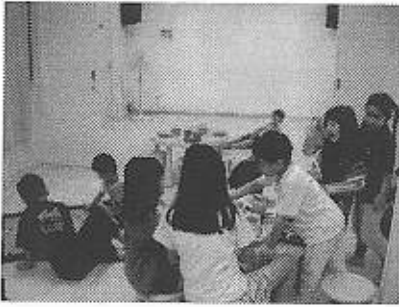
The Reading Programme:

- Targets children from low-income, non-English speaking home environment.
- Aims to build a strong foundation in English for children to eventually read and write well in that language.
- Employs fun and experiential learning tools.
- Uses phonics to help children to read faster and better.

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

The Reading Programme was attended by 14 children, ranging from 5 to 6 years old. They all attended weekly one-hour sessions.

EVANGEL STUDENT CARE CENTRES



Our two Evangel Student Care Centres aim to provide a cozy and harmonious 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 positive 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 2009: | 70 |
| No. of students served: | 99 |
| No. of students withdrew during the year: | 30 |
| No. of students received fee assistance: | 33 |

ESCC (CANBERRA)

| | |
|---|----|
| Average monthly enrolment in 2009: | 62 |
| No. of students served: | 86 |
| No. of students withdrew during the year: | 25 |
| No. of students received fee assistance: | 06 |

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 ground.

Swim at Jurong East and Yio Chu Kang Swimming Complex

The children had always enjoyed their visit to the Jurong East Swimming Complex. So, they went there during the June holidays. For a change, we went to Yio Chu Kang Swimming Complex during the year-end holidays. The children had a splashing good time as well!

Movie at Cathay Cineplex at Causeway Point

This is the first time that we organized a movie outing to the Cathay Cineplex at Causeway Point. The children were very excited and many participated in this activity. They had a good time watching 'Planet 51'.

Singapore Science Centre Visit

The Singapore Science Centre continually introduces new exhibits, making every of our visits an interesting one. The children continued to be amazed and entertained by what they saw and experienced at the Centre.

At ESCC (CANBERRA)

Chinese culture club & art and craft club

The Centre formed these clubs to promote knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the Chinese culture through games like Chinese chess, computer games and Chinese calligraphy. Participation in the club activities fosters teamwork, peer bonding and leadership qualities among the children.

Visit to Gardenia Factory

Our students benefited greatly from this outing. Besides learning about the process of how loaves of bread are made, the children also learnt the different uses of flour, the importance of protein intake and the importance of having a balanced diet.

Visit to Marina Barrage

There were so many things to see and do at the Marina Barrage. The children visited the pump house and the Solar Park. They had access to new things and had much fun during this tour.

Christmas & New Year Celebration Party and Prize giving

The children had such a fun time at these parties. Some of them took the opportunity to perform and show off their creative talents. Their self confidence and artistic talent were boosted in the process.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

Tuition by Student Volunteers

ESCC Woodlands continued to enjoy the commitment of volunteers who came to our Centre to coach the children 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 then helped the children process their thoughts and led them to making appropriate choices, thus forming good character and habits.



Food Ration Hamper packing

At ESCC Woodlands some of the students had been happily volunteering with our Social Worker to pack food ration hampers for families from disadvantaged backgrounds. These students would complete their school homework and pop over to the Welfare Service office to help out. We thank them for their enthusiasm.

Daily Interaction & Sharing Time

During the daily interaction and sharing time, students were given the opportunity to share their feelings and voice their thoughts and difficulties they encountered 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. Problem solving skills were imparted during such times.

counselling & welfare service

CASEWORK & WELFARE ASSISTANCE

2009 was another fruitful year for Woodlands Social Centre, with opportunity to serve a total of 99 families. The main issues presented included financial difficulties, children's academic problems and unemployment. Different kinds of assistance were offered according to the needs of the families. They were given in the form of food parcels, short term cash assistance, school allowances, transport allowances, tuition for school going children and counselling for their family related and emotional issues. 74 of these families received financial assistance to meet their daily needs.



The profile of our clients is shown in the tables below.

Client Profile by Ethnicity.

| Ethnicity | Percentages |
|-----------|-------------|
| Chinese | 48% |
| Malay | 40% |
| Indians | 10% |
| Others | 2% |

Client Profile by Marital Status.

| Marital Status | Percentages |
|----------------|-------------|
| Married | 70% |
| Single | 17% |
| Divorced | 7% |
| Widowed | 3% |
| Separated | 3% |

About 69% of our clients are married with children. 56% of them sought help for financial issues, while 18% for tuition and 15% for employment.

We continued to serve the residents staying in Woodlands, Marsiling and Admiralty. We have an increase of 18 new families from Blk 852 coming for help. This block of rental flats is located near to our Centre.

Although the economy is slowly picking up, our clients are still encountering difficulties because their circumstances of low education, lack of skill and ill health compounds their difficulty to break out of their poverty cycle. By extending our help, particularly in supporting their children to remain in school, we hope to give their children the opportunity to attain better livelihood in the future for themselves and their families.

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.

In 2009, WSC received 54 applications from 9 primary schools, 7 secondary schools and children of our casework clients. Most of the new applications came through the schools with the recommendation of their teachers.



Five volunteers made home visits to interview the applicants and their families. 12 primary school students received \$150 each while 28 secondary school students received \$200 each. A total of \$7,400 worth of bursary awards was given out.

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

TUITION PROGRAMME

Children from low income families get free tuition once a week from dedicated volunteers. This continues to be an important source of help for their academic work. We had 76 students from 50 needy families on tuition in 2009. 43 were in Primary level and 33 in Secondary level. Most of the students are very weak in their academic work and had been struggling badly at school. Our volunteers strived to boost these students' confidence and interest in their studies. Through the patient coaching by the tutors, and commitment from the students, we are glad to see that 16 of these students showed significant improvement in their exam results. Some were even asking for more tuition sessions for other subjects. What a joy to see that they have the desire to improve themselves!

59 dedicated volunteers formed the backbone of support for the tuition programme. Of these, 24 were from Woodlands Evangelical Free Church, 34 were students from 5 junior colleges (Anderson Junior College, National Junior College, Raffles Junior College, Anglo Chinese Junior College and Temasek Junior College) and 1 from our student care. Besides imparting knowledge, many tutors were able to influence and instill positive values to the students during the process of teaching them.

COUNSELLING SERVICE

We served 21 cases with a total of 30 clients, through our face-to-face counselling service. The concerns presented by our clients were mainly related to marital and other relational issues, mental health issues and emotional distress. 87 % of these clients were Chinese, 71% of the cases were initiated by female clients, and 100% of the cases were self referred.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION PROGRAMME



The Centre continued to run this pre-marital programme, "Building a Healthy Marriage" endorsed by the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports. More and more young courting couples are now open to signing up for such programmes to help them understand one another better and be better prepared before saying "I do".

15 couples successfully completed this programme between March 2009 and February 2010. Among the 30 participants, 93% were Chinese and 7% Indian. 70% of them were between 25 and 29 years old and 23% were between 30 and 39 years old. 80% of them had tertiary education. Each couple attended three individual couple sessions on Saturdays. Upon completion, each of them received a \$70 rebate from MCYS through the Centre

The programme created more awareness in the couples of the challenges they would encounter as they journey down the road of marriage. All the participants gave positive evaluation feedback on this programme which attended to any concerns they currently have of their relationships.

Staff Training & Development

At Evangel Kindergarten, 3 teachers successfully completed and attained their Diploma in Preschool Education – Teaching. All teaching staff of the Kindergarten and two Student Care Centres completed the "Child First Aid" course in June 2009.

The Learning Support Coordinator successfully completed the Certificate in Education Studies (Special Education) course in 2009.

Staff also attended other short training seminars and workshops throughout the year.

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, Selected JC1 Class leaders

Anna Song

Cedric Tan

Chan Zhi Ni

Chia Geok Hin

Ching Pu Fang

Choy Chun Kong

Chua Li Shun Melvyn

Cindy Gwee

David Eliathamby

Edmund Yeo

Ee loon Yew

Eleanor Pang

Eliza Loh

Ethan Yam

Hong Xinyi

Irene Eliathamby

Jean Pei Ying Serene

Jefferson Tan

Jolene Loo

Khoo Shu Hui Michelle

Koh Hui Wen Jaslin

Koh Hui Ying

Koh Kai Ling

Koh Su Min Vanessa

Kuo Jun Jun

Lee Wen Yun Nadia

Lee Ying Chyi

Leon Lee

Leong Yi Lin

Lim Guang Rong

Lim Kenneth

Lim Wei Qi

Lim Zi Ai
Luke Ho
Mi Mi Voo
Mike Sullivan
Natasha Pereira
Ng Xuan Kai
Ng Yun Qi
Niranjana Mahalingam
Oh Wei Xuan
Ophelia Gao
Phyllis Chong
R. Avinash
Ren Siqi
Saemah Bte Abdul Hamid
Siow Ting Zhi
Soo Hong Kit Danny
Stephaine Phan
Sum Lai Fun
Suzanne Cheong
Tan Jia Yi
Tan Qi Jing
Tay Jie Xin Joyce
Teng Yi Feng
Teo Shun Bin
Teo Shun Li
Toh Kai Sheng
Toh Kaili Tressa
Toh See Woon
Tony Yee
Tsen Jia Chi
Uma Sankgery d/o Pandyan
Wong Hui En Gracia
Wu Chao
Yang Fan
Yap Aik Seong
Yeo Mui Lin
Yeo Zheng Wei
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