

The Social Work Services Division

2.1 GENERAL REMARKS

Objectives

Stressing the principles of enabling the development of individual potential, promoting human dignity, respect and self-determination, Social Work Services Division ("the Division") provides its services through an ongoing process of awareness, participation and sharing. The services strive to bring about positive changes and development in personal behaviour, individual attitude, physical environment and social structures. The Division aims to promote a caring community grounded on truth, love, justice and freedom.

Highlights of the Year

Participatory Drama on “Love in the Service of Hope”

To celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Caritas – Hong Kong, a drama was performed by more than 20 service users of different age groups (from 6 to 80) at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts on 14 July 2013 with the theme “Love in the Service of Hope”. Around 130 service users including the elderly people were recruited as drummers and supporting actors / actresses. They collaborated with 600 participants from all services to make the participatory drama a success. All the service users enjoyed the performance and interaction.



Participatory Drama on “Love in the Service of Hope”



Elderly drummers

Fieldwork Placements and Mentorship Scheme

During the year, the Division provided fieldwork placement for 269 social work students from 7 local training institutes. Besides, a joint venture with Caritas Institute of Higher Education on fieldwork placement and mentorship scheme was offered to 159 and 241 of its students with 43 and 153 of Caritas social workers as trainers respectively.

Service Units and Staff Complement

The Division now operates 112 subvented service units and 16 non-subvented service units with a staff of 3,154, of which only core full-time staff is included, and among them, 47 are persons with disabilities.

New Services

Electronic Systems

Two new online systems, namely e-Staff Training System and e-Volunteer System, had been launched. The former provided an online platform for staff to access to staff development programme information and for data collection. Both the registration and the evaluation of training programmes can thus be conducted in a more systematic and effective manner. The latter aimed to promote volunteerism by online registration of both individual and corporate volunteers, as well as publicity of voluntary service information and stories of the volunteers.



e-Volunteer System was set up to promote volunteerism

Staff Development and Training

Training Programmes

With the Social Welfare Development Fund allocated by SWD, staff members attended 256 training programmes during the year, of which 22 were overseas study visits and 7 were leadership and management skills development programmes for mid-level staff. A total attendance of 3,386 was recorded. Besides, sponsorship was granted to 13 staff members to attend fieldwork placement and 2 staff members to attend nurse training programmes. These training strengthened staff's professional skills and broadened their horizon, thus contributing to improve service quality.

Staff Formation

The Employee Emotional Support Project continued this year. A total of 268 calls were received by the hotline for staff, of which 22 persons received face-to-face counselling service. Forty-nine workshops and two reflection days were organized to promote self-understanding, team building and positive thinking.

A cross-service Basketball Match and Staff Family Sports Day was organized in September 2013 for staff members and their families to promote the spirit of a relational and family-friendly organization.

Vote of Thanks

The Division expresses its heartfelt thanks to the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong for its Lenten Fund, and to donors who provided financial assistance to serve 41,669 needy people, in particular, the unemployed and under-employed families. Besides, grants were received from charitable trusts and foundations, government bureaux and departments, as well as corporations to subsidize Caritas service units to launch pioneering projects, to upgrade the facilities and to better serve more underprivileged people.

To thank the corporations and community organizations for their long term support, 67 strategic partners had been nominated by the Division to receive the logos of "Caring Company" and "Caring Organization" awarded by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service in 2013/2014.

2.2 FAMILY SERVICE

Objectives

The service objectives are to preserve and strengthen the family unit, by empowering individuals and their families as a whole, through different levels of professional intervention, and to improve the quality of family life. These are achieved through Family Casework Service, Clinical Psychology Service, Family Aide Service, School Social Work Service, Treatment and Rehabilitation Programme for Substance and Drug Abusers and other time-limited supporting projects, offered in the eight Integrated Family Service Centres, two club premises of Lok Heep Club, Wong Yiu Nam Centre, Family Crisis Support Centre and Addicted Gamblers Counselling Centre, located in major residential areas of Hong Kong.

Highlights and Achievements of the Year

Caritas Lok Heep Club – Say No to Drug Driving Project

The two-year project run by Caritas Lok Heep Club with a grant from the Beat Drugs Fund Association was concluded in August 2013. Mass publicity, personal education, prevention activities with the transport industry, as well as support to drug drivers were carried out. The project had been successful and achieved the targeted output with a decrease in the number of prosecuted drug driving cases. Caritas Lok Heep Club would continue its efforts to alleviate the drug driving problem though the project had been completed.



Publicity materials of “Say No to Drug Driving Project”

“Character First” and “Love Freely, Appreciate the Inner Self”

Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre - Tsuen Wan had organized two promotion campaigns with funding from Tsuen Wan District Council. Adopting the essence of positive psychology, the campaigns aimed to promote the building of character strength with the emphasis on moral education as the cornerstone of parenting and children development. The family core value of “appreciation and love” was promoted through various school-based education programmes as well as children and parenting groups in the community. The message was also highlighted in all the services provided for children and parents.



Parents actively participated in the “Character First” parenting course



The character strength of “Care and Love” was built up from childhood



Campaign of ‘Love Freely, Appreciate the Inner Self’ received positive feedback from the community

Genuine Care – Air-conditioners Donation Project

Alpha Appliances Limited (“AAL”) initiated to launch this charity project in collaboration with Caritas Family Service. In order to improve the living environment of the deprived families, a total of 130 air-conditioners were donated to those families receiving casework services from the eight Caritas Integrated Family Service Centres. The technical staff of the company volunteered to install the air-conditioners and the company provided cash subsidy for electric charges. The top management of AAL paid visits to some of the recipients and a tea party was organized at Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre – Tsuen Wan for the beneficiaries and representatives of AAL to interact and show mutual appreciation. The project was followed by staff donation from AAL. Food parcels were donated to the deprived families as Christmas gift.



▲ A warm gathering organized by Alpha Appliances Limited for the deprived families after the Air-conditioners Donation Project

Tsuen Wan / Kwai Tsing / Lantau District Programme

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Caritas - Hong Kong, Social Work Services units of Tsuen Wan / Kwai Tsing / Lantau District had jointly organized a cross-district programme to express Caritas appreciation to the stakeholders and partners. The event was held on 14 December 2013 and the programme included exhibition of winning entries in a drawing competition, game booths and performance by service users.



▲ Recognition ceremony for stakeholders cum services pilgrimage in celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Caritas

Early Screening and Intervention Project for Children with Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder Symptoms

The project was funded by Eu Yan Sang Charitable Foundation. It covered over 500 kindergartens in Hong Kong. Through a screening assessment procedure, 40 families with children with Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder symptoms were shortlisted for service. While parents attended the “Proactive Parenting Programme”, children received multi-media group training service backed by behaviour management strategies. The programme would be developed into a comprehensive package and disseminated to various service units to continue serving the needy families.



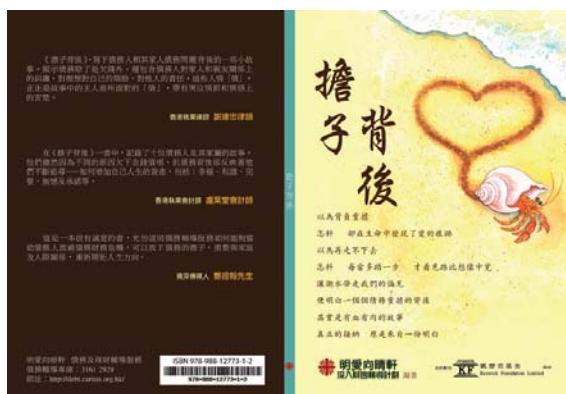
Effective behaviour management system in action



Collaboration skills trained through games

Intensive Counselling Project on Financial Difficulties

This was a three-year project sponsored by Keswick Foundation. It aimed at rendering professional counselling to help debtors rebuild family relationship and a healthy life. The project also provided a professional training to social workers on debt counselling. Upon completion of the project, a research report on “The Financial and Social Exclusion of Debtors and Bankrupts” and a “Professional Debt Counselling Manual” were published for reference by the professionals. A collection of debtors’ stories was also compiled for the general public.



A collection on debtors' stories

The first
“Professional Debt
Counselling Manual”
in Hong Kong



Research report on
“The Financial and
Social Exclusion of
Debtors and Bankrupts”

New Projects

Build Up Your (BUY) Career Project

To enrich the life of young people who received drug treatment at Caritas Wong Yiu Nam Centre, this three-year project was started in June 2013 and was supported by the Beat Drugs Fund Association. Employment orientation, job skills training, apprenticeships as well as counselling support were provided to the boys under treatment, in order to learn skills and build up their own career.



The trade skills taught in the project

Caritas School Support Service

Caritas School Support Service (“CSSS”) was set up in August 2013 in response to the call for professional support for students and families with special educational needs. The service was one of Agency’s concerted effort to integrate cross-service resources and trans-disciplinary expertise to provide evidence-based intervention services and projects to kindergartens, primary and secondary schools. During its first year of operation, students, parents, teachers and social workers from over a hundred schools had been served. A major development of CSSS was the Caritas Career Guidance and Counselling Project which would be formally launched in the summer of 2014.



► Motivation is key to learning behaviour



► Multisensory approach to help learning Chinese

► Team-building activity for a “gifted for charity” group

2.3 SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY

Objectives

Services for the Elderly (“the Service”) aims to provide community care and support services for the elderly aged 60 or above. It aims to help to maintain their general well-being and quality of life as well as to uphold their self-esteem and ability to live actively in the community. These are achieved through a comprehensive range of services which are centre services, residential care services, and in-home care services.

Highlights of the Year

Waste Disposal (Clinical Waste) (General) Regulation Exemption for Healthcare Outreach Services

The Environmental Protection Department granted the captioned exemption to the integrated home care services and enhanced home & community care services on 15 May 2013. The exemption would last for two years.

Foreign Domestic Helper Project

The Project aimed at building up positive relationship and mutual understanding between the elders and their domestic helpers, and thus enhance the quality care service. The feedback to this two-year Project was positive. Forty-six programmes and workshops were organized within two years with 294 foreign

domestic helpers and 531 carers participated in these activities. The Closing Ceremony cum Outstanding Foreign Domestic Helper Award Ceremony was held on 10 August 2013 with the participation of 150 elders and 35 foreign domestic helpers. The programme included an award presentation, photos taking plus photo frames making and games playing.



Domestic helpers were excited to get the awards recommended by their employers



Domestic helpers and the elders were performing together

Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly

Caritas Jockey Club Integrated Day Services Centre and Caritas Mutual Help Project (Day Care Centre) were approved by the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") as the service provider of "The Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly" for 40 voucher users and 24 voucher users in a month respectively. The service commenced in September 2013. Up till the end of March 2014, the former Centre received 43 voucher users in Sha Tin and the latter Centre received 9 voucher users in Sham Shui Po.



Training on eye-hand co-ordination



Walking exercise with aid of ceiling hoist

One-off Living Subsidy for Low Income Households

The captioned programme was rolled out on 2 December 2013, aiming to relieve the financial pressure on low income households neither living in public housing nor receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance. One District Elderly Centre and seven Elderly Centres of the Service assisted in implementing the programme for elderly applicants living alone. Works included verifying the eligibility, checking the supporting documents submitted for each applicant, and conducting visits and income tests on selected applicants. Up till the end of March 2014, a total of 21 applications were received. This project was supported by The Community Care Fund.

Awards Achieved

Smart Elderly Award Project

The Project was organized by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer and the Hong Kong Society for the Aged which aimed to encourage the elders to use the government website, social media website and e-Transaction. A total of 121 service users from 10 service units joined the project, 53 got the Gold Award, 25 the Silver Award, 43 the Bronze Award and 2 members were awarded the Gold Diamond Award at the Award Ceremony on 12 April 2013.

Outstanding Third Age Citizens Award

Two members of Caritas District Elderly Centre – Yuen Long were awarded the Outstanding Third Age Citizens Award on 26 April 2013. This award was jointly organized by The Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd. and the Hong Kong Council of Social Services to recognize the contribution of the Third Age Citizens in promotion of lifelong learning among peers.

Outstanding Staff at Elderly Services Award Ceremony

A home care worker from Caritas Integrated Home Care Service – Diamond Hill and a cook from Caritas Fung Wong Fung Ting Home got the Outstanding Award for Frontline Staff Group organized by the Elderly Service Association of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Employment Development Service Limited on 12 September 2013.



Mr Cheung Siu Kwong and Ms Lau Sau Fung received the Outstanding Award for Frontline Staff Group



Awardees of the Outstanding Third Age Citizens Award

2.4 REHABILITATION SERVICE

Objectives

The objectives of Rehabilitation Service (“the Service”) are to provide comprehensive and effective rehabilitation training programmes, sheltered work, vocational guidance, residential care, social and recreational programmes for disabled young children and adults with intellectual or mental disabilities. These programmes endeavour to develop their potentials and capabilities and to enhance their personal growth for more self-reliance and for fuller participation in community life. Supportive services are offered to parents, carers and family members of people with disabilities in order to strengthen mutual support among themselves for actualization of individual potential and empowerment of family functioning.

Highlights of the Year

30th Anniversary of Caritas Lok Hing Child Care Centre

In celebration of the 30th Anniversary of Caritas Lok Hing Child Care Centre, a ceremony cum Open Day was held on 21 December 2013 involving all trainees, training staff, parents and community partners. The performance of the children during the occasion had won great applause of the guests.



Disabled children were playing Djembe to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Caritas Lok Hing Child Care Centre

Professional Support Services for Children with Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder

Two public seminars were held to share the Project team's effort and experience in supporting children with Attention Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder ("AD / HD") and their parents. The practical guide book on supporting children with AD / HD was published and delivered to parents, teachers and other professionals who are working for children with AD / HD. The number of enquiries increased significantly after these public education programmes.



Practical guide book on supporting children with AD / HD

Collaboration with Community Partners

Love and Care Action 2014

"Rotary Day Service Programme", sponsored by Rotary Club of Hong Kong City North Community Service Fund Limited, was organized for the residents of Caritas Lok King Hostel on 23 February 2014. A team of more than 20 club members and their families visited the service users with severe mental and physical handicap. All of them were filled with joy and laughter through different group activities such as playing eco-percussion and making fortune pockets.



Happy together



Involvement of younger generation in service

Promoting Employment of People with Disabilities

In collaboration with the Junior Chamber International Tai Ping Shan, a programme named “Love and Dream Bird – Bus Parade” was organized. More than 70 corporations had been awarded for their support and contribution in employing persons with disabilities. As at 31 March 2014, 26 people with disabilities had been employed by the Service.



▲ Award to corporations which employed people with disabilities



Caring for the Deprived Families in the Community

A series of programmes for the deprived families at Tsuen Kwai Tsing District were held in collaboration with the CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (“CLP”). Over 300 deprived children and their parents were benefited. Besides, home assistance scheme including electrical rewiring works were provided for the families in need. More than 300 staff from CLP participated as volunteers and social integration was achieved.



▲ Caritas Hong Kong and CLP collaborated together in serving deprived families

Addressing the Needs of Seniors with Intellectual Disabilities

Special Seminar

With the support of the Social Welfare Development Fund, the “Local and Overseas Seminar cum Sharing for the Project for Persons with Intellectual Disability in the Time of Ageing” was organized on 25 October 2013. Local and overseas scholars and professionals from Taiwan and Macau shared experience on existing practices and service models to support seniors with intellectual disabilities. Over 200 rehabilitation personnel and carers participated and found the seminar very informative.



▼ The guest speakers and officiating guests joined to take a photo



▼ Sharing of overseas speakers

Renovation Works at Caritas Lok Hang Workshop and Caritas Lok Chung Hostel

With the funding support from the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, Caritas Lok Hang Workshop and Caritas Lok Chung Hostel carried out a renovation project to improve its physical environment in response to the special needs of its ageing service users. The works had been started in June 2013 and would be completed in December 2014. Upon project completion, Caritas Lok Chung Hostel would expand its serving capacity from 50 to 71 places.

“Life Education” Programme

A farming land at Tuen Mun was leased to service users from different rehabilitation units to experience a natural way of life through farming activities and appreciation of the beauty of nature. Farming activities matched perfectly with the training programmes on “Life Education” which was specially designed for the service users to understand the life cycle of “beings”.



▼ Team effort of setting trellis guests



▼ Harvesting activity

Furthermore, the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries granted a subsidy to Caritas Lok Fung Day Activity Centre to implement the programme “樂活人生路 – 智障人士生死教育計劃” in October 2013. Horticulture therapy was adopted to facilitate service users to understand the essence of life through various planting activities and community services.



Service users were fertilizing the plant

Awards Achieved

23rd Outstanding Social Workers Award

The Social Work Supervisor of Caritas Wellness Link - Tsuen Wan had won the “Outstanding Social Workers Award” organized by Hong Kong Social Workers Association. The award denoted the recognition in promoting mental health service in Hong Kong.



Mr Stephen Wong received the Outstanding Social Workers Award

Let Them Shine Floral Competition

Service users of Caritas Joyous Link, Caritas Lok Him Day Activity Centre and Caritas Jockey Club Lai King Rehabilitation Centre participated in the “Let Them Shine Floral Competition” held by the Social Welfare Department in September 2013. Four of them won the gold medals, silver medal and certificate of merit. Their artworks were exhibited in the Hong Kong Central Library to enhance the public awareness on the art talent of persons with disabilities.



A moment of joy in receiving the gold medal



Another awarded artwork

2.5 CHILD CARE SERVICE

Objectives

With an aim at cultivating the full development of children without discrimination as to their abilities and social background, Child Care Service provides educational and caring service for children aged two to six including families with single parent, working parents and mildly disabled children.

Highlights of the Year

Nurturing the Caring Culture and Enhancing Moral Education for Young Children

With an aim at cultivating children to live with love and especially to concern the elderly and the needy in the community, the nursery schools organized a series of activities, including visits to elderly centres, interviews with grandparents and parent-child drama performance etc. A campaign with the theme “Love and Harmony, Starting from Me!” was organized during the Children Month 2013.



Visit to elderly centre



Parent-child drama performance



Children demonstrated exercises to their grandparents



Children with their grandparents

Fostering Positive Parenting and Strengthening Family Relationships

With the Home-School Co-operation Grants in the amount of \$260,886 supported by the Committee on Home-School Co-operation, Education Bureau, various home-school cooperation programmes and joint school projects were organized. During the period, a campaign on “Love and Hope – Building a Caring Community” was launched.



Home visit by children



Parent-child Games Day

Collaborative Programmes with Stationing School Social Service

To enhance the experience of serving the community and to enrich the daily life experience of children, the nursery schools collaborated with the school social workers of Caritas Jockey Club Integrated Service for Young People – Tak Tin and Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre - Fanling to arrange various programmes for both children and their families.

Programmes organized by school social workers



Shared Reading Campaign by secondary students



Children Group - Dancing Therapy



A parent-child volunteer class



Parent volunteers performed on Mother's Day

Staff Development and Training

Professional Development for Teachers

To strengthen the professional capacity for teachers, a series of workshops and training course on English learning for young children, religious education, musical movement in pre-school were organized by the Service. Good practices was shared among teaching teams.



Workshop on English learning for young children



Musical Movement Workshop

Service Development Day for Teachers

The Service Development Day was held on 20 April 2013 with the theme “A Better Family, A Better Society – the Sustainability of a Relational Organization with Care and Love”. A sharing session on “We are together” conducted by some junior and senior teachers had inspired constructive group discussion. Staff members were encouraged to make reflection on Service’s core values and team spirit for pursuing innovation and mutual support.

Departmental Evaluation Meeting for Principals 2014

The Departmental Evaluation Meeting with the theme “Crises, Caress, Advancement and Spirituality, Caritas - Hong Kong into the Relational Future” was held on 25 March 2014 and 26 March 2014. Resolutions for service development were consolidated with emphases on (1) strengthening working with families; (2) enhancing learning and teaching for children; (3) fostering competency of staff; (4) constructing strategic succession plan and (5) building strong partnerships with stakeholders.

2.6 YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Objectives

Youth and Community Service ("YCS") aims to promote integral human development of young people and communities through the process of understanding, concern, participation and co-responsibility. The development process encourages a sense of individual and communal responsibility for the promotion of mutual care and social integration.

Highlights of the Year

Project PC Needy Reboot

The "Project PC Needy Reboot" was co-organized by Caritas Computer Workshop and RoadShow. It aimed to promote the computer recycling project through multi-media platforms that were sponsored by RoadShow. Famous artistes were engaged to appeal to the public for donation of used computers. Encouraging responses were received especially from corporations and business organizations. The programme also enabled people to know that the target beneficiaries of the project had been extended to elders, kindergarten students and the deprived families.



▼ The "Project PC Needy Reboot" was officially launched on 21 December 2013

Services for Ethnic Minorities

Various projects and programmes were developed to support the ethnic minorities. One of them was "The Star Making Project for Ethnic Minorities" which assisted ethnic

minorities to learn Chinese. Participants would therefore increase their employability, integration and capacity of making contribution to the society in future.



▼ "The Star Making Project for Ethnic Minorities" was co-organized by Caritas Community Centre – Kowloon, Kowloon Chamber of Commerce and Kowloon City District, Hong Kong Police Force with the assistance of curriculum development expert

Another effective programme “Hong Kong for All: Vision 2020” was co-organized with the Equal Opportunities Commission in celebration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 16 March 2014. Through the programme, the public was encouraged to envision racial inclusion in Hong Kong.



▼ Youth of ethnic minorities submitted their vision to Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet Ngor, Chief Secretary for Administration, HKSAR

Cultural Sensitivity Training had become well known in the promotion of racial acceptance and racial harmony. Cultural differences and difficulties of ethnic minorities were brought out through experiential programmes. It facilitated absorption of the ethnic minority perspectives into the public service mainstream.



▼ The participants were experiencing language barrier through playing Urdu code game

Mental Health Service

The social workers had experimentally applied horticulture therapy in mental health service, a group of young people in Tuen Mun with early psychosis, depression and emotion disturbance

were served. Jockey Club Early Psychosis Project continued to provide community group service for caregivers, the group members learnt to understand with empathy the feeling and needs of their family members with mental illness.



▼ Creative planting of pitaya seed in horticulture therapy group



▼ Mutual help group for caregivers

Supportive Services for Young Mothers

“Friendly Mothers Programme” was rendered by Project Hyacinth and attracted about 20 matured and enthusiastic women to join. After completion of the training, they became “friendly mothers” and help other young mothers to develop in the aspects they deemed appropriate.



▼ Mentor-mentee programme

Vocational skills training was effective for nurturing the ability of self-reliance among young mothers. With reference to the interest and propensity of young mothers, different types of training programmes were organized, such as make-up, manicure care and beautification, job hunting skills and wedding cake art design and decoration.

Some young mothers took part in the Hong Kong Bakery Expo 2013 as Cake Artist



▼ The showpiece, "My Family" - revealed the importance of family support for young mothers



▼ The showpiece, "Dragon & Phoenix" - revealed the talent of young mothers in art through complex traditional decoration



▼ Make-up class

7th "Step Up" Street Dance Junior Campaign

A total of 34 teams and 216 young people recruited from the youth service units joined the competition. The champion team of Advanced Level was nominated to enter in the Metro Street Dance Competition in Taiwan. A book was published to consolidate the participants' experiences and achievements. The book also transmitted positive and encouraging messages to the public.



▼ A group photo of participants and guests



▼ Jazz dancing on stage



▼ A collection of the participants' sharing

New Projects

Child Development Fund Project

YCS had solicited a grant from the Labour and Welfare Bureau and a donation from Hung Hing Ying and Leung Hau Ling Charitable Foundation to implement the “Love in the Path of Hope – Child Development Fund Project”. The project provided service for 115 children from low income families in Hong Kong Island and Cheung Chau and 109 mentors were recruited for mentorship programme. The participating children were enthusiastic over the opportunities provided for them to develop their potentials and to actualize their wishes and goals.

Meal for Grassroots

“Meal for Grassroots” became a regular community service programme. It aimed at extending the network of low income families, enhancing their community participation and encouraging concerns on the livelihood of low income families so as to reduce relational poverty in the community. Parishioners of Our Lady of the Rosary Church participated in “Come Dine with Us” organized by Caritas Mok Cheung Sui Kun Community Centre. They prepared meal and shared life experiences with the grassroots from the Western District. Caritas Community Centre - Ngau Tau Kok also mobilized many corporate partners, donors, sponsors, parishioners and volunteers to contribute their strength and ability in the programme.



Parishioners prepared delicious meal



Government officials and representative of Hung Hing Ying and Leung Hau Ling Charitable Foundation officiated in the Opening cum Oath-taking Ceremony.



Along the meal, parishioners and participants shared life experiences with each other



Participants and parishioners played ice breaking game happily



Group photo of participants and parishioners

2.7 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

Objectives

Community Development Service (“CDS”) aims at the formation of genuine human communities through a constant process of awareness, participation and sharing.

Highlights of the Year

Organizing Work for Low Income Families

In view of the financial burden of low income labourers and their families, CDS collaborated with Food Angel to provide hot meals to those in need in Sham Shui Po and Eastern District (Hong Kong Island). Caritas Labour Development Project also organized monthly talks to introduce community resources for low income labourers and provided assistance for them to submit application to the Work Incentive Transport Subsidy Scheme.



Volunteers delivered and distributed meal boxes to the needy



A talk introducing community resources was conducted by Caritas Labour Development Project

Concerns on the Housing Conditions of Grassroots Families

CDS assisted their service users to respond to the public consultation launched by the Long Term Housing Strategy Steering Committee (“Committee”). Concern groups were organized in Hung Shui Kiu and Lung Yeuk Tau for tenants of the subdivided units in squatter areas. Members of the concern groups advocated the use of idle government lands for building prefabrication components for transient housing for the families who are waiting for allocation of public housing flats. They held press conferences and wrote to the Committee to express their opinions.



The Housing Concern Group held a press conference to arouse concerns for the hardship of tenants of the subdivided units

Two household surveys targeting the families living in subdivided units in Sham Shui Po District had been conducted. It was found that nearly 40% of the households spent over 30% of their family income on rental expenses. Besides, fire safety measures for over 70% of the residential buildings were below standard.



- Press conference releasing findings of the survey on subdivided units was held on 28 November 2013

Organizing Work for Women

Women groups were formed by Caritas Women Development Project. With active involvement of group members, women's mutual help was greatly enhanced. Women were able to discuss about the gender issues such as the views of women as care takers. Alliance of women groups was formed to consolidate their views towards the role of care taker borne by women. A press conference was held on the International Women Day on 8 March 2014 to express their views.



- Member representatives shared women's stress and feeling at the press conference.



- Women members from different community development projects joined a celebration programme to share the experiences of being "good women" and gave mutual support to each other

Organizing Work for Fishermen

The fishermen formed committees for Cheung Chau Sai Wan Cultural Village and participated in organizing fishery culture tour for the public since 2011. Number of service users had accumulated to 21 organizations and 701 participants. Apart from that, the social workers of Caritas Cheung Chau Sai Wan Community Development Project collaborated with the committees to organize a one-day exhibition on "Fishermen's Wisdom" for the public in October 2013. It illustrated how fishermen had developed their wisdom of living in the life-threatening conditions in the past.



- The exhibition on "Fishermen's Wisdom"

Organizing Work for Single Parent Families

Sponsored by Women Helping Women Hong Kong Limited, a Project “Women Helping Women in Support of Single Mothers 2014: A Collaboration with Caritas – Hong Kong” was implemented. It aimed at providing diversified services for single mothers to learn more new skills and connecting them to build up a mutual aid network in the community.



▼ The earth friendly home cleansing training sponsored by Women Helping Women Hong Kong Limited

Organizing Work for Asian Migrant Workers

Women migrant workers from Southeast Asian countries were organized under Caritas Asian Migrant Workers Social Service Project to form various mutual support groups aimed at developing a network for emotional support. Moreover, the social workers facilitated the cooperation among different women migrant

workers' groups to promote labour rights in Hong Kong and to strive for improving the unfavourable policies for foreign domestic helpers. Various supportive programmes were also launched, such as language programme, orientation programme, stress management course, health concern day and women's seminar.



▼ Seminar about self massage and menopause



▼ Health Concern Day



▼ Language programme for Asian migrant workers

2.8 OTHER SOCIAL WORK SERVICE

Caritas Hostel – Hunghom

The Hostel provides temporary accommodation for male aged 18 or above who are in desperate housing needs or in crisis such as street sleepers, discharged prisoners and ex-drug addicts to tide-over the critical period before they could secure a stable and long-term living.

The capacity of the Hostel is 50. During the period, services were provided for 159 people and the occupancy rate was 71%.

Caritas Jockey Club Hostel – Choi Wan

The Hostel provides short-term accommodation for needy female individuals and families in crisis who have immediate housing needs. The serving capacity is 36. During the period, the occupancy rate was about 89% and 67 women were served.

Caritas Pui Tak Centre

The Centre provides round-the-clock residential care service for girls aged 16 to 21 with behavioural, emotional and family problems. The serving capacity is 28. The occupancy rate of the year was about 97% and the total number of girls served was 39.

Caritas Pelletier Hall

The Hall provides residential care service for adolescent girls aged 13 to 18 who have behavioural and / or emotional problems, and who may be under the influence of undesirable peers and thus require a period of group-living experience away from their families. Service capacity of the unit is 110 residential placements divided into 5 living groups. During the year, a total of 156 girls received our service and the average placement occupancy rate was 82%.

Cooperation with Caritas Youth & Community Service

During the year, some Creative Art Therapeutic Groups were organized in cooperation with Caritas Charrette Centre, which helped students to gain insights of life through experience of creativity.



Students participated actively in group activities

5th Anniversary of “Happy Home”

The “Happy Home” Project celebrated its 5th Anniversary in 2014. The 4th Junior Happy Coach Training Course was held on 6 April 2013 with 40 students and staff members attended. Training courses would continue to be organized for students and staff to promote a happy life.



Participants learning health promotion exercise



Graduation Ceremony of the 4th Junior Happy Coach Training Course

Appendix: Grants

Grants received by Social Work Services Division from charitable trusts and foundations, government bureaux and departments are appended below:

- ▼ Apple Daily Charitable Foundation
- ▼ Beat Drugs Fund Association
- ▼ Board of Management of The Chinese Permanent Cemeteries, The
- ▼ BOCHK Charitable Foundation
- ▼ Catholic Women's League, The
- ▼ Cheung Hing Wah Charitable Foundation
- ▼ Community Care Fund
- ▼ Community Chest of Hong Kong, The
- ▼ Constitutional & Mainland Affairs Bureau
- ▼ District Councils of 18 Districts
- ▼ Education Bureau
- ▼ Environment & Conservation Fund
- ▼ Environmental Protection Department
- ▼ Equal Opportunities Commission
- ▼ Estate Management Advisory Committee
- ▼ Eu Yan Seng Charitable Foundation Company Limited
- ▼ Fu Tak lam Foundation Limited
- ▼ Home Affairs Bureau
- ▼ Home Affairs Department
- ▼ Hong Kong Council of Social Service, The
- ▼ Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, The
- ▼ Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, The

- ▼ Hung Hing Ying and Leung Hau Ling Charitable Foundation, The
- ▼ Johnson & Johnson HK Ltd. &
Johnson & Johnson Asia Pacific Contributions Fund
- ▼ Keswick Foundation Limited
- ▼ Labour & Welfare Bureau
- ▼ Lee Hysan Foundation
- ▼ Li Ka Shing Foundation Limited
- ▼ Li Po Chun Charitable Trust Fund
- ▼ Lotteries Fund, The
- ▼ Mindset Limited
- ▼ Porticus Asia Limited
- ▼ Quality Education Fund
- ▼ Queen Elizabeth Foundation for The Mentally Handicapped
- ▼ School Fundings
- ▼ S.K. Yee Medical Foundation
- ▼ Simon K.Y. Lee Children's Fund
- ▼ Sir David Trench Fund for Recreation
- ▼ Social Welfare Department
- ▼ Standard Chartered Hong Kong 150th Anniversary Community Foundation
- ▼ Stiftung Auxilium
- ▼ Swire Properties Limited
- ▼ Women Helping Women Hong Kong Limited