A biannual publication of
Presbyterian Community Services

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蔓枝 Branches

"I am the Vine, you are the branches"

AWARD WINNING TCCA PROJECT

The Teacher Childcare Aide (TCCA) training project is an initiative of Presbyterian Community Services (PCS) - Grace Orchard School (GOS). The TCCA project has gained national recognition too!!! This special collaborative project started in 2017 and won the MOE-NCSS Innovation Award 2018.

The project was started with the idea of providing a safe and conducive environment for the female GOS students to do their internship. It was later expanded into a full training programme so that the graduating students have a new employment pathway in the early childhood sector. Suitable students were recruited into the pilot to be placed and trained in our childcare centres.

These images are AR-enabled

Assisting class teachers during lesson

The TCCA project is not just another training, but a person-centred approach to teaching and learning specially designed for young adults with intellectual disability.

The abilities, learning and teaching style of all the stakeholders are considered (assessed) and incorporated into the training to ensure that there is ongoing learning for students from GOS as well as the other stakeholders. The desired outcome is that the students who have completed the training will be gainfully employed by a childcare centre. We hope to eventually increase the intake and open more employment opportunities for all graduates from special schools.

PCS获得教育部与国家福利理事会2018创新奖。这是一个通过多元培训方式让有特殊需要人士在工作场所接受培训的试验计划。

我们希望通过与恩园特殊学校合作的这项计划，栽培有潜能的青年成为保育员。他们将可以受聘与我们的学前教育中心，回馈社会。

During modular training

REVEAL

This publication contains AR-enabled images. To view the contents, please follow the steps:

1. Download the HP Reveal app from GET IT ON Google Play / Download on the App Store
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Long Service Award...Faithful Servants

Principal Ms Wendy Ang (back row, third from right)

"Itsy bitsy spider went up the water spout..." Ms Wendy Ang, 31, office administrative clerk and part time tutor, hummed along as she passed by Grow and Glow Jurong West. Every week, she would pass by the centre, on the way to her tutee's home in the same HDB block. "How nice if I were to be working here," she always dreamed. The dream soon became a reality when she saw a notice of recruitment outside the centre. Driven by her interest, she went in to enquire. The salary offered was $280 per month, half the amount of her pay check as the office clerk. "I think with some extra cash from my tuition, it should suffice." She considered and made the not-so-difficult decision. That marked the beginning of her 30 years long commitment to early childhood education.

Now a Principal Mentor, Ms Wendy Ang's pure passion in teaching continues to flow from nurturing the young minds to sharing her skills and knowledge with her staff. Being a 'feeling' person, she cares about the feelings of others, mentoring her staff in a soft manner. She often set an example and show by doing. While she thinks of herself as "naggy", others think of her as someone with high standards and who is very detailed. She will always encourage her staff to go for further training to stay relevant in the sector. Coincidentally, her centre has one of the most number of Long Service Staff!

In everything she does, Ms Wendy Ang puts in her heart and soul, and her best foot forward.

Jovially, she said, "my youth has been given to PCS." Another proud moment which left her leaping for joy at the MRT station was the minute she received the great news of receiving the Sparks Accreditation - the first centre in PCS to lead the way.

If she has a word to sum up the 30 years, it is 'blessed'. It is the encouragement from her colleagues and supervisors, the very good help from people around, and everyone working as a team that spurs her on. At 62 now, she hopes to continue to contribute in different ways, and perhaps, even consider venturing into the eldercare services.

Ms Kannigadevi Narayanasamy, 58, joined Presbyterian Community Services (PCS) in 1988. A proud mother of three beautiful girls, she made a career switch after working as an investment officer three decades ago. If there is just one word to describe the journey, it would be "blessings".

Her years of experience in the sector has made her name almost synonymous with 'special needs'. She was drawn to working with children with special needs when she was studying abroad. Upon completing her training in psychology and special needs education, she was asked how she could contribute to PCS.

Back then, programmes that cater to children with special needs were limited. After much thought, she proposed to the management to start the first integrated childcare programme in Singapore.

The journey was tough and there were many challenges to be surmounted. There was limited support and recognition for special needs then.

Over the years, she has gone through ups and downs in championing for the special needs sector. If asked to say something to encourage the younger generation, she would say ***"Never give up, water the project as it takes time to blossom."***

Currently, she is playing the role of special needs mentor as well as looking into building the capability of the organization through training and innovation.

Be An Active 'Green' Ager

Mr Chua Che Ba, aged 65, is one of our active agers. He is a retiree and was previously working as a taxi driver. Mr Chua's grandchild attends our Pasir Ris 21 pre-school centre and he lives close by.

When he heard that the pre-school was going to start a community garden, he volunteered himself immediately. Mr Chua grew up in a kampong and hence was no stranger to the cultivation of crops and growing of plants. He prides himself to be a gardening hobbyist and has always been keen to experiment with new things.

As a volunteer gardener, he has grown many different types of plants at the centre, including wintermelons, roselles, ladies's finger, papaya trees, dragon fruit, and the list goes on.

He hopes that through the community garden that he has helped to grow, the children will have the opportunity to learn more about plants and develop an interest in gardening. He also believes that it will help to instill a sense of responsibility as the children are given a firsthand experience at caring for the plants themselves.

"Thank You Mr Chua!"

Our little Eden@PR 21 centre

PRESBYTERIAN Community Services

Inspiring tomorrow's community today

Flag Day 2019

Volunteer Recruitment 6 July 2019

AM Shift : 9am-1pm
PM Shift : 1pm-5pm
Full Shift : 9am-5pm

For volunteering/sponsorships/partnership enquiries, please contact Tristan at tristan@pcs.org.sg or call 63344445 ext 109

Register as our Flag Day Ambassador at: https://goo.gl/W77KRL

Scan me

Still Can Make It...

还是有希望

We got to know Zac's (pseudo name) family when he joined the Literacy Programme at Providence Care Centre in May 2018. Zac was 5. We found out that due to the family's financial situation, he has not attended any pre-school. He was supposed to start primary one the following year.

Zac is holding a Long Term Visit Pass while his parents and sister are Permanent Residents. He is neither eligible for any subsidy nor financial assistance. The family depends on the meagre income of the mother. The father has been unwell and requires medical treatment.

From our interaction with him, we knew that he would very much like to go to school, so arrangements were quickly made to enrol Zac into our Jurong West childcare centre in September. With the strong support from our teachers and staff, Zac was able to adjust and adapt to the new environment quickly. We also referred the family to the Social Service Office for financial assistance. In the interim, we helped the family with their basic necessities under our Emergency Relief Scheme.

Zac showed great learning potential in his short stint in the childcare centre and enjoyed greatly in his role during the kindergarten graduation concert. He even managed to secure a place in a primary school.

Your kind donation can help families like Zac's tide through a difficult time!

Zac今年五岁. 他和姐姐,父母住在一间租的三房式组屋. 由于家里的经济状况紧张,他一直都没有上过幼儿园. 他明年本该开始念小一但父母还没有为他报名. 他们一家四口单靠母亲微薄的收入过日子. 父亲因为患病需要回印度治疗.

为了帮助Zac, 我们安排他去我们的峪廊西幼儿教育中心。在老师的细心教导下，Zac渐渐适应新环境。同时，我们也给予短期经济上的援助，帮助他们的基本日常所需。

Zac终于在我们的帮助下毕业也顺利进入小学. 这都是因为你们的慷慨解囊!

Thank you for your care & support ...

I wish to donate $ _____ to the Presbyterian Community Services

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PRESBYTERIAN Community Services

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根据新加坡<<个人信息保护法>>我在此允许长老会社区服务收集我的个人资料信息用于开发收据,邮寄信件及募捐活动信息等. 若想取消许可,请制电邮到 dpo@pcs.org.sg

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Handiwork

hands that create love

Handiwork is a volunteer-managed social enterprise (VMSE) initiative of Presbyterian Community Services. The seniors who participate gain a sense of self-esteem and belonging. They meet weekly at our Seniors Activity Centres to make gifts and crafts for all occasions and seasons.

Check out https://www.facebook.com/handiworkpcs/ to find out more. For enquiries, please email handiworkpcs@gmail.com or call 63344445 ext 109.

Visit our website at www.pcs.org.sg or facebook page www.facebook.com/PCSInspire

PCS Social Work and Counseling Services provides early detection and intervention support to individual and families. Our services include:

- Emergency relief scheme
- Gerontological social work and counselling
- Premarital and marital assessment and counseling
- Caregiver/parent support

For enquiries or talk to our social workers, please call 63344445.

Sharing love through our services...

Thank you for your generosity

♦ **Our Seniors Activity Centres (SACs)** purpose is to reach out in partnership with the community to engage and support the frail seniors to age-in-place for as long as possible. We currently run five centres:

- **Sarah SAC @ 105 Jalan Bukit Merah**
- **Evergreen Circle SAC @ Tampines St 81**
- **Hannah SAC @ 21 Toh Yi Drive**
- **Martha SAC @ 364 Upp Serangoon Rd**
- **Esther SAC @ 61 Strathmore Ave**

♦ **Dorcas Home Care** 家居护理 assists the frail and vulnerable elderly in our community through meals delivery, escort for medical appointments, housekeeping and personal hygiene services.

♦ **Emergency Relief Scheme 紧急经济援助** provides short-term financial assistance to families and individuals in dire financial straits, e.g. sudden loss of sole breadwinner, illnesses etc.

♦ **Integrated Programme** aims to assist and develop children with special needs to their fullest potential.

For more information about our services, please visit www.pcs.org.sg

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PRESBYTERIAN Community Services
Inspiring tomorrow's community today

都是一家人...

完胜晚年生活
你可以信赖的朋友

曾先生和太太自愿成为社区友伴，为独居长者提供聆听之耳.

多数的青少年喜欢在闲暇时与朋友相聚，但年轻时的曾先生选择把时间和精力花在需要帮助的人身上。他从17岁开始积极参与各类志愿者工作到现在已经56岁了，从不间断。他回忆道："我从1980年开始从事志愿工作，为低收入家庭的孩子提供免费补习和举办活动。"

为老人服务的心

从事私人租车司机的曾先生接着说："2017年，我在教会招募志愿者的活动中了解到长老会社区服务（PCS)的社区友伴计划。"该计划为孤独长者提供支援网络，让友伴提供定期的陪伴和情感支持。

"我知道很多老人独自生活，在听了那些缺乏照顾的老人悲惨故事后，更想尽一己之力。"

他说服从事保险业的53岁妻子跟他一起担任社区友伴。

"令我感到欣慰的是太太毫不犹豫就答应了。"

耐心和热忱

育有三个20多岁孩子的曾先生夫妇俩很庆幸有灵活的工作时间，让他们可以在平时探访友伴，这时候的老人多数独自一人，正需要有人陪伴。夫妇俩目前有四位友伴，他们每个月都会打电话和家访两次。

其中一位受顾者是刚出院需要定期复诊的病患。还有一位是患有老年痴呆症的陈先生，自从摔倒后他就无法正常行走。

曾先生在2017年9月和友伴协调员一起拜访陈先生夫妇。

曾先生回忆说："那是我们第一次，也是非常不愉快的探访，因为陈先生以为我们意图不良，想卖掉他的东西，进而感到不安，非常排斥我们。""在我们解释来意之后虽然有软化的现象，但在前两次的探访中，他仍然保持沉默。经过多次的拜访，我们终于打破僵局。在感受到我们的诚意后，他渐渐地打开心房，还和我们开起了玩笑。三个月以后，他对待我们有如家人，总是叫我们自己去厨房拿水喝。"

感动和改变生活

在曾先生的帮助下，陈先生的社交圈更活跃了。陈先生原本不喜欢户外活动，妻子担心他一直闷在家里会患上抑郁症。在曾先生的鼓励下，他开始乘坐电动轮椅和太太一起外出。曾先生还要请陈氏夫妇参加登布苏乐龄活动中心的活动，陈先生很享受和其他年长者唱歌打鼓。

曾先生说"去年，我们邀请他们夫妻俩参加长老会社区服务的午餐聚会，他们俩很高兴能参加，并感激载送他们的朋友们。"

就像是一家人

曾先生说："从他们喜悦的脸庞上让作为友伴的我觉得一切的努力都是值得的。探访年长者让我想起已故的母亲，因此我对待他们有如亲生父母。他们总是非常渴望跟我们见面，会打电话问我们几时再见？"

"看到他们幸福，我也由衷的感到快乐。"

目前长老会社区服务在5个社区实行社区友伴计划.

我们的义工与陈先生和太太.

我们的服务范围:

- 淡滨尼西
- 实龙岗
- 芽笼士乃
- 波东巴西
- 武吉知马