# threading our future together

community leaders' forum annual report 2011

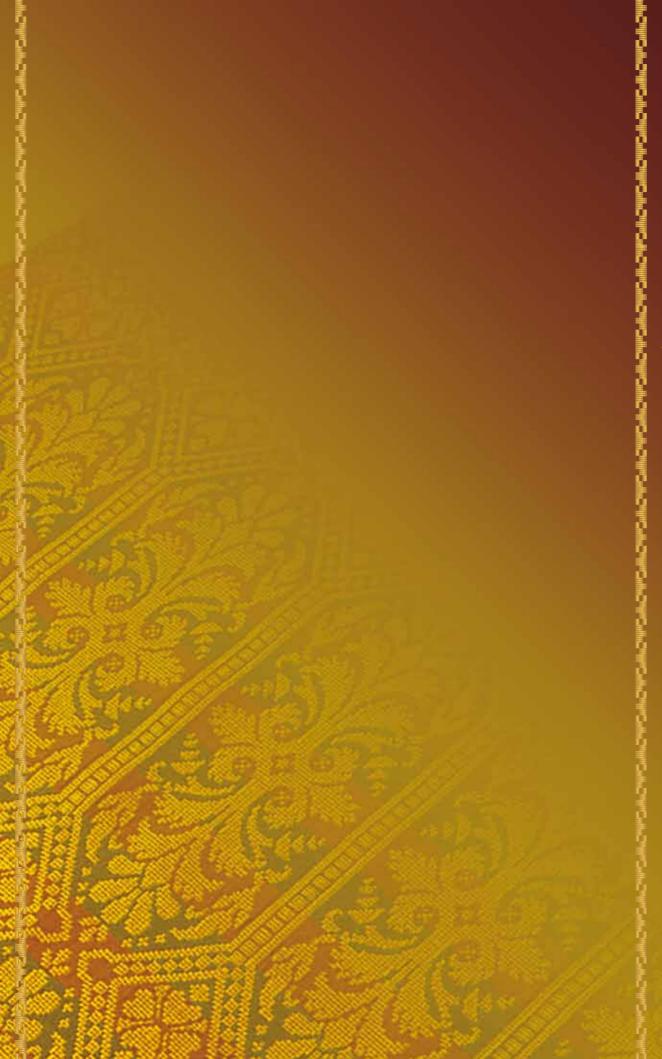


Celebrating Excellence

A publication for Community Leaders' Forum 2011 by CLF Secretariat Yayasan Mendaki

### the beauty of songket comes not from the eyes but from the heart.

Assoc Professor Sulaiman Abdul Ghani Textile Design and Weaving Guru



## threading our future together

community leaders' forum annual report 2011

The songket, a traditional heirloom of the Malay community for many centuries, represents our passion and commitment to bring about a stronger partnership in the Malay Muslim Voluntary Sector (MMVS). The songket's elaborate weaving process symbolises determination, hard work and resilience of its community leaders, partners and its people.

### Weaving has a special place of pride in the treasury of Malay heritage and traditions.

As culture and traditions are intricately woven into the hearts of the Malays, upholding such values and qualities are significant in becoming a Community of Excellence. The intricate and diverse styles of weaving gold or silver wefts, and silk warps of the songket, symbolises the need for deep sensitivity and great care in creating an invaluable fabric of partners. As we recognise the unique strengths of our partners and understand that one is closely connected with the other, we will continue to strive for greater partnership in order to provide the best and most meaningful support to the community.







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### the story of songket

bertuah orang berkain songket coraknya banyak bukan kepalang petuahnya banyak bukan sedikit hidup mati di pegang orang





### Songket embodies all that is most beautiful in Malay culture, civilization and aesthetics.

Songket belongs to the brocade family of textiles. The term 'songket' comes from the Malay word menyongket (or menyungkit) which has variously been interpreted as 'to embroider' and 'to lever up'. Neither is strictly correct. Songket is woven on a foot-operated wooden frame loom using what is commonly referred to as the supplementary weft method, a decorative weaving technique in which extra (supplementary) threads 'float' across a colourful woven ground to create an ornamental effect. In the songket weaving process, the supplementary threads are metallic. They are inserted in special lengths called weft 'floats' in between the silk weft (latitudinal or crosswise) threads of the main silk warp threads on the loom.

It is the use of metallic weft floats that gives songket its lustrous beauty and distinguishes it from the myriad of handwoven textiles found elsewhere in Southeast Asia. To realise a Community of Excellence, like the most luxurious of all songkets, it requires an enormous amount of time, skill and patience.

### **Our People**

#### From the Chairman



The world economy stabilized in 2010. This recovery from the global financial crisis in 2008/2009 was due to the timely and informed responses by various governments to the downturn. In 2011, the resilience of the economic recovery continues to be

tested by worldwide events. Looking ahead, we remain cautious in the light of a volatile and uncertain economic environment.



Against this backdrop, Community Leaders' Forum or CLF has gained a wider prominence as our family of partners grows and become more connected. Since our inception in 2003, we have had the benefit of talented, energetic and committed partners, from within and beyond the Malay Muslim Voluntary Sector (MMVS). Those who have joined this pursuit for a *Community of Excellence* have gained valuable experience as well as imparted their own insights, enriching the community in many ways. It is through sharing that we learn and benefit from one another in knowledge and more significantly, values.

CLF is formed with this in mind – to garner community engagement and support through dialogue and knowledge exchange, so as to strengthen partnerships and build on networks formed at individual, community and national platforms. We believe that these



platforms will foster a greater interchange of ideas and knowledge, which is necessary for mutual development amongst CLF partners.

#### **SHARING VALUES**

The theme of CLF 2011, *Threading Our Future Together*, represents a significant milestone in our partnership towards building a robust and sustainable *Culture Circle* for active engagement and interaction amongst community leaders, partners and its people. The songket, with its intricate weaving process symbolizes determination, hard work and resilience of the community, and the need for deep sensitivity and great care in creating this fabric of partners.

CLF, via the four networks of Education, Youth, Family and Employability, has achieved much in improving the quality of life of Malay/ Muslim families through developmental and intervention programmes and services. The appended 2010 evaluation findings illustrate the efficacy and effectiveness of these programmes. In tackling issues upstream, CLF programmes will continue to build resilience in our families, help our workers remain employable and enhance our outreach so that more can benefit.

I am pleased to welcome on board 19 new partners in 2011, which represents a 17% increment from 2010 to 2011. To date, the partners are made up of 16 MMOs, 19 mosques, 14 Family Service Centres, 12 CC, CDC and MAEC, 57 schools, 8 VWOs and 6 Training Organisations and together, we have impacted the lives of more than 131,000 individuals since inception.

#### **EMBRACING VALUES**

The strength of our partnership today reinforces the basic tenets and purpose of CLF. Through our joint efforts, we have provided and will continue to provide a platform for our partners to work together to collectively address the pertinent issues affecting the

community, foster community engagement and to enhance our capacity to help the community in effective and relevant ways.

The traits apparent in our Malay/Muslim individuals and families - confident, creative, self-reliant and anchored in Islamic faith and values, resonate with CLF's vision for a *Community of Excellence*. These values enable our youth and their families to cope better with the higher demands and expectations in an increasingly progressive and economically advanced Singapore.

With the growing educational achievements amongst Malay students at national examinations, I am confident that the community will exceed the target, proposed in 2010, for 40% of our Malay/Muslim students to enter tertiary institutions by 2020.

#### **CREATING VALUE**

We have also worked together to provide various opportunities and platforms to nurture the potential of our youth and to widen their horizons. *The CLF 2010 - Forward Planning Exercise (CLF2010-FPE)* represents a consultative-participatory platform for the younger generation to demonstrate their leadership capabilities and to have a stake in moulding the future.

*CLF Labs*, the follow-up platform to *CLF 2010-FPE*, has awarded two inspiring projects - *Window on Work (W.O.W)* by the Employability Work Group and *Mobile Hub for Community Learning* by the Education Work Group. *W.O.W* provides the opportunity for the development of career experience and community engagement amongst post secondary students, while the latter enables young parents and families to network and build their social capital within their neighbourhoods.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

2012 would mark the beginning of a second decade of community engagement for CLF partners. The success we have enjoyed thus far would not have been possible without the contributions and continued support from all our partners.

As we continue with our journey to chart the future direction for a *Conscientised* 

*Generation* or *Generasi Peduli*, I look forward to your ideas and suggestions on how we can continue to reposition ourselves for growth, develop new approaches and perspectives, and build new capabilities. As Singapore enters a new era of development, it is timely to reexamine, and if necessary, refine the ways in which we as CLF partners can provide better care for our community.

I take this opportunity to urge all of us to strive for a cohesive and committed partnership and to leverage on CLF as a platform for transformation. As part of our efforts for continuous improvement, we look to one another for ideas on how we can improve our outreach and ascertain an increased effectiveness of customized care, while maintaining a high standard of rigour and quality for all CLF programmes.

#### **APPRECIATION AND THANKS**

I would like to thank past and present Resource Persons and Co-Chairmen of the networks for the tremendous value that they have added to our perspective and understanding of community needs.

I express my deepest appreciation to all our stakeholders, including partners, CLF2010-FPE participants, beneficiaries and the wider community for their strong and continued support towards our shared future and the benefit of tomorrow's generations.

In conclusion, allow me to cite a poem or pantun from the report, which best describes our aspirations.

#### bertuah orang berkain songket coraknya banyak bukan kepalang petuahnya banyak bukan sedikit hidup mati dipegang orang

Simply put, like the philosophy of songket, our vision for a *Community of Excellence*, will be upheld and preserved for its meanings and purpose. Together we strive to share, embrace and create value for the community.

#### **Assoc Prof Dr Yaacob Ibrahim**

Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs

### About CLF

VISION To bring about confident, creative and self-reliant individuals and families, anchored in Islamic faith and values, for a **Community of Excellence**.



The inaugural Community Leaders' Forum (CLF) on 11 October 2003 arose from a series of dialogues and focus group discussions, amongst Malay Members of Parliament, community partners and activists, on strategies to enable the community to realise its shared vision for excellence. The event marked the beginning of a concerted, collective and conscientious pursuit by partners in the Malay/Muslim Voluntary sector (MMVS) to:

- 1. Work together to address community issues
- 2. Garner community engagement and support through dialogue and knowledge exchange
- 3. Build its capacity to help the community in effective and relevant ways

The Community Leaders' Forum is currently in its ninth year.

#### strategic thrusts

#### Maximising resources by:

- Leveraging on national and community resources to prevent duplication of efforts and to ensure better utilisation of limited resources
- Aligning existing programmes to achieve better synergy
- Focusing on upstream measures to address root causes of social problems

#### Build capacities by:

- Conducting research to better understand the issues affecting the community and identify programmes to address these problems
- Providing platforms to train and share best practices to develop the capacity of MMOs to develop and deliver progrs effectively and efficiently
- Equipping the individuals, families and community with relevant skills and knowledge so they can be more empowered
- Conducting evaluations to determine the effectiveness and continued relevance of our programmes

### **CLF Steering Committee**

from inception to June 2011

#### Chairman

### Assoc Prof Dr Yaacob Ibrahim

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs

Resource Persons Education & Youth Development Networks Mr Abdullah Tarmugi

Speaker of Parliament

#### Family & Employability Development Networks Mr Zainul Abidin Rasheed

Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Co-Chairmen Education Network Mr Masagos Zulkifli

Senior Parliamentary Secretary Ministry of Education and Minister of Home Affairs

#### Mr Hawazi Daipi

Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Manpower and Ministry of Health

Youth Development Network Assoc Prof Fatimah Lateef Member of Parliament

Mr Zaqy Mohamad Member of Parliament

#### Family Development Network Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman

Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development

Assoc Prof Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim Member of Parliament

Employability Network Mdm Halimah Yacob Member of Parliament

Mr Zainudin Nordin Mayor, Central Singapore District





























### **CLF Steering Committee**

with effect from July 2011



Chairman Assoc Prof Dr Yaacob Ibrahim Minister for Information, Communications and the Arts & Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs

Resource Persons Education & Youth Networks Mr Masagos Zulkifli Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs & Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Family & Employability Networks Mdm Halimah Yacob

Minister of State, Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports

Co-Chairmen Education Development Network Assoc Prof Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim Member of Parliament

Mr Zainal Sapari Member of Parliament

Youth Development Network Mr Zaqy Mohamad Member of Parliament

Dr Intan Azura Mokhtar Member of Parliament

#### Family Development Network Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman

Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Minister of Defence & Ministry of National Development and Mayor, South East District

Mr Zainudin Nordin Member of Parliament

Employability Network Mr Hawazi Daipi

Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education & Ministry of Manpower

Assoc Prof Fatimah Lateef Member of Parliament

### the art of songket corak teluk berantar

A variety of motifs and patterns are used individually and in combination to ornament the surface of the body or "badan" of the traditional songket cloth, and most of these reflect the beauty of the environment in which the weavers work.

The chain-like links which enclose the corak teluk berantai are woven in various distinguishable patterns.

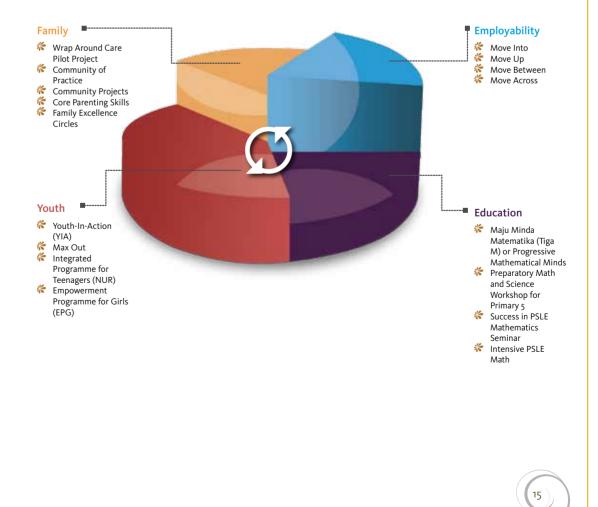
"Corak teluk berantai" means "bays along the coastline linked together" and is normally woven over large areas of the songket sarong.

The pattern conjures up visions of strong and sustainable partnership amongst CLF partners.



### sehari selembar benang, lama-lama menjadi kain

The Programme Map illustrates the different types and levels of programmes available for families. The four Networks are designed to provide a comprehensive, integrated and holistic approach to helping families in need of education, youth, family and employability programes and services. The effectiveness and efficacy of these programmes are closely monitored and evaluated according to the MENDAKI Programme Evaluation System (MaPES). This evaluation tool, based on the Logic Model, allows for successful programme planning, implementation and outcome measurement.



### **Education Network**

The Education Network aims to organize a lot of long-term and short-term projects to improve the performance of Malay students in Mathematics in particular, Science and other key subjects. The biggest challenge for us is to take advantage of the opportunities to move to higher levels of education so that we can perform better economically. **Mr Hawazi Daipi** 

We have found great success in the upstream work through the programmes like Tiga M. The Network will reach out to more pre-schools to participate together with us, so that we can help parents to build an environment that is conducive to their children's learning even at preschool.

**Mr Masagos Zulkifli** 

### progress updates: education network

#### **Did You Know**

- The proportion of PSLE Malay pupils eligible for secondary school, has made the greatest improvement, with a 19% increase from 72% in 1980 to 91% in 2009.
- The proportion of GCE 'O' Level Malay students with at least 3 'O' Level passes (80% in 2000 to 88% in 2009) and at least 5 'O' Level passes (53% in 2000 to 63% in 2009) has shown the greatest improvement over the last ten years.
- At the GCE 'A' Level Examinations, the percentage of Malay students with at least 3 'A'/'H2' Passes and pass in General Paper or Knowledge and Inquiry demonstrated the greatest improvement over the last 10 years (from 65% in 2000 to 75% in 2009).
- The percentage of Malay P1 Cohort admitted to post-secondary institutions has improved steadily over the last 10 years and has shown the most significant improvement (from 70% in 2000 to 86% in 2009) compared to other ethnic groups.

Source: Ministry of Education

#### **Objectives of Network**

- To ensure that Malay/Muslim children stay in school and complete at least 10 years of formal education
- To improve students' performance in Mathematics and Science
- To ensure that 90% of our Primary One cohort proceeds to post-secondary education by 2010

#### **Programmes for Evaluation**

- Maju Minda Matematika (Tiga M) or Progressive Mathematical Minds
- Preparatory Math and Science Workshop for Primary 5
- Success in PSLE Mathematics Seminar
- Intensive PSLE Math

Note on source of information: Data in this report is drawn from the most recent available statistics from the Education Network. The evaluation period for all programmes, unless otherwise specified, are from January 2010 to December 2010.



### progress updates: education network

#### Programme

#### MAJU MINDA MATEMATIKA

#### **Purpose**

Initiated in 2004, a parent-child programme based on the Mediated Learning Experience<sup>1</sup> (MLE) model, Maju Minda Matematika or more commonly known as Tiga M aims to:

- increase parents' knowledge and understanding of basic mathematical concepts and confidence to leverage on their existing resources
- empower parents with essential skills in engaging their child in home-based activities to enhance his/her problem solving and numeracy skills

#### **Target group**

Low income Malay/Muslim families and their pre-school going children aged 4 to 6 years old.

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 160 parents and 200 children
- 2. To ensure that 90% of children enjoyed the programme
- 3. To bring about a positive shift, in 75% of parents' perception on factors contributing to a child's Math performance
- 4. To enable 75% of parents demonstrate the ability to use Mediated Learning Experience (MLE) during parent-child activities
- 5. To ensure that 75% of students do not enter Learning Support Programme (LSP) at Primary 1

#### **Evaluation Tool / Period**

- 1.1 Attendance list
- 2.1 Expression Drawing / Session 6
- 3.1 Pre and Post Perception Survey /

Session 1 and Session 6

- 4.1 Pre and Post-test / Session 2 and Session 5
- 5.2 Mediation Checklist and Video Analysis / before intervention, upon completion of intervention and 6 months after completion of intervention
- 5.1 Progress Updates

#### **Findings**

- 1.1.1 The programme benefitted 476 parents and 489 children.
- 2.1.1 All of the children drew a 'happy' face to indicate that they have enjoyed the programme thoroughly. The facilitator observed that the participants were more responsive and confident in their learning as the session progresses.
- 3.1.1 The proportion of parents who expressed their confidence in assisting their child in the learning of Math improved by 21%, upon completion of the programme (Refer to Appendix: Graph A);
- 3.1.2 The proportion of parents who indicated that they are able to leverage on readily-available resources in the home to teach Math improved by 17%, upon completion of the programme (Refer to Appendix: Graph A);
- 3.1.3 The percentage of parents who acknowledged their role as parents as one of the most important factors in the learning of Math increased from 83% (pre-test) to 90% (post-test);
- 3.1.4 The percentage of parents who recognize the importance of early exposure to Math to excel in the subject increased from 81% (pre-test) to 89% (post-test).

<sup>1</sup> MLE refers to an interaction process in which adult (mediator) interposes himself/herself between the child and a set of stimuli and modifies them by affecting their frequency, order, intensity and context. This quality and intervention brings about structural modification of cognition for the child. As a result, the child is aroused to a higher level of curiosity and vigilance. Adequate parent-child MLE facilitates the development of various functions, learning sets, mental operations and needs systems.



- 4.1.1 Upon completion of programme, parents showed an improvement in competency in all mediation elements (Refer to Appendix: Graph B);
- 4.2.1 The percentage of children who listens to and responds to his/ her parent improved from 88% (before intervention), to 90% (upon completion of intervention) and continues to improve to 93% (after 6 months of completion of intervention, to indicate that the parents were able to demonstrate their ability in all mediation elements and to use them effectively;
- 4.2.2 The percentage of parents who expressed their ability to reflect their child's before answering questions improved from 42% (before intervention), to 84% (upon completion of intervention) and continues to improve to 94% (after 6 months of completion of intervention).
- NOTE: The ability to use MLE is measured by the following 5 elements:
- (i) intentionality & reciprocity
- (ii) meaning
- (iii) transcendence
- (iv) competence
- (v) self-regulation
- 5.1.1 80% of participants are not in LSP when they enter primary 1, as indicated by their parents.

#### Conclusion

The programme has proven its effectiveness through the continuous increase in participation by parents and children over

the past seven years since its launch in 2004. Tiga M has been receiving more response to partnership within and beyond the Malay/ Muslim organizations since 2009.

Parents who have completed Tiga M have expressed their keen interest to proceed to the next level of learning and development, in order to play a more active and engaged role in their child's attainment of mathematical skills and knowledge. Data also shows that the parents were able to sustain their learnings and application of knowledge even after six months upon completion of the programme. Their children also demonstrated higher levels of confidence and competence in their interactions with their parents in the learning of Math.

#### **Recommendations**

The CLF Secretariat recommends to continue building and strengthening the network of partners to benefit more Malay/Muslim parents and their children in pre-school education. The programme's comprehensive and systematic evaluation mechanism, provides a good insight into participants' learning and ability to retain their knowledge and skills.

#### **Partners**

PPIS	4PM	Xishan Primary School
Ci Yuan CC	PCF Woodlands	PCF Eunos
Al Khair Mosque	Assyafaah Mosque	Darussalam Mosque
Darul Ghufran Mosque	Al Amin Mosque	Hasanah Mosque

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 965

### progress updates: education network

#### Programme

### PREPARATORY MATH & SCIENCE WORKSHOP

#### Purpose

Designed as an upstream measure in 2007 to bring about better performance in Mathematics and Science at PSLE, the programme offers both outdoor and classroom-based learning for its participants. The programme aims to:

- instill interest and motivation in participants so as to preempt them on the rigour of primary six education
- provide opportunities for participants to develop social and communication skills through learning

#### **Target group**

Primary 5 Standard students from primary schools and madrasahs

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 1,500 participants
- 2. To enable students to demonstrate an improvement in their Math performance from their mid-year (SA1) to the end-year semestral assessment (SA2) at primary five

#### **Evaluation Tool**

SA1 and SA2 results

#### Findings

- 1.1 Reached out to 1,745 participants
- 2.1 The proportion of participants who passed Math at SA2 increased to 34% from 27% at SA1;
- 2.2 35% of participants showed an improvement in Math by at least 1 grade, from SA1 to SA2;

- 2.3 The proportion of participants who passed Science at SA2 increased to 59% from 54% at SA1;
- 2.4 34% of participants showed an improvement in Science by at least 1 grade, from SA1 to SA2.

#### Conclusion

The programme has met its purpose in providing an opportunity for early intervention in preparing Malay students for PSLE. In realizing that upstream measures are critical for good performance, the participants are engaged and developed in cognitive, psychological and emotional ways through experiential learning opportunities offered by the programme.

#### **Recommendations**

The CLF Secretariat recommends to continue with the programme and to improve outreach efforts to benefit more Malay/ Muslim students based on the improvements in participant results at SA2. The programme will also continue to adopt an upstream approach towards education amongst Malay/ Muslim students. It can be further enhanced to enable students to explore new styles of learning and approaches to the subjects, and to reinforce a learning culture amongst the participants for a challenging year ahead.

#### **Providers**

Starquest Enrichment Zenitant Pte Ltd

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 1,745

#### **Programme**

### SUCCESS IN PSLE MATHEMATICS SEMINAR

#### **Purpose**

An enrichment programme introduced in 2006 for all students who wish to succeed in Math, Success in PSLE Mathematics Seminar aims to: To equip students with examination strategies and to motivate them to pass Mathematics at PSLE

#### **Target group**

Primary 6 Standard students from primary schools and madrasahs

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 5,000 participants
- 2. To enable students to demonstrate an improvement in their ability to grasp mathematical concepts at the end of the programme

#### **Evaluation Tool**

Pre and post test administered at the start and end of programme respectively

#### **Findings**

- 1.1 Reached out to 2971 participants;
- 1.2 80% of participants attended both Tier 1 and 2<sup>2</sup> of the programme;
- 2.1 The percentage of students who passed increased by an average of 44% in the first tier of the programme (Refer to Appendix: Graph C);
- 2.2 70.3% of students showed an improvement by at least 5 marks in the post test in the first tier of the programme;
- 2.3 The percentage of students who passed increased by an average of 58% in the second tier of the programme (Refer to Appendix: Graph D);

2.4 81.6% of students showed an improvement by at least 5 marks in the post test in the second tier of the programme.

#### Conclusion

The programme has proven its effectiveness through the increase in the proportion of participants who passed at the end of each tier. This shows that the participants have a better understanding of the key mathematical concepts and the different techniques of tackling exam questions for each of the topics. However, as the seminar is a one-off measure, it may not be able to adequately impact students' performance in Math at PSLE.

#### **Recommendations**

The CLF Secretariat recommends to continue with the programme and to improve outreach efforts to benefit more Malay/ Muslim students based on the improvements indicated by the participants across both tiers. As the programme is designed to focus on different topics for the two tiers, students are strongly encouraged to attend both Tier 1 and 2 to ensure a more extensive learning experience. Their performance can also be monitored more closely across the two tiers.

To measure the effectiveness of the programme and to assess students' learning, the pre and post test will continue to be administered at the start and thereafter, upon completion of the programme.

#### **Provider**

#### Training Innovations

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 2971

### progress updates: education network

#### Programme

#### **INTENSIVE PSLE MATH**

#### Purpose

The programme introduced in 2008 intends to help underperforming students to improve their Math proficiency and performance at PSLE, through classroom-based teaching. The programme aims to:

- provide a targeted learning approach for students who scored 'D' and 'E' in a pre-test administered at the point of entry into the programme
- offer students an opportunity to achieve at least one grade jump in their PSLE

#### **Target group**

Primary 6 Standard students from primary schools and madrasahs, who scored 35 to 55 marks for a pre-test

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 100 participants
- 2. To enable students to demonstrate an improvement in their Math performance from their mid-year semestral assessment (SA1) to PSLE.

#### **Evaluation Tool**

SA1 and PSLE results

#### Findings

- 1.1 Reached out to 113 participants;
- 2.1 The proportion of participants who passed Math at PSLE increased by 36% from SA1 (Refer to Appendix: Graph E); 67.3% of participants showed an improvement in Math by at least 1 grade, from SA1 to PSLE.

#### Conclusion

The programme designed to help the underachieving Malay students in Math, has added value to their performance and to the overall performance of the Malay cohort at PSLE 2010.

#### **Recommendations**

The CLF Secretariat recommends to continue adopting a targeted and customized approach to meet the specific learning needs of the underachieving students. The Network has decided to discontinue the programme with effect from 2011, and to reallocate resources towards greater outreach to schools and to work more closely with teachers in identifying students who are in need of such intervention. Reachout, Progress and Excel Programme or ROPE serves this purpose more effectively.

#### **Providers**

MERCU Training Innovations

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 113



## appendix

#### **Graph A**

The proportion of parents who demonstrated confidence in assisting their child in the learning of Maths improved by 21% upon completion of the programme.

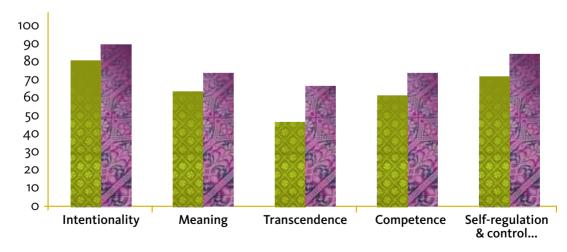
The proportion of parents who indicated that they are able to leverage on readily-available resources in the home to teach Maths improved by 17% upon completion of the programme.





#### **Graph B**

Parents showed an improvement in competency in all mediation elements.

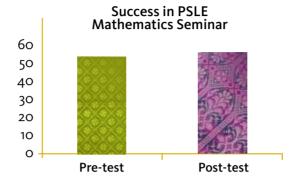




### appendix

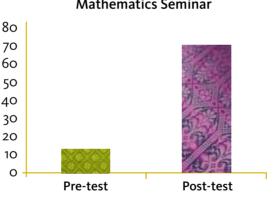
#### **Graph** C

The percentage of students who passed increased by an average of 44%, from pre test (12.4%) to post test (56.2%) in first tier of the programme



#### **Graph D**

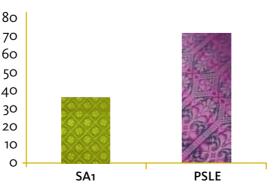
The percentage of students who passed increased by an average of 58%, from pre test (13.7%) to post test (71.2%) in the second tier of the programme



### Success in PSLE **Mathematics Seminar**

#### **Graph E**

The proportion of participants who passed Math at PSLE increased by 36%, from SA1 (36.6%) to PSLE (72.3%).



#### **Intensive PSLE Maths**

### **Youth Development Network**

What the Network has done (for the existing CLF youth programmes) was to strengthen and enhance the programmes further based on feedback from our partners and other stakeholders in the community on how we can fine tune these

the community on how we can fine tune these programmes.

#### **Assoc Prof Fatimah Lateef**

The youth programmes work at two levels. One, they are proactive, to develop youth potential through mentorship and empowerment programmes. The other is preemptive. We try to reach out to those who are out of school or those who are at the brink of leaving school to stay in the education system. **Mr Zaqy Mohamad** 

### progress updates: youth development network

#### **Did You Know**

- Out of 783 600 resident youth aged 15 29 years at national level, 48.9% are Professionals, managers, Executives and Technicians (PMETs).
- There are 130,789 Malay youths, aged 15 29 years old.
- 5.1% of the Malay Resident non-student population, aged 15 years and over has attained university education, while 11.6% attained Diploma and Professional qualifications.

Source: Singapore Department of Statistics, Census Population 2010

#### **Objectives of Network**

- To ensure that Malay/Muslim students go to school
- To ensure that students remain in school and receive at least ten years of formal education
- To widen horizons of students

#### **Programmes for Evaluation**

- Youth-In-Action (YIA)
- 🏀 🛛 Max Out
- Integrated Programme for Teenagers (NUR)
- Empowerment Programme for Girls (EPG)

Note on source of information: Data in this report is drawn from the most recent available statistics from the Youth Development Network. The evaluation period for all programmes, unless otherwise specified, are from January 2010 to December 2010.



#### **Programme:**

#### YOUTH-IN-ACTION

#### Purpose

Piloted in 2004 as an upstream measure to help Malay/Muslim students remain in school through mentoring and developmental programmes, Youth-In-Action aims to:

- Ensure that participants progress to post secondary education
- Reduce negative social behaviour and harness their potential through the concept of Positive Youth Development (PYD)<sup>1</sup>

#### **Target group**

Primary and Secondary school students

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to at least 300 students for YIA and 290 for YIA+
- 2. To hold school initiation by May 2010
- 3. To ensure that 75% of mentees attend an initiation session
- 4. To ensure that 75% of mentees attend at least 2 Developmental Programmes (DPs)
- 5. To receive positive feedback from 75% of mentees
- 6. To ensure that 100% of YIA participants stay in school

#### **Evaluation Tool**

- 1.1 Registration list
- 2.1 Reports
- 3.1 Attendance Report
- 4.1 Attendance Report
- 5.1 Feedback Forms
- 6.1 School Report

#### **Findings**

- 1.1.1 YIA benefitted 333 participants, made up of 119 primary, 193 secondary school students and 20 community referrals, while YIA+ received 293 secondary school participants.
- 2.1.1 95% of the participating schools were initiated by May 2010. The programme was able to garner support from the school principals, liaison teachers and mentors at every initiation session, and they provided useful feedback to the network on the programme.
- 3.1.1 100% of participants attended initiation as they were able to connect with their preferred mentors and receive information on the programme's upcoming events and activities.
- 4.1.1 78% of participants attended at least 2 DPs. These programmes are designed according to the basic tenets of the Positive Youth Development theory(PYD). In 2010, the major DPs were an expedition to Mount Stong in expedition to Mount Stong in Malaysia, the Cutter programme (a 5-day Ubin camp) and Theatre and Drama activities. These DPs enabled the participants to learn about their inner strengths and how they are able to overcome challenges.
- 5.1.1 90% of participants provided positive feedback on developmental programmes. The feedback provided by mentees was positive and indicative of their favourable learning experience. A participant's response to the DPs.

"I like this programme because I get along well with my mentors. I have formed good friendships too. We are more close knit as we interact in smaller groups and the big group sessions test us as we compete with other participants nationally. I look forward to the mass sessions.....brings out the competitive edge in us."

Khairul Asraf Bin Irwan Bedok South Secondary School

6.1.1 All of the YIA participants remained in school.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Positive Youth Development (PYD) is the idea that all young people need support, guidance, and opportunities during adolescence. It also looks toward creating supportive communities for all young people and at the same time, engaging youth to contribute to the well-being of the larger community.

### progress updates: youth development network

#### Conclusion

YIA has proven its effectiveness through the relationship -building between the mentor and participant. The participants have indicated their openness to mentoring and support, and this value-add component suggests that youth appreciate the 'Many-Helping Hands" approach to character building by the mentors and liaison teachers. On the whole, they have expressed their satisfaction with the programme outcomes and the level of engagement as reflected in their feedback. The response to partnership also has increased significantly, from nine (9) in 2009, to twenty (20) in 2010.

#### Recommendations

The CLF Secretariat proposes to continue the programme based on the positive learning outcomes as expressed by the participants. The recommendations put forth by the CLF Secretariat in 2010 to bring about a greater partnership and support by liaison teachers and mentors will continue, while training needs for the latter will be looked into more extensively, so that they remain effective and well-received by the participants.

#### **Partners**

Geylang Methodist PS	Greenwood PS
MacPherson PS	Teck Ghee PS
Jun Yuan PS	Wellington PS
Woodlands PS	Bartley SS
Bedok South SS	Bendemeer SS
Bishan Park SS	Deyi SS
Fajar SS	Hong Kah SS
Loyang SS	Naval Base SS
Northland SS	Ping Yi SS
Springfield SS	Yuan Ching SS
4PM	AMP
Dreamplus	Singapore Chinese Girls' School

PS: Primary School SS: Secondary School

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 626

#### Programme

#### MAX OUT

#### Purpose

Piloted in 2005 to help Malay/Muslim outof school youths, through academic and character development programmes, Max out aims to:

- Enable participants, who have dropped out of school for less than four years, to return to mainstream education
- Empower participants, who have left formal education for more than four years, with relevant skills and job training for gainful employment

#### **Target Group**

Out-of school youths aged 14 to 19 years old

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 100 out-of-school youths
- To elicit positive reflection from at least 75% participants who attended the 5-day boot camp
- To ensure that participants meet at least 75% of attendance (at JBS and Ain Society)
- 4. To ensure that 85% of participants demonstrate improvements in character
- 5. To bring about re-admission to schools or employment

#### **Evaluation Tool**

- 1.1 Registration List
- 2.1 Pre and Post-Camp Questionnaire
- 3.1 Attendance Report
- 4.1 Trainer Observation Report
- 5.1 Trainer Report

#### **Findings**

- 1.1.1 The programme reached out to 66 participants;
- 2.1.1 78% of participants demonstrated

positive reflection at the end of the boot camp. Their responses indicated that the participants had a greater sense of self awareness and were ready to adopt changes in their lives;

- The participants did not fulfill 3.1.1 the required attendance at both centres. While JBS offers academic lessons, Ain Society provides socioemotional support through character development classes. The figures and recurring trends in attendance prompted the network to relook into the proximity between the two venues. With effect from 2011, Ain Society organizes its classes within close proximity to JBS to facilitate participants' travelling time and learning, so as to improve attendance at the two (2) centres;
- 4.1.1 85% of the participants demonstrated improvements in their attitude and behavior towards learning as observed by trainers during academic engagement time;
- 5.1.1 Ten (10) participants have registered to sit for their 'N' Level Examinations in 2011. Sixteen (16) have graduated with a skills certificate in Food Preparation in June 2011.

#### Conclusion

Max Out provides opportunities for outof-school youths (OSYs) to reintegrate into society and become contributing members of the community, through further education or skills upgrading for gainful employment. The programme's holistic intervention in providing academic and character development classes allows for a more thorough intervention plan for all participants. The programme enables its participants to consider possible options and avenues for improvement which will effect positive changes in their lives. The participants are empowered to realize their potential and make informed decisions which have significant impact on their future, their families and the community.

#### Recommendations

The programme has served its purpose in meeting the needs of out-of-school youth

through academic and social-emotional support. The three recommendations proposed by the CLF Secretariat in 2010, have been adopted and were beneficial to the programme. In order to continue with these efforts, Max Out will facilitate participants' learning through greater proximity between the two forms of intervention, flexible study periods, and sponsorship opportunities for those seeking financial assistance for 'N' Level examinations.

#### **Partners**

Jamiyah Business School (JBS) Ain Society

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 66

#### Programme

### INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR TEENAGERS

#### **Purpose**

The Integrated Programme for Teenagers, or more commonly known as NUR, was initiated in 2006 to provide a holistic intervention plan for Malay/Muslim teenagers and their parents through:

- (i) NUR-on-the-MOVE; roadshows to reach out and inform youths on available community resources
- (ii) NURteensLINE; a telephone helpline whereby youths and/or parents can call to seek help or advice
- (iii) NUR Drop-in-Centres; a place for youth to engage in social activities and seek counseling help

#### **Target Group**

**Teenagers and Parents** 

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 3000 teenagers through NUR-on-the-MOVE
- 2. To attend to calls and smses through/

### progress updates: youth development network

#### the NURteensLINE

3. To manage 60 cases at every NUR-Drop-in-Centre

#### **Evaluation Tool**

- 1.1 Attendance Report
- 2.1 Case Report
- 3.1 Case Report

#### **Findings**

- 1.1.1 The four (4) roadshows between July and November 2010 reached out to 481 Secondary 1 and 2 students, 292 Secondary 3 and 4, 215 ITE College East and 203 Singapore Polytechnic students;
- Received 153 calls, out of which 30 2.1.1 (20%) were referred to the various DICs for casework and counseling. 101 (66%) were successfully closed with clients' satisfaction at the first call, while 14% were referred to other MMOs or national agencies. The two most prevalent presenting issues were school-related, for example discipline matters, truancy, and the other, parental conflict. The other issues which surfaced were teenage pregnancy, out-of school, etc. Figures show that there was an equal proportion of calls received from youths and parents.
- 3.1.1 Managed 142 counselling cases. Reports have also shown that two (2) of the cases involving teenage pregnancy have been referred to PERTAPIS Centre for Women and Girls (PCWG) to provide residential care for these troubled teens.

#### Conclusion

NUR has significant potential to leverage on its three components, i.e. outreach, helpline and counselling in order to achieve a greater outreach and use of community resources. Currently NUR, supported by key youthbased organizations, has not met its desired outcomes.

#### Recommendation

The CLF Secretariat, together with the Network partners, is currently in the process of reviewing NUR and its programme

requirements and specifications. The Secretariat proposes for a thorough assessment of NUR and the other youth programmes within the CLF purview, to ensure that these programmes together, are planned in a systematic, coordinated and sustainable approach, to meet the varying needs of our youth today.

#### Partners

Al-Falah Mosque	Clubilya
Ain Society	PPIS
AMP	Dua M Pte Ltd

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 1448

#### Programme

### THE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME FOR GIRLS

#### Purpose

The Empowerment Programme for Girls, or more commonly known as EPG, was initiated in 2008 to provide confidence and self-esteem building opportunities to participants through dialogue with women professionals and other developmental programmes, so that they will:

- Stay in school and complete at least ten years of formal education
- Abstain from undesirable behavior or activity such as premarital sex and substance abuse

#### **Target Group**

Secondary 2 Normal Academic (NA) and Technical (NT) Malay female students

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to at least 100 new participants
- 2. To ensure that 75% of participants attend at least 3 activities
- 3. To enable participants to organize and/or be engaged in at least one

youth-based project

- 4. To enable 75% of participants to demonstrate improvement in self esteem, outlook on education and character development
- 5. To encourage participants to enter/ qualify for post secondary education

#### **Evaluation Tool**

- 1.1 Registration form
- 2.1 Attendance Record
- 3.1 Attendance Record
- 4.1 Feedback from Teachers
- 5.1 Feedback from Teachers / Follow up communication / Application of Incentives

#### **Findings**

- 1.1.1 The programme reached out to 242 female students through 17 dialogue sessions with women professionals, out of which 107 enrolled as participants;
- 2.1.1 40% of the participants attended at least 3 activities;
- 3.1.1 48 participants organized and/or were engaged on projects such as "Programme Facilitator", "Fundraising for Darul Ma'wa Home", "YOG Community Envoy", "Hype Ramadan", "Ramadan on Wheels" and "EPG Tea Party";
- 4.1.1 94% of participants received positive feedback from their teachers on their improvements in behavior. Some of the EPG partners have also expressed their gratitude to the Network for the wide-range of opportunities offered by the programme for their students to develop and mature as individuals with good moral values and social skills.
- 5.1.1 81% of participants were eligible for post secondary education, 17% continued to secondary 5 and 2% repeated secondary 4.

#### Conclusion

EPG has benefitted its participants in building their confidence and selfesteem through active dialogue with the women professionals and developmental opportunities for the participants to express themselves through activity-based learning. Figures also show that almost half of the participants were keen to explore their interests and potential in organizing or participating in the programme's empowerment initiatives such as projects and interest groups.

A significant proportion of participants has demonstrated an improvement in behaviour and eligibility into post secondary education as favourable outcomes from the programme. The women professionals were role models to the participants and in turn, effected positive changes in the participants' outlook on education and life.

#### Recommendation

The CLF Secretariat proposes to continue with the programme in order to bring more Malay/Muslim female students and professionals together to celebrate and inspire one another. The women professionals would act as confidante and mentor to the participants and build their self-worth towards realizing the purpose of this programme. The Network shall continue to offer group activities for bonding and sharing between the participants and professionals. The graduands have also expressed their interest to continue to participate and contribute to the existing participants. Thus, an EPG Alumni will be set up by the network to serve as a useful resource to the programme.

#### **Partners**

Bartley SS	Pingyi SS
Bedok Town SS	Siglap SS
Deyi SS	Springfield SS
Fuchun SS	Woodland Rings SS
Hongkah SS	Yuan Ching SS
MacPherson SS	Yusof Ishak SS

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SS: Secondary School

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 242

### **Family Development Network**

One thing is basic. Whether it's about education or employability, "Family", which is the building block of society, is so crucial towards the whole process and approach (of helping families break away from the vicious cycle of dysfunctionality).

**Mr Zainul Abidin Rasheed** 

It is a journey together with them (families-inneed) to go through the challenges that they are going through. They begin to feel that they are not alone. They begin to feel that everyone is prepared to learn. Everyone is prepared to make good. **Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman** 

Programmes like these will help to motivate them further to improve their lives and those around them. Once you "open the door" or rather, you touch their hearts to go for such programmes, they will come back to you to ask for more.

### progress updates: Jamily development network

#### **Did You Know**

In 2010, there were 24,983 casework and counselling reported by Family Service Centres in Singapore, as compared to 20,483 in 2007.

Source: Yearbook of Statistics Singapore, 2011

- In 2010, the average household size was the largest for Malay households at 4.2 persons, followed by the Indian households at 3.6 persons and Chinese households at 3.4 persons.
- Between 2000 and 2010, all ethnic groups showed an increase in the proportion occupying HDB 4-room or larger flats or private housing. The proportion increased from 69 per cent to 75 per cent among Chinese households, 65 per cent to 69 per cent among Malay households and 66 per cent to 73 per cent among Indian households.

Source: Census Population 2011

#### **Objectives of Network**

To reach out to Malay/Muslim families-in-need, especially those with young dependants, so as to ensure that

- their children complete at least ten years of formal education,
- their parents remain employed,
- the family finances are maintained with per capita income (PCI) of more than \$450,
- in order to realize a healthy and fully functioning family.

Note on source of information: Data in this report is drawn from the most recent available statistics from the Family Development Network. The evaluation period for all programmes, unless otherwise specified, are from January 2010 to December 2010.



### progress updates: family development network

#### ACTION PLAN FOR STRENGTHENING MALAY/ MUSLIM FAMILIES

#### **Purpose**

The Action Plan for Strengthening Malay/ Muslim Families, aims to provide an integrated approach and comprehensive assistance to families with multiple difficulties through the following initiatives:

- Wrap Around Care Pilot Project
- Community of Practice
- Community Projects
- Core Parenting Skills
- Family Excellence Circles

These initiatives are designed interconnectedly according to the basic tenets of the 'Wrap Around Care Concept' whereby families receive a systematic, coordinated and sustainable intervention efforts, to meet different needs. The 'Wrap Around Care Concept' enables these programmes to offer a holistic and meaningful assistance to families-in-need and to ensure their effectiveness and cultural coherence for the community.

#### **Findings**

#### WRAP AROUND CARE PILOT PROJECT

According to the three (3) strategic thrusts identified at the beginning of the pilot project, the Network has achieved the following outcomes from **2008 to 2010**.

The Network was able to:

Establish contact with key stakeholders such as Family Service Centres (FSCs), Community Development Councils (CDCs), Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs), Malay/Muslim Organisations (MMOs), Mosques and Malay Activity Executive Committees (MAECs) for greater outreach and support by community agencies.

A Project Manager was identified to work closely with the participating FSCs to offer and coordinate a customized help plan to meet the needs of every family and to connect these families to the available resources at the above-mentioned community touchpoints The Project Manager would also identify a suitable befriender for the client and/ or spouse, and a mentor for their children, when the need arises.

In March 2009, garner support from five (5) FSCs, to initiate the pilot project with desirable outcomes. The 5 FSCs were Singapore Children's Society, Rotary, Tampines, Tanjong Pagar and Trans Centre (Bedok). Trans Centre was a partner until April 2010.

\* Reach out to 125 families and effect positive changes in their lives. These improvements were measured according to household/per capita income, employment status, ability to meet children's educational needs, reduction in arrears and financial assistance etc. Between January 2009 and March 2010, all of the 125 participating families have demonstrated diverse levels of progress. Amongst the 74 cases, which were closed during that period by the respective FSCs, a significant proportion of these cases indicated that these families' situations have improved and were coping well and did not require further assistance.

The remaining 51 cases which had undergone at least 12 months of intervention, from April 2010 to April 2011, showed improvement in all four categories of progress. The proportion of families showing 'average' to 'good' progress has improved by 12%, from 14% (2010) to 26% (2011).

Refer to Table 1.

#### Table 1

	No Progress	Slow Progress	Average Progress	Good Progress
Apr 2010	11 (22%)	33 (65%)	6 (12%)	1 (2%)
Apr 2011	9 (18%)	29 (57%)	11 (22%)	2 (4%)

- Identify and examine the needs of the families seeking help from the FSCs. The three most prevalent presenting issues were financial, family and parenting. These families have also indicated the need for advice and support in cultural and religious aspects of their lives for example, rights and obligations in marriage, family planning etc.
- Facilitate the training needs of social workers and counsellors to bring about a better socio-cultural understanding of these families. They attended relevant training courses offered by Social Service Training Institute (SSTI), Syariah Court and Persatuan Pemudi Islam Singapura (PPIS).
- Following the growing demand for Malay/Muslim helping professionals to meet the dynamic needs of the families, create awareness on career opportunities in social work amongst students and asatizahs, and to enhance linkages through consultation with NCSS and MUIS on accreditation and certification possibilities for asatizahs to practise social work.

#### Conclusion

The Wrap Around Care Pilot Project was able to steer and bring about better synergy and collaboration amongst districts, whereby the Network connected with a total of 76 agencies on the Wrap Around Care Concept. These initiatives also enabled the participating community agencies to enhance their working relationships and rapport with one another. This facilitated an effective gathering of information and data about the families through case conferences. These efforts also brought about a greater awareness of available community and national resources amongst the helping professionals and beneficiaries. These successes are apparent as indicated in the findings above and also reaffirmed the positive contributions to the families' lives by the caseworkers.

Apart from its achievements, the pilot project also highlighted several operational and administrative learning points for the Network for example, the different entry points of the 125 families posed a challenge for the network to capture data for evaluation and the lack of monitoring of cases beyond their closure. The presenting issues for each family revealed deeper underlying concerns, which required a more important and extensive intervention plan. Every challenge uncovered led to the strengthening and development of a formalized structure and evaluation mechanism for WAC 2011.

The Network has proposed for a more structured framework with case consultationsfrom agencies to work together to assist the clients. They will continue with their current efforts of building rapport and enhancing relationships with the various contact points and agencies within the WAC and to seek ways and methods to sustain these partnerships. The SOP on the closure of cases is to be enhanced, especially for those who are not interested or unmotivated to work through their issues. This resulted in the drawing up of the Terms of Reference, Pre and Post-Questionnaires, Service Agreement, and the Milestone and Outcome Indicators for WAC 2011. Lastly, as a progression from WAC to Enhanced WAC or 'eWAC', a framework for the possible collaboration between CDCs, FSCs, Mosque Clusters and YM is to be developed collectively to enhance the assistance rendered to the families.

## progress updates: family development network

#### **COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE**

The Community of Practice was developed in 2009 to address the high demand for Malay/ Muslim social workers to meet the high proportion of Malay/Muslim cases received at the Family Service Centres (FSCs).

The key initiatives proposed for 2011 include sharing sessions with students from Ngee Ann and Nanyang Polytechnic, National University of Singapore and Madrasahs, in collaboration with Muhammadiyah and NCSS.

#### **COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

The three (3) projects, designed to **address** the service **gaps** in the community, are

- (i) Projek Keluarga Teguh by Muhammadiyah Welfare Home (MWH)
- (ii) Vista Sakinah by PPIS
- (iii) In-Care Religious Programme for Malay Muslim Inmates by PERGAS
- Note: The progress updates provided, for all three (3) Community Projects, are from inception to July 2011.

#### **Purpose**

(i) Projek Keluarga Teguh, initiated in October 2008, aims to:

Provide support to family members of MWH residents

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to the families of 25 MWH residents
- To enable the families to achieve stable household income with PCI of \$375
- 3. To minimize relapse rate of residents to below 40%
- 4. To minimize offence/relapse rate of family members to below 30%
- 5. To ensure that residents and their siblings resume school and/or complete 10 years of education

#### **Evaluation Tool**

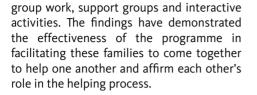
- 1.1 Attendance / Case Report
- 2.1 Payslip, CPF contribution
- 3.1-5.1 Home / school visit, phone call

#### **Findings**

- 1.1.1 The programme reached out and benefitted 94 individuals from 25 families, which includes 37 parents/ caregivers, 25 residents and 32 siblings within the same household. These participants achieved 85% of attendance for individual and family therapy sessions;
- 2.1.1 40% of the families have indicated an increase in income. The families have demonstrated their receptiveness to the intervention efforts of the Family Social Worker;
- 79% of residents have not re-offended 3.1.1 since their discharge. This is attributed to counselling, religious and moral education and life skills training offered by the programme to empower the residents with the knowledge and awareness of possibilities to improve their lives after they are discharged. The programme also enabled their parents to participate in the Family Developmental Programmes, in order to engage them in the child's rehabilitative process;
- 4.1.1 None of the siblings reoffended. However, 2 were arrested for new offences, while 1 parent reentered prison;
- 5.1.1 8% (2 out of 26) of their siblings dropped out of school.

#### Conclusion

The programme provided a multidimensional approach to providing help to the residents of MWH and their families. The casework and counselling, religious and moral education, and developmental programmes offered to them are critical in enabling the residents and their family members to reflect and learn on how to cope with life's challenges. The programme looks into the needs of both the resident and their family members and offers social and emotional support to the families through



#### **Recommendations**

The programme served its purpose and should continue to provide help to the targeted families. The network and MWH are in discussion on their future plans for the programme, beyond 2011.

#### Partner

Muhammadiyah Welfare Home

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 94

#### Purpose

- (ii) Vista Sakinah, introduced in September 2009, aims to:
- expand the Remarriages and Step Families programme, in order to reach out to 600 Muslim remarriages and step families by 2011 through orientation sessions, Projek Memupuk Kasih, Step Parenting Workshop, Marriage Enrichment courses, support group for step parents and workshop for children living with stepfamilies

#### **Progress Updates**

The programme reached out and benefitted 302 couples at the orientation sessions and 316 at the Projek Memupuk Kasih between September 2009 and August 2010. Participation at the orientation sessions increased to 429 couples, while 169 couples attended the latter between September 2010 and June 2011. 183 couples attended the Step Parenting Workshop.

#### Conclusion

The programme and its evaluation are still ongoing.

#### Partner

PPIS

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 2,482 (Sep 2009 to Jun 2011)

#### Purpose

- (iii) In Care Religious Programme, also known as 'Muslim Intensive Lifeskills Programme', for Malay Muslim Inmates, introduced in October 2008, aims to:
- provide in-care programmes to these inmates to impart religious knowledge based on Islamic tenets and a set of life skills to enable them to assimilate and reintegrate into society upon release.

The following strategies were adopted:

- 1. Development of curriculum based on MUIS Adult Islamic Learning Model
- 2. Identification and training of asatizahs
- Implementation of three-phased programme; 'Islamic Worldview', 'Spiritual and Life Skills' and 'Building Resilience and Preparedness'

#### **Progress Updates**

The programme reached out and benefitted 32 inmates. The Tasawwur Islam curriculum was designed in accordance with the guidelines Office of MUFTI and Singapore Prisons Service. The Programme Manual was developed by PERGAS Dakwah Department. The outreach and recruitment of asatizahs continue to receive good response. Thus far, 11 asatizahs have been trained and 6 have been deployed for the first batch of the Muslim Intensive Lifeskills Programme (MILSP).

# progress updates: family development network

#### Conclusion

The programme and its evaluation are still ongoing and will complete in July 2012.

#### Partner

#### PERGAS

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 32

#### CORE PARENTING SKILLS

#### **Purpose**

The programme, introduced in 2008 aims to:

equip parents with the necessary parenting skills so that they would be more effective primary educators in developing their children holistically. In order to realize the aim of the programme, the following initiatives were adopted:

- (i) Education Seminar Series
- (ii) **Program Bijak Belanja** or Financial Literacy Programme
- (iii) Strengthening Families Series
- (i) Education Seminar Series, introduced in 2008, aims to:

Create awareness on the changing educational landscape and the alternative pathways for:

- parents with pre-school and primary school children
- parents with children sitting for PSLE and secondary school education

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 200 participants per seminar
- 2. To receive positive feedback from at least 85% of participants

#### **Findings**

1.1 The programme reached out and benefitted 441 in 2010;

- 2.1 87% of participants strongly agreed that the seminar met their expectations;
- 2.2 90% strongly agreed that the seminars were useful and beneficial to them;
- 2.3 Almost all of the participants indicated that they will recommend the seminar to others.

#### Conclusion

The Education Seminar Series has exceeded its targeted participation and continues to improve its outreach since inception. The proposal to rebrand and to integrate the seminar was adopted in 2011 hence the Education Seminar Series has been subsumed under 'Brunch with MENDAKI' and incorporated as a component of Cahaya M, to include educational workshops for parent-participants of Cahaya M.

#### Partner

MENDAKI

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 441

(ii) **Program Bijak Belanja**, established in 2008, aims to:

Create an awareness and understanding of the importance of financial literacy and management and to enable participants to apply the knowledge and skills learnt to their daily lives through:

- (i) one (1) core module on Financial Literacy and
- (ii) three (3) electives on 'Lifestyle', 'Home Ownership' and 'Credit and Debt Management'

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 50 participants per core module and 30 participants per elective module
- 2. To receive positive feedback from 85% of participants

#### Findings

- 1.1. The programme reached out to 4,801 participants in 2010.
- 2.1 Upon completion of the programme, all of the participants indicated that Program Bijak Belanja has met its objectives, was relevant and beneficial to them and they would recommend it to their friends or relatives.
- 2.2. When interviewed 6 months after the programme, 51% of those who were not able to save at the start are now able to.
- 2.3 While more than 80% of the participants have expressed their interest to attend further courses on financial literacy, data also shows that Program Bijak Belanja has encouraged an increasing proportion of them to attend other financial literacy programmes offered by community agencies for example, Budget Seminar by Family Service Centres, Money Sense by North East CDC, Budgeting Seminar by Al-Falah Mosque etc.

#### Conclusion

Program Bijak Belanja has shown to empower its participants to be more financially savvy in today's economic landscape and to instill a desire for continuous training and development in financial literacy. In order to achieve a more targeted approach to the programme, the Family Development Network has plans to offer new elective modules to youths, and especially young couples. The growing popularity of Program Bijak Belanja amongst the Malay/Muslim community has prompted the Network to work closely with People's Association (PA) for greater outreach at the heartlands and to develop two (2) new electives; 'Time Is Money' and 'Insurance & You' in 2011, to ensure that the programme remains relevant and effective.

#### Partners

Bt Batok East CC	Cheng San CC
North East Mosque	Ar-Raudhah Mosque
Cluster	
Khalid Mosque	Assyakirin Mosque
AMP	Ciyuan CC
Lam Soon CC	Bt Batok Central CC
Ang Mo Kio CC	Tampines FSC
Ace the Place CC	

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 4,801

(iii) Strengthening Families Series, established in 2009, aims to create greater understanding on effective family functioning through:

Session 1: Setting Goals and Boundaries

Session 2: Physical, Emotional and Spiritual Well-being

Session 3: Understanding Life Stages of an Individual

#### **Programme Design**

- 1. To reach out to 30 participants for every run (consisting of 3 sessions)
- 2. To receive positive feedback from 85% of participants

#### Findings

- 1.1 The Strengthening Families Series reached out and benefitted 800 participants for each session.
- 2.1 Though all three sessions were rated highly by participants, Session 3 was the most well-received with 95% of participants rating the session as 'satisfactory' and 'most satisfactory';
- 2.2. 90% of the participants indicated that they will share the information received and that they would encourage others to attend;

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2.3 According to the pre and post perception survey administered before and after the completion of the 3 sessions, figures showed an improvement in the proportion of participants who indicated that they "agree that challenges are good and necessary for the family", "are more aware of signs of unhealthy stress" and that "every child is different based on their level of development".

#### Conclusion

In order to improve outreach and partnership, the Strengthening Families Series has grown more inclusive through collaboration with MUIS and grassroots organizations. Parentparticipants of MUIS EPS programme are now able to leverage on the former as part of the parental development component. New initiatives include reaching out to Indian Muslim parents through collaborations with MMOs such as UIMA and SKML and the engagement of Tamil-speaking trainer for these organisations, and the inclusion of younger couples with support from Kandang Kerbau Women's and Children's Hospital.

#### **Partners**

SE Mosque Cluster	Bt. Batok East CC	
Assyakirin Mosque	AMP	
Ace the Place CC	Singapore Children's Society	
Marine Parade FSC	NW CDC	

#### Outreach

Total no. of participants: 800

#### FAMILY EXCELLENCE CIRCLES

#### Purpose

Implemented in 2005, Family Excellence Circles or FEC aims to:

provide a social support network for parents to connect and interact with one another. Such interactions would help to facilitate the exchange of ideas and the sharing of best practices in coping with the everyday challenges of parenthood

empower these parents with the knowledge to tackle familial issues and to enhance their family resilience

#### **Programme Design**

- To encourage participation at group support sessions, activities, and Strengthening Families series Workshops, from at least 70% of participants
- To empower individuals and groups to be self-supporting where they are able to manage and operate their network independently or with minimal support from MENDAKI

#### **Findings**

- 70% of the participants fulfilled 1.1 the attendance requirements for the programme, as they were able to leverage on other available programmes like Strengthening Families Series and participate in MMOs events and activities, for example, Maulid Nabi Celebrations lamiyah, Asian Civilization by Museum International Museum Day Celebrations, Ain Society Seminar on Cancer Awareness, the launch of the Bersama MENDAKI campaign at Tanjong Katong Complex and SUTRA parenting conference;
- Groups which are steered by active 2.1 members since 2005 have progressed to independently implement and manage their group activities. These groups have leveraged on new social media platforms to reach out to their members by creating their own social space in Facebook and blogs to keep them updated of programmes and services available at MENDAKI and locally. Examples of activities organized by these groups include Mothers' and Fathers' Day Celebrations, National Day Barbeque, Hari Raya Celebrations, etc. These groups continue to receive funding by MENDAKI for transport and subsidies for training courses and seminars

as well as providing venues for their group meetings. Potential members are also equipped with leadership and facilitation skills organized by the Volunteer Relations Department, MENDAKI.

#### Conclusion

This programme enables participants to come together and share their experiences at group support sessions, bonding activities and learning journeys. A growing proportion of participants have also joined as members in their child's Parent Support Group (PSG), having realized the importance of the need for active engagement by family members in their child's education and the benefits of a social support network for parents.

#### **Partners**

SKML	UIMA	
4PM	Al-Wehda	
Muhammadiyah Welfare Home	Ain Society	
МКАС	MENDAKI	
Outreach		

Total no. of participants: 604

#### **Summary of Findings**

The Action Plan for Strengthening Malay/ Muslim Families has proven its effectiveness through its various initiatives. The Wrap Around Care Concept enables the community to set directions for social work and social development in a coordinated and integrated manner, whereby social workers, social development advocates and practitioners are urged to come together to consolidate experience, to share new knowledge and skills, and to discuss and jointly develop the community towards self-reliance. The programme allows for families to seek and receive holistic help for the whole family. The CLF Secretariat proposes to continue strengthening ties with national and community agencies. As the programme develops into an extensive system of partners and beneficiaries, the network should adopt a more rigorous and systematic evaluation process across all of its initiatives in order to monitor and evaluate participants' learning, progress and achievements and the overall effectiveness of the programme more extensively.



# **Employability Network**

When we first started CLF, it was a lot more difficult to get people to be truly interested in skills upgrading. Over the last couple of years, I've seen a shift in mindset, in the sense that they (beneficiaries) recognize that having a job by itself is not sufficient...whilst they are working, they need to continuously upgrade and that is extremely useful. Mdm Halimah Yacob

What we do is to build resilience in our workers so that they can weather the challenges they may face in the future. Our experience in the past through the recession has shown that employment and employability is important. for us to provide the necessary ability for our workers to be able to get new jobs, better jobs and better pay.

# progress updates: employability network

#### **Did You Know**

- Preliminary estimates show that total employment grew by 22,800 in the second quarter of 2011. The gains were lower than the 28,300 in the preceding quarter and 24,900 in the same quarter last year.
- The bulk or 18,800 of the employment gains came from services. Construction added 2,600 workers and manufacturing employment rose by 1,300.
- With the slower employment growth, the overall unemployment rate increased from a seasonally adjusted 1.9% in March 2011 to 2.1% in June 2011. Over the same period, the unemployment rate for residents rose from 2.7% to 3.0%. This brought the unemployment rates to around the levels in 2010, after declining in the first quarter this year.

Source: Ministry of Manpower

56.3% of Malay Muslim women are economically inactive. The dependency ratio of Malay Muslim community is 1:3, i.e., one breadwinner supporting 3 non-working family members.

Source: General Household Survey 2005

#### **Objectives of Network**

- To facilitate jobseekers' entry into the workforce
- To provide timely opportunities for continuous skills training and development to help workers remain employable
- To provide job opportunities for those with special needs or unique skills through enterprising endeavours

#### **Programmes for Evaluation**

- Move Into
- \* Move Up
- Move Between
- Move Across

Note on source of information: Data in this report is drawn from the most recent available statistics from the Employability Network. The evaluation period for all programmes, unless otherwise specified, are from January 2010 to December 2010.



# progress updates: employability network

#### Programme

#### **MOVE INTO**

Definition: Unemployed individuals find gainful employment.

#### **Purpose**

The programme, initiated in 2010, aims to better track the unemployed into the workforce. It is also used to identify the various industries for new entrants as well as the emerging industries that provide high number of job positions.

#### **Target group**

An individual who is not in employment when registering for services with SENSE Long term unemployed (LTU) Back to Work Women

#### **Programme Design**

- To reach out to 2200 job seekers
- To achieve 1200 job placements
- To ensure retention of at least 720 workers in their jobs (Retention in their jobs for at least 3 months)

#### **Evaluation Tool**

- Letter from employers
- Survey conducted on workers and/or their employers

#### Findings

Reached out to 3658 job seekers;

- Out of this figure, 1411 job seekers are LTUs;
- Highest placement rate for long term unemployed. 7 out of 10 LTUs get jobs after going through foundational training and one-stop centre services at SENSE;
- LTUs with A level and above saw the highest jump in 2009 (20% of the LTUs). The numbers have declined

in 2010 (12% of the LTUs) with the improved economy;

25% of unemployed trainees have secured jobs upon completion of their course.

#### Conclusion

Move Into acts as a tool for tracking of the unemployed. It helps facilitate a better analysis and understanding of the industries and sectors for employment purposes and the issues they face in getting employment. A further analysis is also possible to understand the prevalent issues that are unique to the LTUs and Back to Work Women.

#### **Recommendations**

The CLF Secretariat recommends to continue adopting the Move Into programme to meet the specific needs of unemployed individuals in the community and to render assistance in getting them into the workforce. Besides job matching services, other forms of assistances include Job Placement Exercises and Career Readiness Workshops.

#### **Partners**

Workforce Development Agency (WDA) Employers - 200 SMEs

#### Outreach

Total no. of job seekers: 3,658

#### Programme

#### **MOVE UP**

Definition: Move Up within a company. Worker gets promoted or get into a bigger job role.

#### Purpose

The programme, initiated in 2010, aims to:

Better track workers movement in their employment. It is also used as a programme evaluation platform

to identify the effectiveness of the training programmes that they have attended and their impact on the workers' work performance;

- Transit workers into PMETs through \* training: SENSE facilitates Skills Development Fund (SDF) for workers who take up skills upgrading courses through the Surrogate Employer Programme (SEP). This programme provides an avenue for workers who could not get company support, to gain access to SDF in defraying part of the cost of pursuing skills upgrading courses to move up in their career. Through SENSE's facilitation of the SDF, and collaborations with our network of training providers, workers have been able to upgrade their skill sets to take up supervisory roles and transit to the role of PMETs:
- Engage with Continuing Education and Training (CET) Centres: To supplement basic training in soft skills, SENSE engages other CET centres to tap on the functional training programme for specific skill sets. This enables the workers to take up diploma courses and move up in their industry. In the first half of year, we had engaged the following CET centres to share our programmes and services and explore possible areas collaboration;
- Organize seminars and workshops for PMETs: Apart from skills upgrading courses, SENSE also engages PMETs through talks and workshops that are targeted to their personal and professional development.

#### **Target group**

Experienced rank and file workers aspiring to be supervisors

#### **Programme Design**

To track trainees' progress in their jobs in terms of experienced better performance at work, promotion, salary increments, supervisory role and bigger job scope.

#### **Evaluation Tool**

- Letter and acknowledgement from employers
- Survey conducted on workers and/or their employers
- Evaluation forms

#### **Findings**

- 18.4% of workers who have attended training have moved up in their jobs. This means that more have experienced job promotion, salary increments, higher job responsibilities or just have experienced better performance at work;
- Engaged 11 CET centres and they are invited to participate in various outreach activities;
- A total of 135 PMETs have participated in various workshops.

#### Conclusion

Tracking of the performance of employed trainees after they have attended skills training is crucial to measure the effectiveness of the training programmes as well as to track their progress. This will allow us to understand our workforce performance so that continuous improvements can be made to the training programme design and delivery to better suit the needs of our workforce.

#### **Recommendations**

The CLF Secretariat recommends to continue adopting the Move Up programme to assist workers to uplift their opportunities for better employment prospects.

#### Partners

Workforce Development Agency (WDA) Employers Learning Ambassadors

# progress updates: employability network

#### Outreach

Total no. of training places: 4,372

#### Programme

#### **MOVE BETWEEN AND MOVE ACROSS**

Definition: Move Between companies in an industry

Worker finds new job within same industry such as in the case to avoid retrenchment

Definition: Move Across to another industry Worker finds new job in a different industry, such as in case of growing industry to seize new opportunities.

#### Purpose

The programme, initiated in 2010, aims to:

\* Provide Career Coaching: Early 2011, SENSE launched its Career Coaching programme. Targeting mainly at low-skilled workers, the aim of the Career Coaching is to provide consultancy services in drawing out career pathways and identifying skill gaps that impedes the pathways, and mapping the gaps to the training programmes. This is done through leveraging on the various government initiatives like the Workfare Training Support (WTS) and training grants available. To date, we have 10 Career Coaches that are able to provide guidance and advise to jobseekers and workers who seek to level up in their career, or do a career switch for better employment prospects.

Build resilience of rank and file workers through Surrogate Employer and Skills Development Fund The Surrogate Employer programme also facilitates a large portion of SDF for rank and file workers to level up their skills and build their resilience in the volatile economy. With emerging economies come new skill sets, and acquiring this allow workers to move between sunset industries to sunrise industries that has potential for growth. Training for this category ranges from various industries like pre-school, logistics and manufacturing, construction and safety, IT, business management and so on.

Offer Contract and Casual Workers programme (CCW): Amidst assisting the LTUs and BWWs, there rose another trend of employment - the contract and casual employment. While some CCWs are consultants and professionals who survive by contracting their skills and expertise, it is the group of low-skilled hence low wage CCWs that is of emerging concern. Most of the contractual working agreements for the low-skilled workers do not have provision for CPF contribution and hence they lose out on the various national initiatives on top of their constant susceptibility to structural displacements during economic crisis.

#### Target group

- Low Wage Workers
- Contract and Casual workers

#### **Programme Design**

To track trainees' progress in their jobs in terms of:

- Moving between companies
- Moving across to another industry

#### **Evaluation Tool**

- Letter and acknowledgement from employers
- Survey conducted on workers and/or their employers
- Evaluation forms

#### Findings

- 2% of workers have been tracked to either move between or move across jobs;
- 10 career coaches deployed to render career coaching services;
- Achieved 80 individual Career

Coaching sessions. 60 % of them have been referred to training programmes, while the rest have been referred to employment services like Career Readiness Workshop;

Through surrogate employer programme, SENSE has achieved 1,842 training places.

#### Conclusion

It is important to track the movements of our workers to identify the sectors they are in and what drives them to switch industries and companies. This will allow us to tailor our outreach programmes, training programmes and career coaching framework to meet their specific needs. What is crucial is to assist them to stay in their jobs, get better prospects and remain relevant by possessing updated skills.

#### Recommendations

The CLF Secretariat recommends to continue adopting the Move between and Move Across programmes to assist workers to uplift their opportunities for better employment prospects.

#### **Partners**

Workforce Development Agency (WDA) Employers Learning Ambassadors

#### Outreach

Total no. of training places: 2,797



# Network Highlights from inception to 2010





# education

Maju Minda Matematika (2004 – 2010)				
2,319 parents & 2,518 children	12 Partners			
<b>Preparatory Math and Science Workshop for Primary 5</b> (2007 – 2010)				
3,619 children	6 Partners			
Success in PSLE Mathematics Seminar (2006 – 2010)				
12,204 children	14 Partners			
Intensive PSLE Math (2008 – 2010)				
276 children	3 Partners			

# youth development

<b>Youth-In-Action (YIA)</b> (2004 – 2010)			
2,884 youths	66 Partners		
Max Out (2005 – 2010)			
559 youths	2 Partners		
Integrated Programme for Teenagers (NUR) (2006 – 2010)			
2,047 youths	7 Partners		
Empowerment Programme for Girls (EPG) (2008 – 2010)			
809 youths	14 Partners		
009 youths	14 Partners		





# family development

Wrap Around Care Pilot Project (2008 – 2010)			
125 families / 500 participants	5 Partners		
Community of Practice (2009 – 2010)			
391 participants	5 Senior Social Service Practitioners		
Community Projects (2008 – 2010)			
4,205 participants	3 Partners		
Core Parenting Skills (2006 – 2010)			
9,792 participants	13 Partners		
Family Excellence Circles (2008 – 2010)			
604 participants	8 Partners		

# employability

**Employment Facilitation** (2004 – 2010)

21,000 job seekers

Training Facilitation (2004 – 2010)

67,640 training places

# the songket lifestyle

Songket weaving is a rich, varied, creative, artistic and complex tradition that has existed in the Malay Peninsula for several hundred years, possibly since the late sixteenth century when the frame loom was introduced from western Europe, reaching its zenith perhaps 200 years ago with the famed prestige fabric limar songket. During this time, changes in the character, type, use, design, quality, meaning and function of the textiles have occurred.

From being a high status silk and gold cloth associated with rank, social status and power, aristocratic use, songket gradually assumed a more egalitarian face as it moved from court to kampong, from ruler to rakyat.

Like the songket, Community Leaders' Forum provides a shared platform for the community to recognize and celebrate the achievements, contributions and experiences of every stakeholder, from community leaders to the people.

## **Our Experiences**

### In Conversation with Steering Committee



Over the years, I have seen the network evolving and now we have to be more segmented in our approach. We launched the coaching framework earlier this year and this

framework is critical so that workers can look at their skills level and where they want to move into in terms of their career. Mdm Halimah Yacob

#### Mdm Halimah Yacob



We have been able to do two things. One is to prepare them through Job Ready Programme. To encourage workers to continuously upgrade and acquire new skills

through the Job Steady programme will enable them to be more resilient and able to get better jobs in the future. **Mr Zainudin Nordin** 



We can help people with social mobility.. improving their lives, keeping them in schools, opening up their mindsets and it's even more meaningful if it

comes from a young person... these are the lives we want to change...and the mindsets we want to bridge for the future. Assoc Prof Fatimah Lateef

Assoc Prot Fatiman Lateer



What is encouraging is the amount of Malay youth who are diploma holders or university grads, having been successful in their careers, who have stepped forward...

they have been mentoring or volunteering. It is heartening to see our own youths to help those who are less fortunate in the community.

Mr Zaqy Mohamad



These are different programmes trying to reach out to different levels of family development and needs. What we want is for

families to come out and benefit from the programmes. Don't feel shy, don't feel embarrassed, don't feel stigmatized. These programmes are meant to help those who are in need of help and they should come forward. In this way, we can reach out to more people. **Mr Zainul Abidin Rasheed** 



Children can be nurtured in the aspects of love for learning, love for books by creating an environment at home where we can use utensils or appliances, to nurture

their ability to develop in terms of literacy and numeracy.

#### Mr Masagos Zulkifli



We will always compare ourselves with the performance of non Malay students. On our own, we have done well. However, if we improve further our performance

in Maths and Science, they will be able to get into better courses at higher levels; ITE, polytechnic or even university.

Having seen the progress of our CLF education programmes, there's a need now to expand it further to involve more beneficiaries, parents and children, and for that we need more partners, so that everyone can take ownership.

Mr Hawazi Daipi



The positive message that comes through each one of them is the systemic effect of how people come together. They ride on each other's positive vibes. We see very strong

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networking happening within these families. **Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman** 

## **Our Experiences**

### In Conversation with Partners



"Tiga M, through CLF has enabled community agencies to come together to reach out to parents who need support in pre-school education. Tiga M focuses on the importance of complementary learning between parent and child in early mathematical learning and literacy skills. I would like to encourage other PCFs to partner CLF in Tiga M, and for more parents to come forward and to seek help for themselves and their pre-schoolers."



Being a partner since 2008, Mdm Manisah sees vast benefits for participants in Tiga M. The Malay/Muslim parents, who enrolled in the programme, generally expressed their discomfort and incompetency in knowledge and skills in assisting their child in the learning of Mathematics. Tiga M enables these parents, of pre-schoolers, to be more involved in their child's education through the use of experiential learning and available resources in the home environment to facilitate a child's understanding of mathematical concepts. Through continuous feedback and evaluation, the parent and child-participants have both indicated that their communication has improved and are more confident and open to approaching new tasks and challenges in Math.

Mdm Manisah always advises her participants on the importance of early mathematical learning and literacy skills to support a child's reading with understanding. The Tiga M workshops offered by PCF Woodlands encourage parents to be the "first educators" and to practise positive reinforcement and emotional support to a child during his/her formative years.

Tiga M, through CLF has enabled community agencies to come together to reach out to parents who need support in pre-school education. She would like to encourage other PCFs to partner CLF in Tiga M, and for more parents to come forward and to seek help for themselves and their pre-schoolers. **Mdm Manisah bte Ratman** Principal, PCF Woodlands

Tiga M Partner



"Max Out has the power to effect life change in its participants, which in turn impacts their families and the community at large. The programme enables the youthparticipants to realise their inner strengths or potential and provides opportunities for these out-of-school vouths to receive academic support and vocational skills training, for а more holistic and comprehensive intervention plan. These participants can then be socially and economically-effective contributors to society."



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Mr Amal Kiran posited that Jamiyah Business School or JBS, an educational arm of Jamiyah Singapore, aims to serve the community through education. Max Out, a CLF initiative supported by JBS for the past six (6) years, as part of its Community Engagement Programmes, continues to receive favourable feedback from its providers and beneficiaries. The programme has recently adopted a more integrated learning framework, whereby participants can now enjoy new modules for example, Certificate in Critical Thinking Skills and opt for a more flexible course duration. Max Out's designed to ensure that the participants are able to make informed choices and to sustain their progress even upon graduation from the programme.

Mr Amal Kiran expressed his satisfaction with the level of engagement with MENDAKI and hopes to continue its partnership and support in their efforts to increase awareness on the programme amongst educators and other stakeholders who work closely with youths-at-risk or disadvantaged youths. Mr Amal believes that a close synergy amongst the partners and other community agencies, and an upstream approach to identifying these youths would reap better outcomes and sustainability of the programme's effectiveness.

#### Mr Amal Kiran

Centre Manager, Jamiyah Business School Max Out Partner

## **Our Experiences**

### In Conversation with Partners



"We (MENDAKI Sense) may not be able to address all issues that the worker faces in the families, but we are able to tap on other resources that are available within the networks so that we can get the person to be job ready. MENDAKI Sense's Continuous Education and Training Centre would be essential for workers to level up their literacy and numeracy skills so that they can take the courses of their choice and to guide them on what's next in their career path."

Through CLF, MENDAKI SENSE has built collaborations with national agencies, employers, training partners, mosques. These organisations have been the Learning Ambassadors for SENSE. Today SENSE works with more than 120 active partners and this was made possible through the CLF framework/platform.

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Shenaz Poonawala Acting General Manager MENDAKI Sense Pte Ltd





"The Wrap Around Care Concept has shown many 'high points' for community partners and the participating families. Through a collaborative and integrated approach amongst social service agencies like CDC. MUIS. MENDAKI. and the FSC, we (partners) can come together in a more structured and formalised way to help these families get connected available community to resources. In their own areas of specialisation, partners can provide the different aspects of family needs. The families shown have significant improvements in their lives, and their children are able to receive educational support through community schemes and programmes."

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Tampines FSC continues to be amongst a supportive group of partners from the Wrap Around Care Pilot Project, in 2008 to the Enhanced Wrap Around Care (eWAC) presently. The need for cultural understanding and proximity was the impetus for their participation in the project. Mr Joachim Lee shared on the successes of partnership with Malay/Muslim Organisations, in order to understand the cultural perspectives of the Malay community and to break down barriers for more effective intervention.

Mr Joachim Lee looks forward to more collaborative partnership opportunities and encouraged other FSCs to join in the family of WAC partners. Dysfunctional families require longer-term support and with a strong network of partners at community and national level, these families will be able to receive the help they seek to improve their lives.

#### Mr Joachim Lee

Director, Tampines Family Service Centre Wrap Around Care Partner



*Mr Joachim Lee (left of photo) and Mr Muzafar Mustafa, Project Manager, MENDAKI* 

## **Our Experiences**

### In Conversation with Beneficiaries



"I'm now more confident of my role as a parent, in teaching Math using available resources at home. Tiga M has also helped me to understand mathematical language like "more than" or "equal to", which I feel is important in the learning of Math."

Mdm Mahawa binte Nezamudin, a working mother in her thirties, attended Tiga M at Jurong Spring Community Club recently. Before attending Tiga M, Mdm Mahawa had expressed her apprehension in helping her son, Muhammad Qayyum bin Azlan, 6 years old, in his Math. Mdm Mahawa was not certain or confident of her ability and efficacy in assisting her son in tackling solving mathematical questions at home. She realised that her inability had discouraged her from helping her son in effective mathematical problem solving. Inevitably, she found herself buying expensive teaching/learning resources available in the market even though she still faced challenges in using the resources as part of son's learning.

Having attended the six (6) sessions of Tiga M, Mdm Mahawa realised that she was able to play a more active role in her child's preschool education with the use of Concrete Pictorial Abstract method (CPA) in the teaching and learning of early numeracy skills. As part the Mediated Learning Experience (MLE), the strategies and teaching techniques have enabled her to make learning easier and more interactive.

Mdm Mahawa, like many other parents in the programme, is now more confident of her role as a contributing parent and is able to create a conducive learning environment at home for her children. She felt that the resources provided by the trainer was highly useful and effective and also found her ability to leverage on the existing resources at home, cost effective. The programme has also helped her to understand mathematical language like "more than" or "equal to", which she feels is important in the learning of Math. Mdm Mahawa looks forward to similar trainings or a follow-up to Tiga M, on a more regular basis to ensure that she remains relevant and effective in her child's learning.

**Mdm Mahawa bte Nezamudin** Tiga M Participant



"I enjoy attending classes at Jamiyah Business School (JBS), for the academic, and social and emotional support which I receive from my mentor, Mr Bakhtiar Anang, programme leader, Siti Aisyah Shaik Nordin, and peers. I am grateful to MENDAKI for sponsoring my education and JBS for guiding me in making informed decisions in my life and to realise my potential."

Mr Farhan bin Azhar, 18 years old, decided to give himself a second chance at education after been away from school for 3 years, when he found out about the opportunities available to him as a participant of Max Out. Farhan, who used to spend his days and night as a waiter and bartender, has now set his mind on pursuing an education in Aerospace Engineering at ITE MacPherson. Determined to excel in the 'N' Level examinations in 2011. Farhan has been working hard towards achieving his goals, so that he can someday be a role model to youths who may have left school, like himself, and are uncertain of their future. His positive attitude and concerted efforts have earned Farhan first place in his class in the mid-year examinations.

Farhan now enjoys attending classes at Jamiyah Business School (JBS), for the academic, and social and emotional support which he receives from his mentor. Mr Bakhtiar Anang, programme leader, Siti Aisyah Shaik Nordin, and peers. He is grateful to MENDAKI for sponsoring his education and JBS for guiding him to make informed choices in his life and to realise his potential. Amidst his pursuit for higher learning, Farhan constantly reflects on the disadvantaged Malay/Muslims, whom he feels can excel if given the opportunity. He hopes that he would be able to give back to society by volunteering and donating to the needy in the future.

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Mr Farhan bin Azhar Max Out Participant

### **Our Experiences**

### In Conversation with Beneficiaries



"Perseverance and confidence of oneself are key traits in finding one's goals. I would like to urge other men who are unemployed or want to upgrade themselves to come forward and seek help from community agencies. Don't feel discouraged or embarrassed as there are programmes to meet different needs and expectations. I encourage my peers to remain positive amidst the competitive job market and to continuously upgrade themselves and be work ready."

To Mr Sapiee, age was not a deterrent to continuously upgrade himself so that he will remain relevant and competitive in the job market. Armed with the Certified Service Professional (CSP) and Workplace Literacy and Numeracy (WPLN), the 59 year-old grandfather was determined to seek employment in the construction industry when he completed his last contract stint 6 months ago.

He had approached MENDAKI Sense, after meeting with Mdm Halimah Yacob, the Co-Chairman of the Employability Network, and received sponsorship from the organisation to attend the Building Construction Safety Supervisor Course. Encouraged by the support which he received from the community leaders and agencies, Mr Sapiee was motivated to work hard in finding a suitable job that would allow him to practise his knowledge and skills as a Safety Supervisor. He is currently employed and look forward to his work every day.

"Perseverance and confidence of oneself are key traits in finding one's goals. I would like to urge other men who are unemployed or want to upgrade themselves to come forward and seek help from community agencies. Don't feel discouraged or embarrassed as there are programmes to meet different needs and expectations. I encourage my peers to remain positive amidst the competitive job market and to continuously upgrade themselves and be work ready."

#### **Mr Sapiee bin Sadi** Job Facilitation Participant





Excellence Circles *"Family* allows me to connect with otherparentswhosharesimilar experiences and challenges in parenting through the various communication channels available. "Evolusi Akrab". a Facebook account, which the group has created, enables me to stay connected with the other members and to learn useful tips on managing these stressors. We can also tap on other available programmes for our children like MENDAKI Tuition Scheme (MTS) and other educational and youth programmes offered by CLF."

A mother to three school-going children, Mdm Rahimah binte Ismail, enjoys the experiential opportunities she gets from being a member of a "Family Excellence Circle" or "Kumpulan Keluarga Akrab". The programme enables parents to connect with one another and share experiences on the challenges of parenthood and useful tips on managing these stressors.

A member since 2010, Mdm Rahimah has grown more confident in her role as a parent and is eager to widen her social circle with other parents who share similar familial challenges in their day-to-day parenting with adolescents and teenagers. "With an active and enthusiastic group leader and members, we are able to communicate with one another through several forms of interaction. Apart from visiting cultural shows and exhibitions and participating in events and activities, my group leader has created a platform on Facebook, "Evolusi Akrab" for us to stay connected."

Mdm Rahimah was also able to leverage on other available programmes and services offered by the Family Development Network, like Program Bijak Belanja and Strengthening Families Series. Her children have recently been enrolled in MENDAKI Tuition Scheme (MTS) and are exploring other educational and youth programmes offered by CLF. Mdm Rahimah encourages more parents to come forward and join a family excellence circle, as her family life has improved significantly through the support network of parents and for the availability and proximity to relevant and useful programmes for children.

#### Mdm Rahimah binte Ismail

Family Excellence Circles Participant

### **Our Experiences**

### CLF 2010 – Forward Planning Exercise

In 2010, CLF, through the efforts of the Forward-Planning Exercise (FPE), has brought young people together to offer new paradigms of knowledge, systems, perspectives, approaches and ideas.

"FPE will value-add the CLF in two ways. First, it will bring in **new ideas**, secondly, it'll bring **young people** to the process. This synergy between the young and the experience will bring about greater effectiveness to the solutions that we will develop for the challenges facing the community for the years to come."

"We're working our youth to **think outside the box**...the context is the community...is there another way of doing things...bearing in mind the challenges of the future. I'm optimistic about the future of CLF...it is a structure that we've created and **brought the entire community on board**....this process can only grow..."

**Assoc Prof Dr Yaacob Ibrahim** 

Reference: Community Leaders' Forum -Youth Development Network. (2011). Retrieved Sep 2, 2011, from http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oS16T1vNhtw

"As CLF Secretariat, we hope to add value to the ideas that will come out from the ground...we'll be supporting in terms of **fruition of the ideas**... even **expanding** those **ideas**..and that's what the Secretariat is looking forward to...." **Mdm Moliah Hashim** 

CEO MENDAKI, CLF Secretariat



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### **Our Experiences**

### In Conversation with CLF-FPE Participants

It has been a great pleasure to chair and work with the FPE Employability Work Group members. The diversity and camaraderie within the group was fabulous. Where else can I get the opportunity to meet on a regularly basis for one year with a pharmaceutical chemist, financial wealth manager, training consultant, academics/ resdearchers, teachers, artistic director, entrepreneur, Mendaki staff and social innovation specialist.



Saktiandi, first from right

Despite having only one year to assess the situation, the fact that we got along quite well amid a tight schedule of weekday night and weekend meetings to brainstorm possible broad strategies with regards to employability made the whole process quite eniovable. Besides that the numerous "heartto-heart" sessions with subject matter specialists and stakeholders, have been an enriching. Not just in terms of understanding the community's employment situation its strengths and weaknesses but also see benefits in the process - the experience of meeting people from the whole strata of society and understanding their general concerns.

It provides opportunities to understand the intricacies embedded in any strategies that have been implemented or already introduced in alleviating concerns or enhancing the community which includes low income single mothers, subject matter specialists such as economists, arts industry professionals, community counselors, students - youths, community leaders, members of parliament and many others.

Underlying all these, at the social level, there were some strong bonds made among members of the working group, networks were forged between some of us who were from different community organisations and all these has led to some ideas generated as a follow-up to the FPE. A small group of members have gone ahead to undertake a project under CLF labs. Overall an enriching experience and it has enhanced our 'feel' of issues within the community and spurred us to contribute even more to the community. I think I can safely say that the other group members feel the same way too.

**Mr Saktiandi bin Supaat** Chairman, Employability Work Group

On the whole, *working on youths with youths exposed the Youth Work Group to people from different backgrounds with different perspectives of life and ideas as well as provide a better understanding of the community and the mechanisms.* Most importantly, this experience brought about a greater awareness of the potential and possibilities of our future generation. **Ms Norsaleen Salleh** 

Chairman, Youth Work Group



Norsaleen in black, third from right



came from diverse backgrounds with the one passion to work together to make a difference the future to of the young in community. the Personally, what began as a humbling start to the Forward Planning Exercise



in December 2009, has turned out to be an enriching journey together with the 14 members of the Education Workgroup.

We are committed to think creatively and imaginatively to identify new breakthrough strategies that will propel the community forward. Everyone of us share the belief that every Malay child is an asset to the family, community and the nation.

Whilst the Singapore education system is continuously undergoing change, Malay parents and members of the community together with schools, need to forge a Partnership in Education. Creating New Visions in ensuring the future success of Malay children in education and life.

The work of the Education Workgroup is only the beginning and only through new and broader thinking and efforts can real change occur.

#### Ms Aidaroyani Adam

Chairman, Education Work Group

The Family Workgroup aka the Family was about mountains, kopi and pebbles. In the beginning, we had panic attacks and doubtful moments whether the Family could conquer the mountain-like expectation to put together 'groundbreaking' and 'innovative' strategies for the community in preparation for the next decade. There were also mountains of information from past historical milestones, annual trends, statistics and master plans that we had to make sense of and examine. But soon we found the Family through kopi. From Onepeople.sg, we moved our "port" to Yakun, Macs, CBTL and Kg Glam Cafe. With kopi, new kindred spirits were forged, IORI jokes created and brain fart moments endured.

We expanded our social networks when friends' friends turned friends. And the weekly meetings became much anticipated, debates and discussions turned real and honest, and what was supposedly an intellectual objective process for the CLF, also became a meaningful introspective journey for ourselves and those around us.

The Family is still intact amidst the weddings. birthdays, farewells, graduations and careers. In fact it has expanded to include significant others and even gone global. But most importantly, every member of the Family has taken ownership to begin our own journey towards building sustainable families. Insya Allah, while we dream of moving boulders in the future, we will first work on the pebbles todav.

Ms Nur Izzaty Mohd Salleh Chairman, Family Work Group



Izzaty, third from right

# the new songket

Recently the development of an exciting new type of product, one that combines contemporary conceptual thinking with innovative weaving techniques based on the ancient low-tech songket process, promises to breathe new life into the songket industry. This is critical especially in the area of fashion and design where texture quality and productivity are critical in order to capture a broader market.

There have been changes in the design repertoire and colour palette of songket over the last 40-50 years, some quite radical. As more changes give a fresh impetus to the industry, the beauty of songket is realised, making it more relevant in a modern and globalised world.

The community will realize its full potential when partners, within and beyond the Malay/ Muslim Voluntary Sector, come together to reach out to a wider community and create new opportunities and initiatives for our people.

### **Our Future**

### **CLF** Labs

CLF Labs is a platform for young members of the Malay/Muslim community to develop, incubate and test out ideas that will contribute to the vision for a 'Conscientized Generation' or 'Generasi Peduli'.

To date, CLF Labs has awarded grants worth \$10,000 to two youth groups for their inspiring ideas; 'Team WOW Singapore' and 'Mobile Hub for Community Learning' (MHCL).



Team "Window on Work" or W.O.W Singapore gives post secondary students the opportunity to experience the likes of a reality gameshow "The Apprentice". The project aims to tackle issues such as lack of work experience and opportunities, social exclusion and career development. The programme will support the development of experience, confidence and skills, and to motivate them towards community engagement.

#### Hazni Aris Bin Hazam Aris

Participant, Employability Work Group

'Mobile Hub for Community Learning' (MHCL) aims to provide young parents with the opportunity to network within their neighbourhood. This offers the participants a form of social capital, which will benefit them and their families in the long run, through the necessary connections and know-how in their day-to-day living in the neighbourhood.

Nur Dian Binte Mohammad Rasid Participant, Education Work Group



The interactivity between existing CLF projects and the new projects created through CLF Labs... This is wonderful opportunity for us to cross-fertilise ideas on both sides and if that can happen, then we have a unity in terms of how we see

the challenges going forward...now it's up to our young people to show what they're made of... I'm confident that there will be a lot of suggestions and ideas from our young people who are willing to do their part for the community... Assoc Prof Dr Yaacob Ibrahim

Reference:Community Leaders' Forum - Youth Development Network. (2011). Retrieved Sep 2, 2011, from http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oS16T1vNhtw

### **Our Future**

Our community has come a long way in realizing that education is the best way to uplift our community. Because the community and organizations, as well as the leaders within the organizations and government work together, it is a powerful combination to bring our community to even higher levels in education. **Mr Masagos Zulkifli** 

The key point is to develop the yearn for learning and thirst for knowledge..the Malays say "dahagakan ilmu", so that they will always want to improve themselves even after they have left school. This should be a requirement in Singapore and not just something to aim for.

# hopes for the future

We're hoping to expand our network through our stakeholders and key partners for us to collaborate better, give better messaging and outreach to our workers more effectively...To continuously build on our momentum that we have gained, and to find relevant partners. In the coming years,

we want to find new ways to outreach and to continuously ensure our workers gain their resilience and become more employable for our new economy.

**Mr Zainudin Nordin** 

I'm really happy that there are now more Malay women who have returned to the workforce with the strong support from their husbands and families. The more segmented and targeted approach we've adopted enables them to acquire skills and to find a better fit in the jobs that are available. Being able to provide better for their family is most important. Mdm Halimah Yaacob

#### COMMUNITY LEADERS' FORUM ANNUAL REPORT 2011

I am very heartened to see more and more families who have benefitted from programmes of the CLF come forward to help., to reach out to their friends, relatives and neighbours. I hope over time we can get more members of the Malay/Muslim community coming forward.

### Assoc Prof Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim

We recognize that we cannot do this alone. It must be a collaboration between all the different stakeholders. It is the interconnectedness that is critical in trying to make sure that these families have a sense that the community is there to support them and that the community is full of resources. Families are the ones that we're trying to help. We want to the best for each and every family that we work with. Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman

Be assured that they are many programmes which are available for your needs. They are customized to meet different levels of issues and concerns for the family. Do come forward and benefit from these programmes. **Mr Zainul Abidin Rasheed** 

I want to share with them that everyone can do....everyone I want to share with them that every and contribute to can do things in their own small way and contribute to cociety they can indeed make a big impact. Assoc Prof Fatimah Lateef

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We see a lot more young people coming forward... I hope that our programmes can be more enriching and a lot more relevant to the youth today and tomorrow... **Mr Zagy Mohamad** 

### DIRECTORY OF PARTNERS





CLF Programme(s)

http://bukitbatokeast.blogspot.com Life Style | Home Ownership | Credit & Loan Management | Time Management | You & Your Insurance





CDC & CC

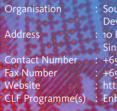
CDC & CC

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South East Community Development Council 10 Eunos Road 8 #02-01 Singapore 408600 +65 6243 8753 +65 6243 3130 http://www.southeastcdc.org.sg Enhanced Wrap Around Care





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CLF Programme(s)

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FSC

Marine Parade FSC 53 Marine Terrace #01-227 Singapore 440053 +65 6445 0100 +65 6446 0100 http://www.mpfsc.org.sg Strengthening Families Series 2010





Address FSC

**N** 

Contact Number Fax Number Website CLF Programme(s)

www.childrensociety.org.sg Wrap Around Care 2010 Wrap Around Care 2011

Fax Number Website CLF Programme(s)

www.ainsociety.org.sg Family Excellence Circles Max Out Programme NUR@Bukit Batok East





Address Contact Number Fax Number Website CLF Programme(s)

Organisation

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1 Pasir Ris Drive 4 #05-11 Singapore 519457 +65 6416 3966 (Main Line) +65 6583 8028 www.amp.org.sg NUR@Jurong Point NUR@Pasir Ris Core Parenting Skills 2010 YIA Plus

FSC

CLF Programme(s)

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CLF Programme(s)

Website

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: c/o Toa Payoh North Post Office PO Box 844 Singapore 913135 (*w.e.f. January 2012*) -Blk 854 Yishun Ring Road #01-3511 Singapore 760854

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: www.clubilya.org.sg : NUR @Yishun

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Contact Number Fax Number Website CLF Programme(s)

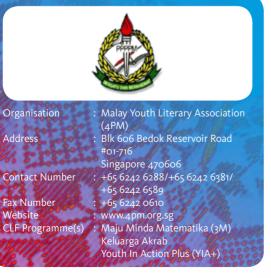
Organisation Address

Jamiyah Business School 970 Geylang Road #02-03 Tristar Complex Singapore 423492 +65 6478 0456 +65 6478 0457 www.jbs.edu.sg Max Out Programme Employability

#### Organisation Address : MENDAKI Sense : 1 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh Singapore 319976 Contact Number Website : +65 6478 3100 : www.mendaki.org.sg/general/ about-mendaki-sense.aspx CLF Programme(s) : Career Readiness Employment Facilitation throug ich propartien oversion and

Sense

CLF Programme(s) : Career Readiness Employment Facilitation through job preparation exercise and career-coaching Training Programme and Subsidies







CLF Programme(s)

Vista Sakinah

CLF Programme(s) : Keluarga Akrab (Family Development Network)



Address

Website

Fax Number

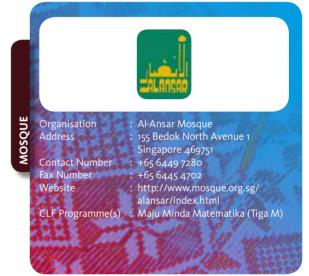






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Singapore 457056 +65 6245 5739 +65 6243 2142 Website : www.mendaki.org.sg CLF Programme(s) : Maju Minda Matematika (Tiga M)





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Al-Falah Mosque #01-01 Cairnhill Place **Bideford Road** Singapore 229650 +65 6235 3172 +65 6735 5580 www.alfalah.org.sg NUR@Orchard





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CLF Programme(s)

MOSOUE

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: Employment Facilitation





MOSOUI

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Organisation Address PCF&SCH Contact Number Fax Number Website CLF Programme(s)

Bartley Secondary School 10 Jalan Bunga Rampai Singapore 538403 +65 6288 9013 +65 6280 5595 http://www.bartleysec.sg Youth in Action (YIA) Empowerment Programme for Girls (EPG) Engagement Programme for Boys (EPB)



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**Contact Number** Fax Number Website

http://www.deyisec.moe.edu.sg Youth in Action (YIA) Empowerment Programme for Girls (EPG) Engagement Programme for Boys (EPB)

(EPB) Empowerment Programme for Girls (EPG)



Organisation Address Contact Number Fax Number Website CLF Programme(s)

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**Eunos Primary School** 

95 Jalan Eunos Singapore 419529 +65 6746 3336 +65 6748 8554 http://www.eunospri.moe.edu.sg/ Success in PSLE Maths Seminar Preparatory Maths & Science Workshop



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PCF&SCHS







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Success in PSLE Maths Seminar Preparatory Maths & Science Workshop



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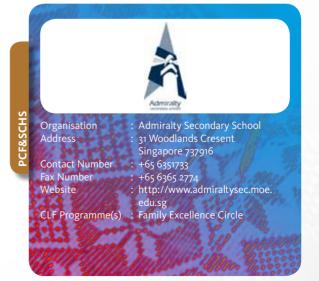
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CLF Programme(s) Training Facilitation





turning caring into action

**VWO & OTHERS** 

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Employability Partner since 2008

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