



# School-based pilot projects start to deliver

In the early stage of CDF, all projects were operated mainly by non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Starting from 2014, the Government started to pilot a school-based approach engaging schools to operate projects to benefit more children from a disadvantaged background. Under this approach, each participating school is required to recruit at least 50 eligible student participants for its project. A school may, having regard to its circumstances, apply to operate a project either on its own or in partnership with other school(s). At present, two batches of 17 school-based projects are in progress, benefiting about 1,000 students. The initial batch of seven projects launched in 2014 will be completed in turn from December 2016 to March 2017. Almost all participants of these projects have successfully achieved their two-year Targeted Savings, and were offered matching contribution and the Government's special financial incentive. They are now using the money to implement their *Personal Development Plans*.

In this issue, we have invited principals of two school operators, Dr Rita YEUNG Pui-shan of Yan Chai Hospital Law Chan Chor Si College, and Principal NG Kit-yung of Yan Oi Tong Tin Ka Ping Secondary School, to share their experiences.

### Yan Chai Hospital Law Chan Chor Si College A single-school project partnering with a youth service centre





Students absorbed in creating latte art.

Yan Chai Hospital Law Chan Chor Si College is one of the first school-based project operators. Its two projects, *Dreams Come True* and *Flying Dreams*, were launched in 2014 and 2015 respectively, with over 100 students participated. In addition to the three major components of CDF projects, *Mentorship, Targeted Savings and Personal Development Plan*, their projects include also a unique moral education programme named *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens*. The programme, organised in collaboration with a youth service centre in the district, the Scout Association of Hong Kong — The Friends of Scouting (SAHKFOS), provides training for students, parents and mentors with a view to cultivating seven good habits in CDF participants at school, family and community levels.



Participants sharing their experience after taking part in an orienteering game.

# Yan Oi Tong Tin Ka Ping Secondary School A joint-school project engaging professional support





Students conducting a water quality test at Sam Mun Tsai.

Operated by Yan Oi Tong Tin Ka Ping Secondary School in partnership with Tin Ka Ping Secondary School and Po Leung Kuk Tin Ka Ping Primary School, *Dream Land* is one of the first batch pilot projects under the school-based approach. It has attracted about 80 eligible student participants.

This project has received funding support from the Tin Ka Ping Foundation to engage the Network for Health and Welfare Studies, the Department of Applied Social Sciences of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), in implementing the three major components of CDF projects and in customising training and activities for students, mentors and parents.



Participants listening to a briefing on the global positioning system at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

"The SAHKFOS is experienced in organising youth activities. As their centre is just across the street of our school, their staff can take immediate follow-up actions for our participants and projects anytime. At the same time, our students are familiar with the centre. They feel at home there and have a sense of belonging towards it, thus their level of participation is high," said Dr YEUNG.

When implementing the first project, the school recruited mentors by tapping into the network and experience of the SAHKFOS which also helped in arranging training and activities for the students. On the other hand, both the SAHKFOS and school took part in helping participants formulate and implement *Personal Development Plans*, monitoring project progress, evaluating effectiveness, and report submission, whilst the school handled participant recruitment and the administrative work related to *Targeted Savings*.

"With the experience gained and the support of a school social worker, we were more confident when implementing the second project and able to take up more work on our own," Dr YEUNG added.



A game to promote team building.

"My bond with the CDF was forged a few years ago when I was a mentor for its project. I experienced the joys and sorrows of being a mentor, and shared young people's confusion and trepidation in their pursuit of dreams. That is why I am very pleased to see our students taking part in the CDF projects and striving to fulfil their dreams. When I was a mentor, my role was to help my mentee develop and achieve her goal. As a principal, I am now charged with the responsibility to take care of all the students in my school. I hope that our students participating in the CDF projects will find their way and follow their dreams under the guidance of their mentors."



Dr Rita YEUNG Pui-shan



A visit to the Yan Oi Tong Mrs Shirley W K Siu Medical Centre.

The close connection between PolyU and the Quality Mentorship Network (QMN) has helped the recruitment and training of mentors. The *Quality Projects Data Management* System developed by QMN has also enabled the project to centrally process all the administrative works including data consolidation and reports compilation. PolyU will compile research reports with reference to the project objectives and based on the findings drawn by the system.

In addition, a Monitoring and Steering Committee and a Project Quality and Effectiveness Committee, comprising representatives of the three schools, PolyU and Tin Ka Ping Foundation, have been set up to monitor the implementation, quality and effectiveness of the project.

"The CDF is a very meaningful programme which aims to enhance students' upward mobility by encouraging them to set their direction in life and develop career aspirations. We have engaged professional teams to study the positive effect this project has on our junior secondary students when they proceed to their senior years," said Principal NG.

"There were three main reasons for our school to implement a CDF project two years ago. Firstly, I consider the CDF projects very meaningful as they provide support for students in need and help them plan for the future, develop a habit of saving and establish a social network through the *Mentorship* programme. Secondly, joint-school participation would give the three Tin Ka Ping Foundation-funded schools, namely Tin Ka Ping Secondary School, Po Leung Kuk Tin Ka Ping Primary School and our school, a valuable opportunity to work together to foster closer relationships between teachers. Thirdly, the project would be well-supported by various parties, such as QMN, Tin Ka Ping Foundation, and PolyU. Basically all participating students completed their training programme in the last two years. An award ceremony was also held to recognise their efforts. With summer holidays around the corner, our students



are busily planning how to use their savings for learning. I hope they will learn from the experience and thrive in their lives."

Principal NG Kit-yung

# List of school operators for the third batch of school-based projects

The Social Welfare Department announced in July the list of school operators for the third batch of school-based projects. A total of 13 projects were awarded to 17 school operators. Details are as follows:

- Baptist Wing Lung Secondary School
- Chinese Y.M.C.A. College
- Hong Kong and Macau Lutheran Church Queen Maud Secondary School
- Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Bishop Hall Secondary School
- Lok Sin Tong Leung Wong Wai Fong Memorial School
- Our Lady of China Catholic Primary School
- S.K.H. All Saints' Middle School
- S.K.H. St. Mary's Church Mok Hing Yiu College
- The Church of Christ in China Ming Yin College

- The Methodist Church Hong Kong Wesley College
- Yan Chai Hospital Law Chan Chor Si College
- Chinese Y.M.C.A. Primary School in partnership with
  Queen Elizabeth School Old Students' Association Primary School and
  Queen Elizabeth School Old Students' Association Branch Primary School
- The Church of Christ in China Heep Woh Primary School (Cheung Sha Wan) in partnership with Shamshuipo Kaifong Welfare Association Primary School and Five Districts Business Welfare Association School

# "Everybody wins when corporations participate in child development"

 Ms Iris LAM, Member of the Steering Committee on the Child Development Fund



My connection with the CDF began eight years ago. The Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service (BOKSS), a long-time social welfare partner of the BCT Group for which I am working, invited us to take part in the CDF projects. I was impressed by the programme when the BOKSS staff briefed us at our office. In fact, the BCT Group has always attached great importance to corporate social responsibility (CSR) and is well aware that fulfilling such responsibility means a lot to the sustainable development of the corporation and the community. As the CDF objectives align with our corporate philosophy, its projects fully deserve our support.

The CDF launched its pioneer projects in 2009, and the BCT Group has been a regular participant in its projects since then. Time really flies. Over the past eight years, about 20 of our colleagues have served as mentors for various projects through the BOKSS.

# Mentorship is mutually beneficial

Hong Kong people lead a very busy life and it is never easy to ask someone to act as a mentor for three years. The BCT Group encourages participation by giving colleagues strong support, such as providing resources for mentoring activities. Colleagues participating in the CDF projects also bond with one another for exchange and support. Some even bring along their children and family members to take part in activities with their mentees. Mentors who have kids and mentees in similar age range find themselves benefited from the mentoring relationship as the programme provides them with the opportunity to reflect and learn.

# Mutual trust brings satisfaction



Ms Iris LAM and Betsy (right), her mentee at CDF.

I have been a mentor for CDF projects for a number of years, and I have gained more from mentoring than I could Some project ever imagine. participants were not confident and did not know how to express themselves. was one of my mentees and she was rather passive when we started. I was often the one who made the calls. Then, she called me one day and told me about the problems and pressure she was facing in her studies. I

listened carefully to how she felt and what she worried about. I was thankful for the trust she put in me. I also came to realise that time and sincerity are crucial to building mutual trust. There is no greater satisfaction than earning the trust of other people.



BCT Group's management and staff showing their support at the kick-off ceremony for the CDF pioneer projects in 2009.

Later in a discussion with Betsy about her career development, she told me that she wanted to work in a commercial firm. At that time the BCT Group was offering summer internships to allow young people to gain working experience. I advised Betsy to give it a try. Then she prepared her resume, attended interview, and finally won the offer. I witnessed happily every step she took. As she performed well in her job, she was asked to work part-time after the internship. In such a way, our company also benefited from the project by recruiting a right candidate.

# Clear objectives with full support

Whenever I mention the CDF projects to my colleagues and friends, the most frequent response is that "the three-year mentoring commitment is too long and demanding". Some do not believe they know how to mentoring youth, worrying that things may go wrong. In fact, mentors for the CDF projects are given a wide range of support including mentorship training by social workers, and a series of related talks and workshops, etc., to help them understand how they can help to foster youth development, promote positive values and guide participants towards their goals.

I am proud to play a part in promoting the CDF projects and help achieve a four-win situation for the Government, enterprises, welfare organisations and children. I too believe that "children are our future". The positive values we help children develop will be of benefit to them for life. It is a blessing that I got to meet Betsy through the project. I am most satisfied to see her set her goals and make positive changes. Our mentor-mentee relationship did not end with the project. Betsy and I still keep in touch, supporting and sharing with each other. As the head of the BCT Group's human resources department, I have also noticed how my colleagues have benefited from mentorship. Serving as a mentor has not only enriched their life experience, but also brought positive impact to their work and personal life. I strongly support corporate participation in the CDF projects, and hope that more people will share the joy of being a mentor.



### rie Lam

Ms LAM is a member of the Steering Committee on the Child Development Fund. As Senior Vice-President, Human Resources of the BCT Group, she has over 20 years' experience in the field of human resources. She also co-chairs the CSR Committee of the BCT Group, which takes forward programmes in four areas, namely promoting youth development, enriching opportunities for the elderly, creating harmonious working environment and supporting environmental protection, and fosters a company culture of giving back to the community.

# A six-day and five-night trip to Malaysia

gives participants exposure to different cultures

On the recommendation of their respective project operators, four CDF participants, namely Gordon NG, Jenny FONG, Zoe CHOY and Angela WONG, joined the 2016 Asia Youth Exchange Program (AYEP) co-organised by the **Junior Chamber International Bauhinia** and **Well Family** in March. After going through two rounds of interviews, the four of them, together with six young people from other schools and non-governmental organisations, were selected to represent Hong Kong for a six-day and five-night cultural exchange visit to Penang, Malaysia. The trip aims to give young people an opportunity to go overseas and broaden their horizons.

The programme was joined by 30 young people from Hong Kong, Indonesia, Taiwan, Korea and Japan, as well as more than 30 local students from Malaysia. It included a series of activities such as an *International Night* that gave participants a chance to introduce their home cuisines, a farming experience, local school visit, etc., enabling participants to know and learn from each other and at the same time enhance their language and communication skills. Each participant also had the opportunity to stay with a local family for three nights to experience the Malaysian culture and life style. All four participants agreed that they have gained many new and exciting experiences from the programme.

# Angela WONG

Aged 15

Participant of The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council's *Project Dream* – Tai Po and North District

Angela, a Form 4 student, is the eldest among the four CDF participants. The trip has not only given her new thoughts on future study plans, but also presented to her a chance to step out of her comfort zone. "My roommates chatted happily together every night, but I was hesitated to join them because of my not-so-fluent Putonghua. A Malaysian participant noticed my concern and then interacted with me in English. Her eagerness to communicate gave me the courage to join them on the third night. We are still keeping in touch," Angela shared. Through her Taiwanese participants, Angela also got to learn more about pursuing undergraduate studies at universities in Taiwan. She will consider Taiwan an option for further studies as she finds it a fit for her.



A snapshot of Angela (first right, back row) and her fellow participants from Malaysia and Taiwan.



### Zoe CHOY

Aged 15 San Wui Commercial Society Secondary School's project participant Before setting off for the visit, Zoe was full of expectations, hoping that she would understand more about the Malaysian culture and learn to interact with fellow participants from different cultural backgrounds. Travelling abroad for the first time, she said that she has learnt to keep an open mind to religious and cultural differences. "I met some students from Indonesia in this trip. They are Muslims who have to pray five times a day. We found it difficult to understand at first but after being together for some time, we came to realise that we should respect one another and embrace religious and cultural differences. With this in mind, we were most willing to wait until they finished their prayers before we resumed our group activities."



Zoe (first right) and her fellow participants from Malaysia (first left and second right).

# Jenny FONG

Aged 13

Participant of Caritas-Hong Kong's Love in the Path of Hope II project - Hong Kong Island district

Jenny, also travelling abroad for the first time, said that the trip was full of challenging and refreshing experiences. Something "unexpected" happened during the trip that she found it memorable. "Before setting off, I had prepared an English speech on Hong Kong's culture and customs, which was supposed to be delivered on the second evening. However, the speech session did not happen as scheduled. On the last day of our trip when everyone thought that the session had been cancelled, we were then asked to make a speech on stage. Though unprepared, I managed to get it done. It was a real boost to my confidence."

Jenny also talked about her homestay experience. "I was assigned to stay with the same family as another participant from Indonesia. The host family, although not very well off, showed us great hospitality and generosity, which I found very touching. As there was no television at home, we spent more time with each other every night and this helped us bond indeed." Jenny still kept in touch with the host family and other participants after the trip. She said that she would like to be a host this summer holiday to welcome exchange students from Singapore.



Jenny (third left) and her host family in Malaysia

# Eparticipants together with six other young people departing from the Hong Kong International Airport for the 6-day and 5-night exchange visit to Penang, Malaysia.

### Gordon NG

Aged 14

Participant of Neighbourhood and Worker's Education Centre's *Dream Come True* project – Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing district

Gordon had never travelled abroad and knew only about the hot weather in Malaysia. After this trip, he considers the hospitality of Malaysian people truly unforgettable. "At the International Night, participants from every country were provided with a booth to share their local food with each other. As the host, the participants from Malaysia not only introduced to us their local dishes such as laksa and shaved ice, but also took the initiative to share the local culture. There is a lot to learn from their hospitality," he said. Gordon hopes that he can use his *Targeted Savings* to enroll himself into more exchange programmes to see the world.

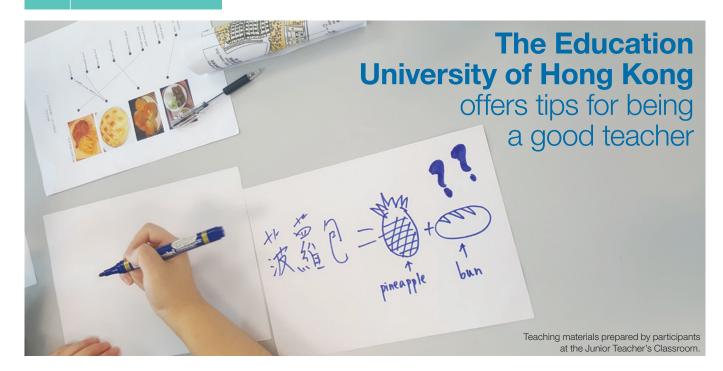


Gordon met new friends from Indonesia during the exchange visit.

Supporting Organisation:







Teachers can change the lives of their students.

A survey conducted by the CDF indicated that many project participants had met teachers who had profound influence on them. The encouragement, care and guidance given by teachers aroused their enthusiasm for learning and boosted their interest in certain academic subjects. Some students even developed higher self-confidence and self-esteem.

The Junior Teacher's Classroom, a programme jointly organised by the CDF and **The Education University of Hong Kong** (EdUHK), was launched for the first time in April 2016. Through the programme, 73 participants from nine CDF operators played the role of junior teachers for half a day, from which they could tell that teaching was no easy task. Teachers have to be patient, caring and confident, and need to pay close attention to their students and stay creative in the classroom.

The programme had three sessions, the Guided Campus Tour, Junior Teacher's Training Class and Junior Teacher's Classroom. More than ten EdUHK undergraduates were invited to serve as voluntary tutors on the day. Guided by these voluntary tutors, participants were divided into three groups to learn about teaching English, Putonghua or handicrafts before they were offered the chance to teach as junior teachers.

Voluntary tutors shared their campus life with the CDF participants during the Guided Campus Tour.



A visit to the Central Facilities Building and library.



Visiting the Hong Kong Museum of Education.

In the Junior Teacher's Training Class, participants learned from the voluntary tutors how to prepare lesson plans. They had to study the teaching materials provided by the tutors, and then work out their own way to teach other participants.



A voluntary tutor teaching participants the art of paper folding, which they would pass on to other participants.



Participants of the Putonghua group listening attentively to their tutors who explained to them the differences between the consonants "x" and "sh".

In the Junior Teacher's Classroom, participants had the chance to "teach" other "students" utilising the different techniques learned such as Q&A, jokes and drawings.

The programme had a very positive impact on the participants, helping them to understand teaching as a profession, and appreciate the effort and time a teacher spent on preparing for a 40-minute class. Many participants said that they would consider teaching as their future career.

Supporting Organisation:





A single conversation with a wise man is better than ten years of study.

Over 40 CDF participants visited the **Hong Kong Observatory** (HKO) Headquarters in Tsim Sha Tsui on 29 March 2016. The visit, jointly organised by the CDF and the HKO for the first time, included a tour around the Central Forecasting Office and the TV Studio. The participants also had the rare opportunity of meeting Mr SHUN Chiming, Director of the HKO, who shared with them his own experience of personal growth.

Mr SHUN was appointed as the Director of the HKO in April 2011 at the age of 47, making him the youngest ethnic Chinese to hold the position. Mr SHUN has been a lover of mathematics and physics since he was a child. Diligent and keen on learning, he always ranked among the top three in school examinations. Mr SHUN suffered a severe setback when he was studying Form 3. "One day while I was reading, I suddenly saw a red patch in my eye. It slowly changed from deep red to dark green before turning into a black area which obscured my field of vision, blocking my view of the book pages," he said. Mr SHUN was diagnosed as having a detached retina. Even after several surgery operations, his eyesight did not recover fully. But Mr SHUN remained upbeat. He continued to work hard on his favourite subjects and, finally, he was enrolled at the University of Hong Kong, where he studied Physics.

Mr SHUN has played a leading role in developing the world's first Light Detection and Ranging Windshear Alerting System. During the visit, Mr SHUN encouraged the participants to develop their interests. "Many achievers are actually doing things they are interested in. You are ready to put more time and effort into what you are passionate about, and this will help you transform what you have learned in the process to something new," he said.

Mr SHUN added, "We all have ups and downs in life. You won't find it hard to move on as long as you pursue what you are interested in. For every problem, there is a solution."



If you are interested in astronomy and meteorology and want to join the HKO, you should take the science stream and obtain good grades in Mathematics and Physics. Open recruitment exercises are held for the posts of Scientific Officer, Experimental Officer and Scientific Assistant. Those who wish to apply for the posts of Scientific Officer and Experimental Officer should have a degree in Physics, Mathematics, Meteorology, Computer Science, Nuclear Science, Information Technology or Electronic Engineering from a recognised university in Hong Kong. Applicants for the post of Scientific Assistant should have good results in Mathematics and Physics in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination.



Mr SHUN sharing his experience of personal growth with participants.



Participants learning the typhoon signals hoisted in the early days.



Participants at the HKO TV studio learning how weather forecast clips are made and transmitted to TV stations for broadcasting.

Supporting Organisation:



# Secretary for Labour and Welfare shares CDF participants' hostel experience

A group of CDF participants joined the 2-day and 1-night Y-Loft Experience Programme of the **Youth Square** in March in which they were given free accommodation at the hostel and had the chance to take part in various cultural and job-related activities. On the first day of the programme, Mr Matthew CHEUNG, Secretary for Labour and Welfare, joined the participants to share the fun of making Easter eggs.

The 24 participants, aged between 14 and 18 studying Form 2 to Form 5, joined the activity through project operators including the Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service, the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Yu Mak Yuen Integrated Services Centre and the SKH All Saints' Middle School. The programme not only provided them with a valuable opportunity to experience hostel life but also enhanced their understanding of hostel facilities and management.



Supporting Organisation:







Mr LEE Chak-yue, founder of the Wai Che Printing Company in Wing Lee Street, Sheung Wan, introducing the letterpress printing skills and equipment used in the old days.



Participant using movable type to create their own artwork in the workshop.

# Work experience workshop at Youth Square

Around 130 participants from eight CDF projects took part in three *Y-Loft work experience workshops* during the period from January to February. Through talks, guided tours, demonstrations and hands-on experience in room preparation, participants learnt more about the management and operation of the front office and housekeeping department, as well as the entry requirements of the positions concerned.



Participants gaining hands-on experience in room preparation.

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Tel: 3655 4402 Fax: 2523 1973 Email: cdf\_newsletter@lwb.gov.hk

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