

BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION

*Fiona**, 13, was a top school student, who derived life meaning from sexual intercourse with her boyfriend, 28. He was not her first sex partner. *Samu**, 8, was falling behind in school and turned to online role-play games to escape from his mother's daily lambast. *Bing Wen**, 15, could not get along with anyone. He played basketball alone until he met a "friend", who manipulated him for his own ends.

The wreckage of youths is well underway and spreading. Cases of teen abortion, cyber-addiction and abuse are not uncommon. The urgency to reach the next generation has never been greater. Moving forward, New Life seeks to build deep into the lives of our next generation.

Plans for the Children

In January 2009, New Life will launch in Bukit Panjang a specialised service for children. The new service aims to mentor children and assist those in disadvantaged families. It will reach children via a 3-pronged approach, namely, school-based, centre-based and community-based.

The initial focus of the Children Services will be preventive work with vulnerable children, who remained unsupervised and thus susceptible to negative influences. We will begin by engaging such children through the schools in the neighbourhood.



During the interim, New Life Children will operate on Covenant EFC's premise while we explore a space in the community for a Children Centre.

Plans for the Youth

New Life has also begun exploring opportunities to partner schools, grassroots organisations and fellow service providers in Woodlands to reach youths in that community. A Youth Taskforce has also been setup to look at innovative ways to engage youths. The taskforce comprises staff members and youths of New Life and Covenant Evangelical Free Church, synergising youth resources.

Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC (Admiralty), is supportive of New Life's youth work in

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New Life Community Services Centre is affiliated to Covenant Evangelical Free Church and a member of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS).

“ Especially crucial are men and women willing to take a step and befriend a young person, to build up a young life. ”

Admiralty, including plans to build a Youth Centre, akin to the Youth Hub in Bukit Panjang. Discussions are underway for the proposed facility.

In Bukit Panjang, we will bring our well-established youth work to the next level, from prevention to outreach. Beginning 2009, we will meet the youths where they are, particularly the youths-at-risk and youths-in-the-street, to influence them for the better.

Partner Us

In these exciting new areas of work, our resources will be stretched like never before. Especially crucial are men and women willing to take a step and befriend a young person, to build up a young life.

Partner us to build the next generation and expect to reap an innumerable legacy of transformed lives for generations to come.

Contact us at donate@newlife.org.sg or volunteer@newlife.org.sg.

** Not their real names.*

Details have been changed to protect the identity of individuals.





塑造下一代



菲奥娜*, 这个十三岁的名校生因为生活乏味, 竟与二十八岁的男友性交。这以不是她的初次。年仅八岁的桑姆*学业欠佳, 为逃避母亲的日夜谴责, 将注意力转向网上游戏。炳文*向来与人相处不融洽, 通常独自打球的他也结交了损友, 被他人利用。

今时, 少年一代逐渐走向自毁的倾向: 青年堕胎、互联网瘾及青年自虐等, 早已习以为常。因此, 我们必须赶紧抢救下一代。新生民众服务中心的未来方针将朝向塑造下一代。

新生儿童的方案

新生将会在2009年1月, 在武吉班让区推出为儿童而设的专利服务。这项新服务旨在辅导儿童并给来自问题家庭的儿童提供援助。我们将通过学校、中心与社区这三个管道去着手。

儿童服务首先将与学校合作进行防范工作, 尤其针对无人看管的孩子, 因为他们较容易受到负面的影响。

在这初期, 新生儿童将设立于圣约播道会的场地, 有待探讨在社区内设立一所儿童服务中心。

新生青年的方案

新生已经开始与兀兰区的学校、基层组织和相关机构商讨如何提供青年服务。新生与圣约播道会也成立了一个青年特遣小组, 研讨如何以创新的方式来吸引青少年。青年特遣小组的成员包括新生与圣约的职员和青年。

三巴旺区(海军部)议员马里吉莫哈玛医生(谐音)极力支持新生的青年方案, 包括了在海军部一带成立一所青年聚会中心。

在武吉班让区, 我们将进行另一阶段的青年工作, 从防范性质改为干预性质。由2009年开始, 我们将跟进街头青年和边缘青年, 给予他们正面的影响, 促使他们成为上进的青年。

与我们联手

在开拓新服务的同时, 新生的资源将会受到大幅度的影响, 尤其是人力资源。塑造年幼生命的工作必须由热忱的义务男女与我们携手进行。请与新生联手共同塑造我们的下一代!

与我们联络, 请电邮至 donate@newlife.org.sg 或 volunteer@newlife.org.sg。

*为保护当事人的身份, 姓名以译名取代。



SMALL ACT, BIG IMPACT



“ It’s very fulfilling to be able to do this small act for the less fortunate. It’s even more fulfilling to be part of God’s work. ”

Chair of the charity golf committee Mr Patrick Choy (far left) visited New Life Youth Hub on 7 August 2008 with committee members Mr Amos Leong (second from left) and Mr Lee SG (second from right).

There was a call to nominate charities which could potentially receive donations raised from a charity golf tournament. Mr Amos Leong simply nominated New Life Community Services.

New Life received \$30,300 in donations as a result of Mr Leong’s “small” act of kindness.

“I’ve been a long-time member of Covenant EFC, it’s time I do something for the church,” said Mr Leong. “New Life is a natural choice.”

The charity golf tournament is an annual fund-raiser organised by Hewlett-Packard (Imaging and Printing Manufacturing Operations, IPMO) and its group of suppliers. This was their 9th charity golf. To date, they have raised more than \$1.85 million for 38 charity organisations.

Mr Leong is one of the founding members of the HP IPMO and Suppliers’ Charity Golf Committee. He is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Univac Precision Engineering, which is a supplier of HP.



Ms Diana Ooi, Centre Manager of New Life, received the donation from Mr Lui Kok Chwee, Vice President of Imaging and Printing Manufacturing Operations, Hewlett-Packard.

On his 'small' gesture with a far reaching effect, Mr Leong said humbly, "It's very fulfilling to be able to do this small act for the less fortunate. It's even more fulfilling to be part of God's work."

"This is perhaps one of the best platforms available to help the needy. There are many other avenues that corporations can take to return some of their earnings to the society, one just have to be a bit more observant," said Mr Leong.

This year, a total of 5 charities were nominated, 4 eventually received the donations, New Life was one of them.

Mr Amos Leong, whose nomination led New Life to receive the donation.



On awarding the donation to New Life, Mr Patrick Choy, Chair of the charity golf committee said New Life was a deserving organisation.

"We concluded (after our visit to New Life) that your organisation is very deserving of our support. It is well-managed and we see visible evidence of people being touched by your work in the community," said Mr Choy.

The cheque for \$30,300 was presented to Ms Diana Ooi, Centre Manager of New Life Community Services Centre, at a dinner held at the Tanah Merah Country Club on 19 September 2008.

A ROLE MODEL IN NEED IS A FRIEND INDEED

His neatly cropped hair, crease-free clothes and composed body language, sharply contrasted with the company of teenagers restlessly shifting their weight, spotting tattoos, smoking and ever flipping their long fringes.

The apparent clash of “civilisations” is far from animosity though. Mr Ivan Chew, New Life Youth Programme Assistant, was making headways to positively impact these young lives.

“Many of them lacked role models in their families, as their parents are mostly at work. I hope to be a role model for these youths, a good influence, to teach them boundaries and limits,” said the jovial 26 year-old.

Indeed, relationships between parents and their teenaged children are increasingly strained with ever-rising demands of living.

According to the National Youth Survey conducted in 2002, 23 percent of male and 17 percent of female teenagers indicated



Ivan Chew (right) hanging out with the youths.

the only time they felt noticed by their parents was when they had a problem. Teenagers also found it harder to talk to their fathers than their mothers. Almost 44 percent would turn to a friend first, followed by their mothers (33 percent) and lastly their fathers (11 percent).

Youth workers such as Mr Chew are making a difference in the lives of youths everyday. With only a handful of full-time staff, however, this work can seem insurmountable.

“We definitely need volunteers to partner us, especially male volunteers. Boys desperately need positive role models to guide and influence them,” said Mr Chew.

Help us influence a young life for the better. Join us as a volunteer. **Call 6892 4366 or email to volunteer@newlife.org.sg.**

READY... STEADY... READ!

Unlike most primary 3 students, Raymond (not his real name) still could not read or write in English. In fact, he was diagnosed as educationally subnormal.

Raymond was not alone. According to New Life Steady Readers Programme facilitator Ms Dawn Ang, literacy issue exists even among higher primary children.

"We see students from primary 3 to primary 6 who can't read at all or have problems reading. Teachers detected them and referred them to us for assistance outside the classroom," she said.

Steady Readers was set up by New Life to assist children with reading impediments improve their literacy level. Since its inception in 2006, 2 primary schools in Bukit Panjang have approached New Life to assist more than 300 students. However, with limited volunteers and staff available, the programme could only reach about 30 children to date.

Children gained more than literacy skills through Steady Readers. They learnt to be better-adjusted in schools and at home through the domain of literacy. "Children with literacy problems often grapple with low self-esteem and self-confidence as they trail behind their peers," said Ms Ang. As they built their literacy ability, they gained confidence and improved

self-esteem, resulting in smoother adjustments between the home and school environments.

Raymond's form teacher at Greenridge Primary School, Mrs Florence Lim noted him to be a quiet and passive student "with difficulty following instructions given by teachers." While his classmates progressed by leaps and bounds, Raymond lagged behind.



Ms Evonne Ang, Steady Readers' Volunteer

However, since he started Steady Readers, Raymond could now read independently and speak with confidence.

"Your Centre has been a great help to these pupils. A few of my pupils seemed to show more confidence in reading. Thank you very much," said Mrs Lim.

Help A Child Read

Join us as a Volunteer Teacher to teach these young ones to read.

Call 6892 4366 or email to volunteer@newlife.org.sg. Training will be provided.

For.Your.Interest.

Pool Competition

More than 15 youths took their cues at the Youth Hub Pool Competition on 5 September. The annual event is one of the quarterly sports competition organised by New Life Youth.



Exam Stress?

With exams looming, students would undoubtedly feel the heat. New Life Youth conducted a stress management assembly talk at Zhenghua Primary School on 22 September, just before stress levels rose.

Garden Project

Four NUS undergraduates conducted a service learning activity with New Life youths and elderly members of the Kay Poh Church on 25 October. The young paired with the elderly to make Terrariums, miniature enclosed gardens, to improve relationship between the young and the old.



UPCOMING EVENTS

1 Dec, Southern Ridges Walk

Take a walk on the wild side! Join us at the Southern Ridges Walk!
Time: 9am

23 Dec, Christmas-cum-Birthday Party!

It's the time of the year again!
See you at the Youth Hub Christmas-cum-Birthday Party.
Time: 4pm - 6pm @ Youth Hub

Register at the Youth Hub or call 6892 4419.

OUR SERVICES

New Life Childcare (Bukit Panjang)
*Nurturing Wholesome Children
In Partnership With Parents*

New Life Children (Bukit Panjang)
*Shaping Young Lives,
Moulding Our Future*

**New Life Youth
(Bukit Panjang & Woodlands)**
*Building Resilience &
Developing Character*

SUPPORT NEW LIFE!

New Life Community Services Centre is a not-for-profit, voluntary welfare organisation committed to serving the community in order to *build the next generation*.

Donations received in the current year are eligible for tax deduction in the following year. Until further notice, tax deduction will be twice the value of donations made. For more information, call **6892 4366** or email **donate@newlife.org.sg**

By Cheque: Payable to
New Life Community Services Centre.
Please furnish your name, NRIC/FIN no.,
address and contact no.

By Credit Card: Please go to
www.donation.org.sg/call_newlife_frame.html

By Interbank Transfer: Please transfer funds to
OCBC Current Account: 7339-581-473667001.
Please state your NRIC/FIN no. as payer name.

By Interbank GIRO: Please obtain a GIRO form
from us or call 6892 4366.

**Please furnish your full name and NRIC/FIN
number in order to enjoy tax deduction.**