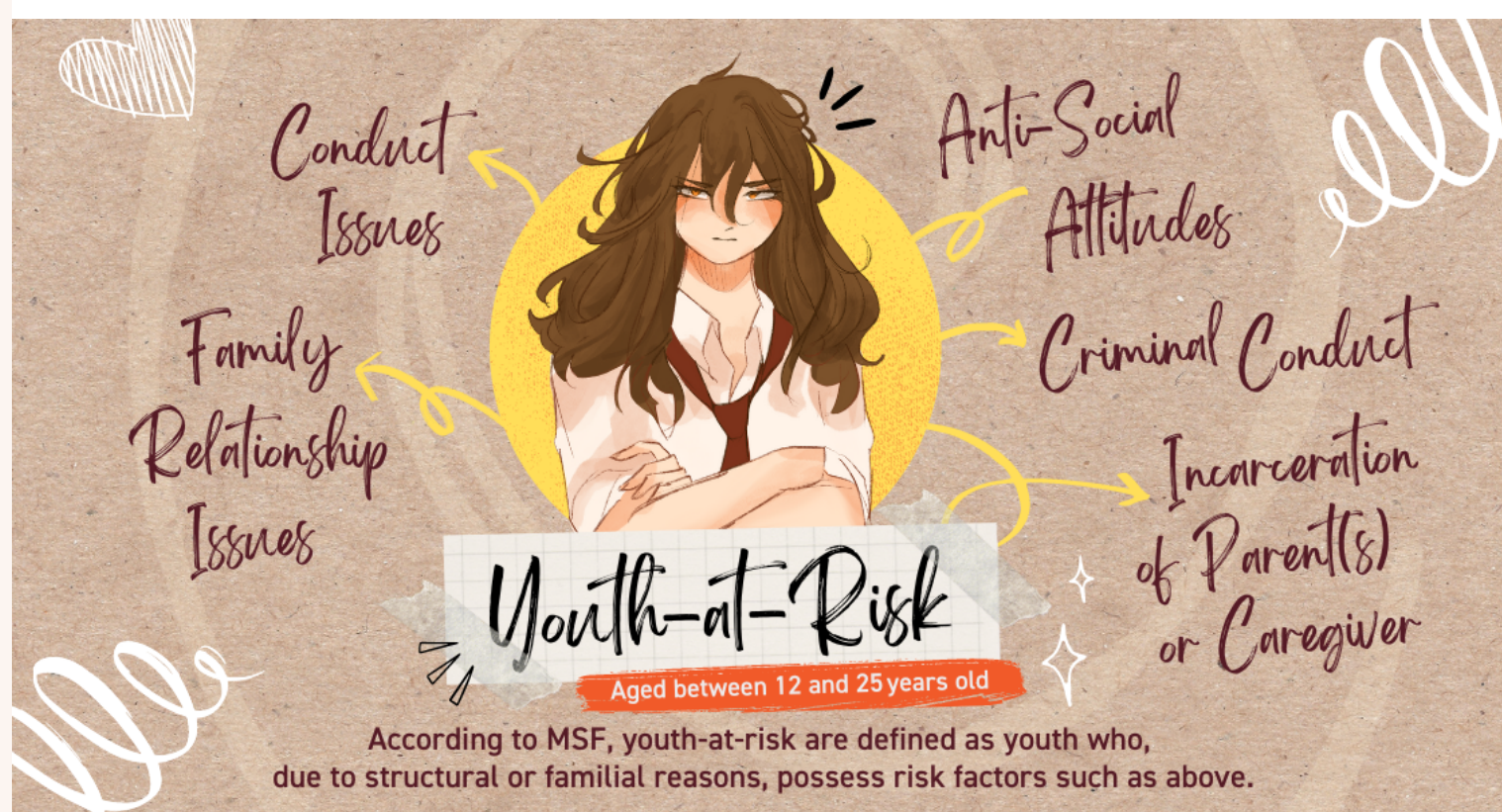


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Pillars For The Wayward

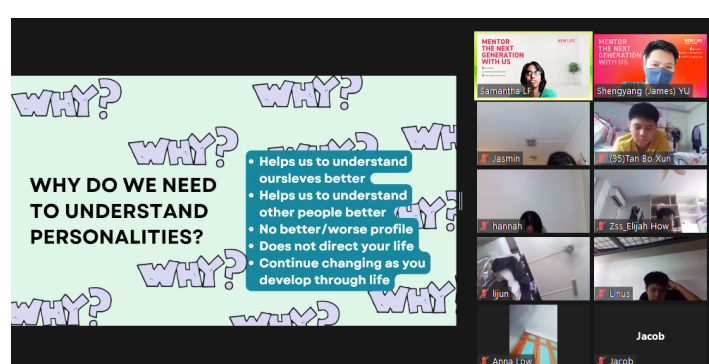
Since 2016, New Life Youth Services has partnered with neighbouring schools to run GEAR-UP and After School Engagement (ASE) programmes for youth-at-risk. In these programmes, youth mentors impart socio-emotional learning (SEL) concepts to at-risk youths and help them to better manage themselves, navigate relationships and make good decisions.

“I find the school programme supportive as we can share openly to our mentors. The activities help us to build life values, such as self-discipline.”

– Eugene, Youth

For many of these youths, being disengaged in school can lead to dropping out and greater exposure to anti-social influences. In 2020, 11.5% of Normal (Technical) students did not progress to ITE after N-Levels. They make up a substantial portion of the 3% of N-Level students who did not progress to post-secondary education that year.

In contrast, being engaged in school can give better support and motivation to excel. Eugene, a student, shares, “I find the school programme supportive as we can share openly to our mentors. The activities help us to build life values, such as self-discipline.”



Another student who has benefited from New Life’s ASE programmes is Sheila (not her real name). Sheila came from a single-income family which her mother remarried into. She struggled with social awkwardness and tended to skip school because she found it boring and had few friends there. Through the school’s ASE programme, Sheila built a rapport with Chloe, one of the youth mentors, who helped her to open up during activities and SEL sessions.

As she set goals during SEL sessions, Sheila found renewed motivation to keep coming to school. She also learnt the social skills to make friends in school, motivating her to stay engaged. Previously withdrawn and barely speaking, Sheila grew confident in sharing her thoughts and reflections with others across the school year. Chloe shares, “Sheila also comes to the youth hub often and has formed friendships with some of the girls in the youth hub. I think it’s important for her to have confidence so that she can relate to others well and grow as a person.”



Though rapport between mentors and students takes time to build, the results are often worth it. Ms Chee Pey Jiun, a teacher at Zhenghua Secondary School, shared that “(The staff mentors) have shown care and concern towards our students. They have never failed to provide a listening ear to our students who have faced challenges. They are indeed a strong pillar of support.”

NEW LIFE **CHARITY RUN 2023**
COMMUNITY SERVICES

BE A RUNNER, BE A FUNDRAISER!

RUN AS ONE SINGAPORE ➤ Marina Bay ➤ Sunday, 2 July ➤ 5km and 12.8km

Although a part of our school programmes is funded by the Ministry of Education, the cost of manpower and organising mentoring-related activities (e.g. excursions, learning journeys) is funded by general donations.

Support our mentoring work to help at-risk youth from all backgrounds to stay engaged in school. Donate via the New Life Charity Run 2023 by supporting any fundraising team at the campaign website!

Give Now!



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