

**The Hong Kong Council of Social Service**  
**Service Development**  
**Progress Report (September - November 2011)**

**1. 2011 Best Practice Awards in Social Welfare**

Organized every two years, the “2011 Best Practice Awards in Social Welfare” was launched in January 2011. 12 winning projects were selected for 18 awards from 101 entries. The Award Presentation Ceremony was held in the Council’s AGM on 17 November 2011 with Mr Patrick NIP, JP, Director of Social Welfare, being the Officiating Guest. A souvenir booklet was published and a sharing session would be organized in early 2012.

**2. Research on Psychological and Social Development of Pre-school Children**

The Council and the Council of Non-Profit Making Organizations for Pre-Primary Education (CNOPE) conducted a Research on Psychological and Social Development of Pre-school Children in October 2011. The findings will be announced in February 2012.

**3. Development of Comprehensive Student Guidance Service (CSGS) in Primary School**

Following a press conference held in early September to address the high turnover rate of CSGS SGP, a campaign “To Save Primary Students” was launched by the Alliance formed together with Hong Kong Social Workers Association, Hong Kong Social Workers’ General Union, Hong Kong Professional Teachers’ Union and several concerned groups in late September. Nearly 9,000 students, parents, teachers and principals signed up to the campaign requesting for more resources to enhance CSGS.

**4. Concerns of School Social Worker on the Drug Testing of Healthy School Project**

To channel the concern of school social workers to Narcotics Department (ND) over their role in drug testing scheme of the Healthy School Project, a meeting with ND, SWD & EDB was held on 28 October 2011. ND incorporated the views raised by school social worker representatives and worked out the protocol of drug testing for comments from HKCSS, Principals, SDT teams and school social workers of the participating 43 schools.

**5. Review of the Funding & Service Agreement (FSA) of Youth Night Drifters (YND) Service**

A meeting on reviewing of FSA of Youth Night Drifters Service was held on 20 October 2011. The Social Welfare Department and service operators exchanged views on service needs of youth night drifters and proposed change in output standards. The network on YND will work on a proposal and submit to the Department in mid January 2012.

**6. New Initiatives of Policy Address 2011-12 on Children and Youth Residential Service**

The 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Residential Child Care Services Development Committee was held on 2 November 2011. The Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Children & Family) met the supervisor/ coordinator of residential service operators to brief on the relevant new initiatives of

the 2011-12 Policy Address. Another meeting was held on 8 November 2011 to discuss the policy development of foster care service and the adjustment of foster care allowance.

**7. Staff Development Day of Youth Outreach Service**

Staff Development Day of Youth Outreach Service held on 7 November 2011 brought together nearly 100 practitioners to exchange practice wisdom in helping youth at risk. 96% of the participants were satisfied with the program and found it enhanced their practice capacity.

**8. Briefing Session on The Sexual Conviction Record Check (SCRC) Scheme**

A briefing session on the Sexual Conviction Record Check Scheme was organized by the Security Bureau on 14 November 2011. Mr. Lai Tung Kwok, the Under Secretary for Security of the Security Bureau and representatives of Hong Kong Police Force introduced the protocol of the Scheme. NGOs welcomed the scheme as safeguards to shield children from sex offenders, but also raised their concerns on the coverage of it. They further suggested to streamline the administration procedures as well as to reduce the application cost so as to facilitate both the concerned agencies and job applicants to comply with the requirement of the scheme.

**9. Hospital Authority Elderly People Service Plan 2011-2016 : A Consultation paper**

3 sharing sessions were held on 18 October 2011 and 25 October 2011 for service users, community base service providers, home base service providers as well as residential service providers, to obtain their views and concerns regarding the consultation paper. 152 service providers and 34 elders attended the sharing sessions. A feedback summary report was sent to HA strategy & planning Division on 8 November 2011.

**10. 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Age-Friendly Cities**

The 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Building the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network of Age-friendly Cities was organized from 28 – 30 September 2011 in Dublin, Ireland. 400 delegates participated in the Conference. Professionals and experts shared the ways to improve the community for seniors and move Global Network forward. Representative of the Council presented in a plenary session and the delegation set up booth to introduce the Hong Kong experience on implementing age-friendly city to the conference participants. Report back session of the conference will be held to share the insights from conference with the sector.

**11. Age-Friendly Hong Kong Appreciation Scheme and Senior Citizen Day 2011**

With the aims to promote and encourage the implementation of age-friendly measures, Age-Friendly Hong Kong Appreciation Scheme 2011 was held. 135 territorial-wide and 22 district-wise age-friendly measures accounting for 157 measures were appreciated comparing with 93 measures last year. 3 companies received “Most Favourite Age-friendly Measures Award”. The 2011 Senior Citizen Day also adopted this as the event theme and celebration programme was held on November 18.

**12. The 7<sup>th</sup> Mainland, Hong Kong and Macau Conference on Prevention of Drug Abuse**

With the support from the Beat Drug Fund, the captioned Conference had been successfully organized during 19-22 September, 2011 with over 330 participants from mainland China, Macau and Hong Kong attended. The Conference had provided platform for professional exchange on drug prevention and treatment among the concerned sectors in the region by a series of plenary sessions, workshops and agency visits. Over 50 papers were accepted and presented in the conference.

**13. Meeting with Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)**

Network on Ethnic Minority (EM) Service met with Mr Lam Woon Kwong, the chairman of EOC on 18 October, 2011, with the aim to exchange views on EM related issues, including the EDB's response towards the recent EOC's report on education for ethnic minorities. Besides, recommendations on drafting code of practice on education and providing more cultural sensitivity trainings to schools were raised and discussed during the meeting.

**14. Mainstreaming of Ethnic Minority Service**

A sharing forum on serving ethnic minority (EM) was organized on 26 October, 2011 with 62 social workers from mainstreamed children and youth services attended. With some EM workers and service users shared their cultural difference and difficulties in obtaining social services. The participants were equipped with knowledge and skills in engaging and serving EM.

**15. Report Back Session on Urban Renewal and Community Building in UK**

The captioned report back session was held on 8 October, 2011 to share the delegates' observation of the study tour to UK held in April 2011. To enrich the discussion, representatives of urban renewal service teams, Urban Renewal Fund and local scholars were invited to join the discussion. Members of the Network on Community Development shared the "human-oriented" practice in urban renewal that long-term support and management in renewal project was recommended.

**16. Briefing Sessions on Policy Address 2011 Initiatives Related to People with Disabilities**

In collaboration with the SWD, the Council organized the captioned briefing sessions on 2 and 3 November 2011. Mrs. Cecilia YUEN, Assistant Director (Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services) of the Social Welfare Department, shared with the rehabilitation sector the Government initiatives for people with disabilities in the coming year. Over 70 service operators, people with disabilities and their parents attended and reflected their concerns and suggestions to the Department for consideration.

**17. Seminar on the "Employment Opportunities and Challenges for People with Disabilities in the Coming 10 Years"**

The Alliance for the Employment Opportunities and Quota System for People with Disabilities

invited Ms Rita FAN Hsu Lai Tai, GBS JP and Mr Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC to the captioned Seminar held on 15 October 2011 to discuss the issues on the quota system, minimum wage, the employment policy and related concerns. In the Seminar, Dr Fernando CHEUNG presented the statistics of the “Impact on Employees with Disabilities under the Minimum Wage Ordinance”. Around 100 participants from the rehabilitation sector participated in the Seminar with good media coverage.

**18. Focus Group on Proposals for Community Care Fund**

A focus group consisting of 20 participants including service users and their parents, and service operators was organized on 21 September 2011 for generating ideas and collecting views on projects possibly proposed to the Community Care Fund for consideration.

**19. 2011-12 Annual Meeting of the Alliance on Residential Services for the Elderly and People with Disabilities cum “Forum on Caring Needs of the Elderly and People with Disabilities in Shortage of Residential Services”**

The captioned Annual Meeting cum Forum was held on 22 September 2011. Mrs. Cecilia YUEN, Dr. Ernest CHUI, Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che, Dr. Fernando CHEUNG and several service users were invited to speak and share in the Forum with approximately 80 service operators, parents and service users attended.

**20. International Day of Disabled Persons 2011**

With the support of all major public transport operators and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, people with disabilities and their accompanying carers enjoyed free ride on transport and free access to the cultural and leisure facilities on 13 November 2011. Besides, the Ocean Park Fun Day was held on 26 November 2011. More than 6,300 participants from the 18 districts joined the event.