

Beijing Mentoring Project Launching Ceremony

Mainland Mentoring Projects

Following the successful establishment of the Steering Committee on health and development of migrant worker children in July 2008, our first Chinese Mainland mentoring project was launched in Beijing on 12th October.



The Beijing Juvenile Life

Education Centre has taken on the role as the project HQ with program funding support from the Hong Kong Youth Foundation. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Department of Applied Social Sciences leads a large group of academics from five universities Departments of Social Work under a research topic titled: “A multi-level project on intergenerational poverty prevention among migrant worker children in Beijing”. The Polytechnic University has also been cooperating with the Beijing Municipal Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Australia Griffith University to evaluate the need and build a model of health promoting school for migrant worker Children. One of the sub-research project funded the University’s Block Grant is titled: “Adolescent executive function and empathy: A bio-ecological analysis” as a social neuroscience study in collaboration with the Peking University Psychology Department.



The mentoring project launching ceremony was held on 12th of October in of the China Youth University for Political Science Beijing Juvenile Life Education Centre. There were more than forty academics and senior students who have pledged to be supportive supervisors

participated in the ceremony. The ceremony aimed to foster better coordination of mentor recruitment and training among supervisors, so that both schools and adolescents can get prepared for the mentoring project. Another launching ceremony for the media and the public has been scheduled in January 2009.

Partner-university of this mentoring project include: the China Youth University for Political Science, the China Women's University, the China Institute of Industrial Relations, the Capital Normal University, and the Capital University of Economics and Business. Teachers and senior students from social work department of these universities will take up the role of supportive supervisors and are responsible for recruiting and training of mentors (volunteers). Volunteers will provide mentorship for migrant workers children in five schools for a period of twelve months (from March 2009 to March 2010).

Guests who participated this launching ceremony include: Prof. Shi Bai Nian (Executive Director of the Beijing Juvenile Life Education Centre), Dr. Chan Ching Hai (Director of the Network for Health and Welfare Studies, Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Prof. Chan Shu Qiang (Vice Dean of the Social Work Department, China Youth University for Political Science), Ms. Cheung Choi Lan (Project Manager of the Youth Foundation). A symposium has been held on the same day after the launching ceremony. Participants have given their opinion regarding the orientation of project objectives, possibility of continuous development, importance of supportive supervision, role of mentors and supervisors, and programme activities. Tentative schedule of training workshops is as follows:

Date and time	Speaker	Training
15 November 9:00 – 12:00	Dr. Choi Yuen Wan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the project • Self-awareness and self-supervision of volunteer
15 November 14:00 – 17:00	Ms. Wang Xing Juan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship management of mentors and mentees' family
16 November 14:30 – 17:30	Prof. Shi Bai Nian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General information and needs of migrant workers children
22 November 9:00 – 12:00	Mr. Yip Cho Yu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attitude of volunteering – love and accompany
23 November 13:30 – 16:30	Ms. Cheung Choi Lan / Dr. Tsang Yuk Piu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intergeneration relationship in promoting adolescent personal development • Outline of the career life development project
24 November 14:30 – 17:30	Dr. Chan Ching Hai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can growth be mentored? – research evidence of mentoring

For more detail of the schedule, please consult Ms Winnie Lin at 2766 5745.



“Mentoring Project” in Tianjin

Tianjin’s mentoring project was sponsored by UNICEF and led by the Social Work and Social Policies Department of Nankai University, China. This project aims to utilize family and community resources, together with the professional knowledge from university, to nurture the psychological, intellectual and physical growth of children. This project also



encourages university students to participate in community services and promotes a positive interactive relationship between primary and university students. For more detail please consult Ms Lin at 51648829.

The Hong Kong Child Development Fund

In April 2008, the Hong Kong Legislative Council Finance Committee approved the allocation of \$300 million for the establishment of a Child Development Fund (CDF), which draw resources from the family, the private sector, the community and the Government effectively in support of the longer-term development of children from a disadvantaged background. The first batch of the pioneer projects will be launched in November 2008 in seven districts: Hong Kong Island, Kowloon East, Kowloon West, New Territories East, New Territories West, Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung. There are three major components in CDF, namely personal development plans, mentorship programme and targeted savings. The government has selected 6 NGOs to be the organizers of these pioneer projects. These projects will target children aged 10 to 16 who are under poverty. Organizers must finish recruiting participants within 6 months from started (i.e. before March 2009). The pioneer projects will be completed within 3 years (with 2 years saving period and 1 year using the savings for personal growth development).