

AKTIVITI ACS

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June 2001

THE UNDERPRIVILEGED

When was the last time we saw actual poverty, experience a crisis or faced injustice and discrimination? Are you aware that more often than not, children are abused or neglected; deprived of medical care and education, are unable to enjoy play or simple pleasures of life, just because of their disabilities?

We are so caught up with our materialistic world, it is so very easy to forget that such conditions are real and in existence.

How can an affluent society like ours ignore these existing needs in our community? Can we really close our eyes, pray and hope that they will go away? How then should we respond to these situations?

As someone said, "The grace of a nation, people or age is judged ultimately by the concern shown by its society to the less fortunate".

"JOM!" MOBILE TOY LIBRARY

Children with severe and multiple handicaps in the rural community remains one population that are very marginalised. In an attempt to reach out to this population, ACS started another new project i.e. "Jom!" Mobile Toy Library.

In April, we received a new Rusa Van which was given to us in memory of the late Mr Senuma. And so, "Jom" goes out twice a week to centres and homes on Mainland Penang, to run play sessions as well as to loan out toys to these children.

The aim is to make available stimulating play resources to the community that does not have access to such a service. It promotes free play that will encourage spontaneous learning, leisure and fun through the enjoyment of toys and games.

“Jom!” welcomes the participation of volunteers. And as a large number of toys are being loaned out on a regular basis, we would also appreciate contributions of toys and finances to buy new toys. Please call 016-4487006 for more details.

CENTRE UPDATES

ACS First Step – The upstairs Babies’ Stimulation Room is slowly and surely taking shape. We hope this dedicated programme will help with the increasing number of babies referred. And in the future, we might even be able to take in high-risk babies.

ACS Step Centre – How time has flown since we started six months ago. For the second part of our programme, we are looking for more placement opportunities to expose our young adults to the working world.

ACS Stepping Stone – 2 new members joined the centre in March bringing it to a total of 9 members. Is there anyone out there who can help with sewing of products or marketing strategies?

Unwelcomed Visitors – First Step Centre in Minden Heights and Step Training Centre in Relau were broken into in the past month. While a lot of effort was taken to enter the premises (padlock and grilles were cut etc.), we are thankful that nothing much (except for a camera and the donation box) was taken.

OTHER NEWS

ACS New Directors - ACS is pleased to announce the appointment of 2 new members on our Board of Directors. We wish to welcome Ms Zurina Meah and Ms Gillian Teh in line with the expansion of our activities.

ACS Website – We are pleased to inform you of our new website at www.asiacommunityservice.org. We want to keep the information posted as updated as possible and therefore we are looking for a volunteer who will be willing to help maintain it for us or better still, teach us how to maintain the website.

Visitors & Students – We seem to get a stream of visitors both local as well as from overseas on a regular basis. While this keeps us busy, we consider it a real honour to share our work. Social Work students from Hong Kong and Speech Therapy students from UKM were also on placement at our centres the past few months.

YOUR SUPPORT

Thank You – We would like to express our thanks to donors in the past few months, namely Kuok Foundation, Rotary Club of Bayan Baru, Ms Karen Goh, Catholic Diocesan Centre and many other individuals.

Building Fund – The owner of the First Step Centre in Minden Heights has indicated interest to sell the bungalow. We would like to ask for your support to start a fund to purchase the building.

Volunteer – In many organisation like ours, we are always on the lookout for volunteers. And of course, in line with this year being the International Year of Volunteers, you might want to consider helping out in some of the below listed areas.....

- swimming / horse back riding session.
- making teaching aid / toys (soft materials; woodwork; electrical etc..)
- run play sessions with “Jom!” Mobile Toy Library.
- sewing products.
- computer (maintain web-site; create database etc..)
- sponsor our graduation party for First Step young children or Step Centre trainees at the end of the year.
- sponsor KL Trip outing for our Stepping Stone members in September.

Thank you for your consideration,
Khor Ai-Na
Director

**True compassion is more than flinging a coin
to a beggar; it understands that an edifice which
produces beggars needs restructuring.**

– Martin Luther King -

*A Non-Profit Organisation Providing Services To People With Special
Needs, In Particular Reference To Those With Disabilities.*

RESPONSE SLIP

- I would like to be a regular volunteer in :
 - First Step Intervention Centre, Minden Heights
 - Step Training Centre, Relau
 - Stepping Stone Work Centre, Balik Pulau
 - "JOM!" Mobile Toy Library
 - Webmaster
 - swimming / horse riding
 - others _____
- I would like to be put on your mailing list
- I would like to make a donation of RM _____

Postal Order/Cheque No : _____ Date : _____

(Please make all cheques payable to Asia Community Service)

Signature : _____

Name : _____

Address: _____

Tel No : _____ (H) _____ (O)



ASIA COMMUNITY SERVICE

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Email : acspen@po.jaring.my

First Step: 33 Changkat Minden Jalan 3, Gelugor, 11700 Penang

Phone : 04 – 6585396 Fax: 04 - 6597852

Step Centre: 1-3-9 Kompleks Sri Relau, Pesiaran Bukit Jambul 1, 11900 Pg

Phone / Fax : 04 – 6462804

Stepping Stone: 11 Tingkat Seri Genting 2, Balik Pulau, 11000 Penang

Phone / Fax : 04 – 8665349

"JOM!" Mobile Toy Library: Mobile Phone 016-4487006