

Project Title & No : Neighbourhood Assistance-Action Centre 0002 – 13

Name of Organisation : The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council

Grant Approved : \$1,943,000.00

Project Duration : April 2009 – March 2012

Target Groups : i elderly, disabled and families that are in need of assistance
ii single-parent, new arrivals and middle-age unemployed

Location of the Project : Shatin and Ma On Shan

1. Project Highlights

(i) Objectives

- To identify single-parent, new arrivals and middle-age unemployed as valuable human capital that should be mobilised to serve as local resource to address the community needs.
- Base on the human capital, to rebuild the neighbourhood relationship so as to form the supportive network for the community.
- To be more effective to address the community needs by the supportive network.
- To develop more opportunity, especially in terms of economic opportunity, for the human capital.

(ii) Strategies

- To enhance social inclusion by developing neighbourhood relationship and supportive network.
- By forming the “Neighbourhood Assistance-Action Centre” as a supportive network to address the community needs, it facilitates mutual aid in the community.
- To transform those being excluded from the market into valuable human capital, it enhances the quality of life in the community.
- By the new work mode, it enhances the self-esteem, self-confidence as well as economic improvement of the deprived.

(iii) Expected Outcomes and Performance Indicators

- To identify as well as develop community resources that match our community needs.
- To rebuild a supportive neighbourhood that neighbours know each other, know the needs, and know those who can render assistance.
- An inclusive community that the deprived are no longer being capability deprived, the needed being assisted, and the quality of community life being enhanced.

2. Brief Description of Programmes

Enrolling human resources

Base on the understanding of the community needs, single-parent, new arrivals and middle-age unemployed are mobilised to serve the community according to their capability.

Forming the “Neighbourhood Assistance-Action Centre”

By cross-sectoral cooperation and joint effort with local organisations, the human resources so mobilised will form a “Neighbourhood Assistance-Action Centre”. The Neighbourhood Assistance-Action Centre will provide a wide variety of services that can address the community needs that are piece meals, irregular, temporary and ad hoc.

Community economy

The accumulating human resources, serving experience, serving capacity and community networks will expand the market so as to develop more serving opportunity. The market so expanded will form the community economy that improve the quality of life in the community.

3. Unique Feature

The traditional serving mode is not likely to address the needs of deprived families that are piece meals, irregular, temporary and ad hoc. However, there are lot of human resources in our community that may provide the best solution. For single-parent families, new arrivals and middle-age unemployed, having limitations and difficulties to get employment, they are vulnerable to be welfare reliance and socially excluded. By identifying them as valuable human resources and adopting a wider objective of social inclusion that goes beyond employment, they can utilise their capability to address the community needs in a more effective manner. In the community support network, the deprived are no longer being capability deprived, the needed being assisted, one’s self-esteem and confidence being enhanced, that improve the quality of community life.

4. Areas of Innovation

- Go beyond the existing serving mind set to explore solution for community needs.
- Go beyond the existing labour market to consider the capability deprivation of the excluded.
- No longer missing the traditional neighbourhood relationship but to explore a practical mode of mutual assistance.