

**Project No.** : 0013-03  
**Project Title** : Seamless Community – Art of Life  
**Name of organization** : Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service  
**Grant Approved** : \$580,000

**Project Highlights:**

1. The project aims to increase social inclusion by promoting mutual-support, mutual-respect amongst the youth recovery from mental illness (early psychosis, depression, anxiety disorders), youth with first onset in mental illness and the various sectors in the community. **The Art Adventure Program** and **The Alliance program** will link up the youth recovery from mental illness (early psychosis, depression, anxiety disorders), youth with first onset in mental illness, and the different parties in the community that includes the commercial sector, educational sector.
2. The youth recovery from mental illness will be trained as the facilitator of the **Art Adventure program**. And advocate the needs of the youth with mental illness in different sectors through the Art Adventure Program.
3. The participants of the **Art Adventure program** will link up to form a network of core members.
4. The network of core members will be recruited to be an **alliance** with the youth with first onset in mental illness during the rehabilitation process. The core members will provide tangible services and care for the youth with first onset in mental illness. Besides of this, the alliance will enable the youth with first onset in mental illness to join the Art adventure program as a bridge to integrate into the community.

**Brief Description of Programmes to be organized:**

**1. Art Adventure program**

The program will make use of Art Adventure program to provide a forum for both youth recovery from mental illness and the various sectors to build up a mutual-help and mutual-respect relationship. The youth recovery from mental illness will be trained as facilitators in advocating the needs of the youth with mental illness in different sectors through the Art adventure program.

**2. Alliance Program**

The participants of the art adventure program will be recruited and trained as an alliance to offer support and service for the youth with first onset in mental illness during the rehabilitation process such as provide peer counseling service for the youth with mental illness and idle at home, provide tutorial service, (computer or language)

and prevocational training for the youth with mental illness.

### **3. Bridging Program**

The core members will mobilize and facilitate the youth with first onset in mental illness to join the Art Adventure program. It is a bridge for the youth to integrate into the society and build up a mutual-support network for the youth in the community.

#### **Unique Features of the Project:**

1. This is a practice-focused, participant-centered, inter-departmental apprenticeship program tailor-made for youth with mental illness and the normal youth in the community who are interested in using the arts ----- including drama/theater, storytelling, visual arts and literature ---- as means for self-expression within both private and public settings. Various conventions and techniques will be used to deepen participants' understanding of the creative and production process, as well as to develop their innate potential as artists and/or arts facilitators.
2. The project will provide a forum for integration of youth recovery from mental illness, youth with first onset in mental illness and the general public through the Art adventure program.
3. We will train up the youth recovery from mental health as facilitators for advocating the needs of the youth with mental illness through the Art program. The Art Adventure program as a bridge for the youth to integrate into the society.
4. We will recruit the participants of the project to form a network of alliance. The members of the network will be an alliance in supporting the youth with first onset in mental illness during the rehabilitation process.

**Project Duration :** 24 months  
**Target groups :** Youth recovery from mental illness  
Youth with first onset on mental illness  
Commercial organization  
Institute of Education  
Schools.

**Location of the project:** Hong Kong Island and the West of New Territories.

**Expected output and outcomes:**

**Output**

- The participants of youth (Youth recovery from mental illness & Youth with first onset in mental illness)
- The participants of various sectors (Commercial organizations, Students of Institute of Education, Teacher, Schools, Students)
- The number of Art Adventure program and the numbers of participants
- The number of facilitators is trained and the facilitator provides the number of program.
- The number of participants in the Alliance Program and the number of youth are served
- The numbers of youth with first onset in mental illness participate in the community program

**Outcome:**

**Quantity:**

- Size of the inter-departmental apprenticeship network, no of participants; completed programs.
- No of facilitator; No of program provided by the facilitators, the extension of the apprenticeship network.
- No of participants in the Alliance program
- No of youth with first onset in mental illness involved
- No of service hour provide by the alliance program.
- No of youth with first onset in mental illness involve in the Art Adventure program
- Size of support network

**Quality:**

Questionnaires, scales and some behavioral measurement tools will measure the outcome.

- Participants report new friendship formed, increased the mutual-understanding and mutual respect among the participants
- Enhanced communication skills among the youth and the participants
- The attitude toward mental illness to be more positive
- The awareness of the various sectors towards the needs of the youth with mental problem ill be increased
- Increased self -confidence and the self-image of the youth recovery from the mental illness.
- The youth with first onset in mental illness and their family get tangible service from the community.
- Build up a support network for the youth with first onset in mental illness.

**Immediate effect:**

- Reduced sense of isolation among the youth with first onset in mental illness
- Integration of the youth with first onset in mental illness into the community
- The Caregiver reports sense of relief and decreased feelings of stress.
- The caregiver gets more support and knowledge in the rehabilitation process.

**Long-term outcome:**

- The awareness of the various sectors towards the needs of the youth with mental problem ill be increased
- The need of the youth with mental illness are recognized
- The community has a sense of making a contribution to the youth with mental illness.
- Provide early support for the family facing the children with mental illness
- Building a community support network for the youth and the family
- Increase the wellness and decrease the negative impact of illness in developmental stage of the youth
- Decreased caregiver stress and enhanced quality of life for caregiver