

Project No : Home Repairing Co-op
Project Title : 0023-08
Name of Organization : Lok Kwan Social Service
Grant Approved : \$400,000

Project Aims and objectives : The project is aimed at empowering a group of unemployed so-called “sam-hong” construction workers the trade and skill they acquired is considered a great asset (social capital). On one hand, through the operation of a self-help co-op, the project takes on a community building strategy, in partnership with the commercial and third sectors, to provide working opportunities for them. On the other hand, the workers contribute to society by providing repairing service for underprivileged social groups and networking with the young new arrivals in the form of mentorship training.

Project Duration : One Year (May 2006-April 2007)

Target Groups :

- So-called “sam-hong” construction workers
- Volunteers
- Households/ Companies
- Underprivileged social groups
- Commercial and Third Sectors
- Young new arrivals

Location of the Project : Hong Kong Island East

Unique Features of the Project :

- Role transformation: The role of the workers is transformed from service recipient to service provider through their participation, thus enhancing their community involvement.
- Self-help: Co-op-operative facilitates the workers to build up the mutual trust and support in a group. It helps them building a positive attitude and moving towards self-reliance.
- Collaborating with Commercial and Third Sectors: The project links up and partner with commercial and third sectors through different collaborative models to construct a conducive environment on social capital building.
- Network building: The workers and the volunteers take the repairing service as the entry point to engage the underprivileged families and community

- organization for building a supportive and caring community.
- Mentorship Training: By establishing the mentorship program with new arrival youngsters, the workers have a chance to pass on the trade and skills to them for practical use and employment opportunities

Expected Outcomes :

- Self-help group of workers: workers will be equipped with more skills of self management on the co-operative.
- Networking with the schools: Co-operating with Fukien Middle school (North Point), young new arrivals will have a chance to learn repairing skills and positive life attitude from the workers.
- Team work with volunteers: Under the leadership of the workers, the volunteers will have an intense training. This may contribute active participation of them to achieve better utilization of human resources in the project.
- Collaboration with Households / NGOs / Companies: The households / NGOs/ Companies will have an increasing involvement and contribution to the Project. This will secure more stable income for the workers.
- Linking to the commercial sector: The commercial and professional bodies will be encouraged to offer their resources and networking building to provide more working opportunities for the workers.