

**Project No** : 0026-08  
**Project Title** : The Multi-Cultural Mutual Care Community Project  
**Name of Organization** : Christian Action  
**Grant Approved** : HK\$ \$350,000

**Project Highlights:**

Christian Action is going to collaborate with university students, ethnic minorities and local parents to launch after school care project to children in a multi-cultural platform. The volunteers and parents will collaborate to form a Mutual Care After-School Care Service. It is expected to re-create an extended family environment, much needed for these children. The project provides a platform for cultural exchange and knowledge among different groups, such as parenting skills, language, and art and craft skills of different cultures. The self-actualized process increases parents' sense of achievement and competence and extends their personal network. Children joining the project will also be benefited by enriching their social experience. It is also expected that children will show improvement in both behavioral and academic performance.

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

There are 3 major elements involved in the project: Homework Guidance and Employment Mentorship Scheme and Mutual Support Network.

**1. After School Care Programme:**

Making use of participants' knowledge and talents, training will be provided by different groups to participants in the network. After-school tutorials will be launched according to the children's need. Furthermore, Social Service Programmes will be held with the joint effort of university students, local and EM parents. This offers a golden chance for them to contribute their talents to other needy community groups.

## **2. Employment Mentorship Scheme:**

Business mentorship scheme will be launched to provide employment opportunities and job placement to the unemployed EM. This opportunity provides EM with better knowledge on labor market and enhances their employability. The scheme also provides information on job vacancies and information related to job market.

## **3. Mutual Support Network:**

It creates more opportunity for cross-cultural experience, such as appreciation of festive celebration, arts, and cultural heritage. The program also establishes a mutual help network as a common platform for life experience sharing, skills transfers and leadership development. Half-yearly newsletter will be written and edited by network members.

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

This project is unique in the sense that it involves multi-ethnic, taking on capacity building and mutual supporting approach, with joint efforts in addressing community needs; during the process, participants will be learning to appreciate and understand more each others; culture and undo any labeling that one may have on other; also it involves cross-sector collaboration with business get involved to provide mentorship and job opportunities which together enhance social and economic participation of participants. In addition, through promoting cooperation among private, governmental and social sectors, the social capital of the EM residents and local people can be further enhanced. We hope to achieve the following results:

- a. **Self Help – To Help Others:** to promote voluntarism in the community, empower them as givers, and thus develop a trustful relationship and supportive atmosphere in the community;
- b. **Harmonious Community:** to develop a harmonious community, actively developing social capital;
- c. **Social Inclusion:** To enhance the communication, liaison and cooperation among private corporations, residents in the community, government departments and community groups in order to establish a caring and harmonious society;
- d. **Community Participation:** To promote participation of the public in the community by nurturing the interest and initiative of the public in voluntary work.

**Project Duration :** From May 2006 to May 2007, to be reviewed after 2<sup>nd</sup> year implementation.

**Target Groups :**

1. EM residents in Yau Tsim Mong District;
2. Volunteers from local families, schools, churches and organizations;
3. Business collaborators.

**Location of the Project:** Yau Tsim Mong District

**Expected Outputs and Outcomes:**

Expected Outcomes

1. Establish and sustain a service support group - 'Mutual Support group'
2. Not less than 300 volunteer mentors
3. Not less than 300 EM mentees (Including local and EM parents)
4. 5,000 head counts have participated in the project
5. Not less than 13 core members in the steer committee
6. Not less than 1,000 EM people benefit from the project
7. 8 job attachments & 32 placements provided for EM residents in the project

Expected changes to be achieved will include:

- Parent tutors – self-confidence enhanced and become more knowledgeable in parenting skills, some may be able to return to the job market;
- Students – academically improved; extended social network; resulted in some positive behavioural changes;
- Collaboration: extended partnership with schools, business and community groups; increasing joint-efforts to responding to community needs.