

Social engagement facilitates return to employment for the unemployed middle-aged

Name of project	: Community Networking for Skilled Artisans
Name of Organization	: St. James' Settlement Community Development Services
District	: Wan Chai
Project Duration	: 3 years (April 2004 to March 2007)
Grant Approved	: HK\$333,700

The project targets a group of middle-aged under-employed and unemployed carpenters, electricians or home decorators, who are becoming disgruntled and depressed over the prospect of not being able to find paid work again. Some had become socially isolated, with their personal health and family relationships under stress.

The project starts with re-engaging these men into networks that recognized and utilized their skills and re-engaging them with the community. They began with providing home repair services on a voluntary basis to local single-parent families and older people in need. They then become tutors training other volunteers in basic home maintenance work. After regaining a sense of achievement, competence, and with voluntary network established and links made with other organizations, they become aware of local work opportunities, developed a positive outlook on life and organized themselves into a community-based home repair services. In the project, the social investment and network building approaches are applied, providing the vital link to experience, information resources and support that are important to them to find and keep their jobs, with consequential benefits for their families.

Name of project	: 'Healthy Mothers-to-be' - A Women and Community Networking Project
Name of Organization	: Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service Grassroots Occupational Service Unit 'Healthy Mothers-to-be' Club
District	: Kwun Tong
Project Duration	: 2 years (April 2003 to March 2005)
Grant Approved	: HK\$232,040

This project addresses three sets of local social problems: first, a community with few ready job opportunities especially for the unskilled middle-aged; second, a group of middle-aged, unemployed grassroots women without formal education, at risk of depression and long term financially dependent; and third, mothers with new born babies without family support and hence at risk of post-natal depression.

The project strategies involve affirming the life experience of this group of middle-aged women and developing their child rearing skills to become quality post-natal mentors. They provide practical and social support to first-time mothers with newborn babies, reducing the risks of post-natal depression amongst these families.

After 21 months of operation, around 74 mentors have formed a co-operative and earned \$3.26 Million in total for the co-op members, helping over 500 families. Apart from gaining financial independence, these women mentors have gained hugely in self-esteem, confidence, self-respect and pride. The positive impacts are extended to their own families; and to the wider community with increased awareness on practical means to prevent post-natal depression.

1. 機構的熱誠參與；
2. 計劃員工對基金理念的正面認同；
3. 願意嘗試新的策略；
4. 由以服務為主導的框架，轉為發掘及發展最邊緣社群的潛能，讓他們發揮互助助的效能；
5. 打破機構之間的藩籬，動員社區資源，尋求夥伴的積極參與及建立互助網絡的能力；
6. 充分利用本土網絡的力量；
7. 回應社區需要；及
8. 清晰的社會資本成效目標。

Successful factors for social capital development projects :

1. Enthusiasm of the agency;
2. Positive outlook of the project staff;
3. Willingness to try new strategies;
4. Clear mindset shifts from providing services to developing the strengths and giving potentials of even the most marginalized groups;
5. Ability to break down organizational barriers, mobilize community resources, secure ownership from partners, and build mutual help networks;
6. Maximize strength of local networks;
7. Responsiveness to local needs; and
8. Clear focus on social capital outcomes.



歡迎有意申請的機構就計劃構思進行初步的討論。
Most welcome to have a preliminary discussion of your project ideas.

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發展社會資本計劃的成功因素



衛生福利及食物局
社區投資共享基金



聖雅各福群會社區發展服務

「凝聚力量」互助網絡計劃

計劃一

循道衛理親塘社會服務處基層在職人士服務部

「母嬰康逸社」婦女及社區互助網絡計劃

計劃二



為失業中年人士 充能的計劃

推行地點：灣仔

推行年期：3年

(由2004年4月至2007年3月)

資助金額：HK\$ 333,700

計劃一

計劃目標

- ✦ 為開工不足、失業的裝修師傅充能
- ✦ 推動參與社群發揮互助互惠、互補不足的精神
- ✦ 改善被標籤為弱勢社群的自立能力
- ✦ 區內有經濟困難的家庭亦因得到義務維修而受惠

推行地點：觀塘

推行年期：2年

(由2003年4月至2005年3月)

資助金額：HK\$ 232,040

計劃二

計劃目標

- ✦ 針對區內兩個群體的需要：
 - 一失的婦女(失業、失業、缺乏工作經驗的中年婦女)面對經濟困難的需要
 - 初為人母的婦女缺乏育嬰的經驗和產後情緒上的需要
- ✦ 突破傳統提供服務的形式：
 - 連繫初為人母的婦女及優質陪月員，運用中年婦女的豐富「添行」經驗(凸)，協助新媽媽渡過因缺乏生育經驗，和產後出現的情緒問題所衍生的手足無措感(凹)
 - 計劃產生凹凸效果，達到互助互惠的目標
- ✦ 產生三贏的局面：
 - 一班中年失業的基層婦女重投勞動市場，經濟獨立，自信心提升
 - 「新紫荷媽」能儘快適應新生活
 - 陪月員成為義工，透過街展提高社區對預防產後抑鬱症的意識