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Ms. WONG Miu-yan Cecilia

November 2024

My dear friend,

It's a great honour for me to serve marginal youth through Youth Outreach (YO) with a crisis intervention service in Hong Kong. I am very pleased that we have a strong and dedicated team. All members are devoted to improve our services and have received support and recognition from our friends, our stakeholders and our society.

This November is the 33rd Anniversary of YO. We have been loving what young people love and have helped numerous young people achieve their goals and dreams. We are going to continue our mission for bringing hope and optimism to our young people in the years to come.

The inspiration of Ah Sen's story, once again, confirms our belief that everybody, every youth is unique. They have their dreams and talents. As long as we are willing to be their companion, listen to them, provide them with support and understanding, our young people can make their life story by themselves.

I would like to appeal to all of you to give more encouragement and opportunities to these young people so that they can bravely pursue their dreams.

Yours faithfully,



President of Youth Outreach
Kent Wong

Translated by Virginia Li

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“The next station is Middle Road. Please hold the handrail.” This announcement is the drive for a young boy, Ah Sen, to chase his dream of being an excellent bus driver in the future. When he was staying in the Youth Outreach (YO)’s Transitional Housing for Boys (THB), he used to pick up a little towel and swing it around, acting out the tone of this announcement and the bus driver’s gesture in the Centre. Other boys felt bothered and made a lot of complaints about that. All those who have lived in the THB must have heard of it.

Ah Sen was born in Hong Kong. His mother passed away suddenly when he was seven years old. His father left him and just disappeared. He was taken care of by his grandparents. As they got older, the teenage boy had many growing up issues. His grandparents could not manage to look after him anymore. He was eventually transferred to the Social Welfare Department and had not contacted his grandparents since then.

Ah Sen was arranged to stay in the Small Group Home when he was 10 years old. However, he was in and out from different Homes and Hostels in the following 6 years because there were continual conflicts between him and the other residents. He was then diagnosed with autism and hyperactivity disorder. He did not intend to go on with his studies. As a result, he could not stay in the Home or Hostel any longer due to the residency regulations.

Ah Sen was then referred to our THB of YO by a social worker. He often returned to the dormitory very late, saying that he had to work until late night and promised to get back earlier. In fact, he preferred to rely on the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance for a living and was reluctant to get a job.

Based on our social workers’ experience and expertise in YO, we understood Ah Sen’s situation and family background. We worked out a set of residential training goals for Ah Sen. He could then stay in the THB with a goal for a stable job, financial management and emotion regulation. The THB also provided him with a safe accommodation and an address for his job-seeking requirements.

By chance, Ah Sen was introduced by his friends (bus enthusiasts) to work in an Express Delivery Company. He could get 10 thousand dollars per month. He worked very hard in the first 2 months and demonstrated a good performance. With his extensive knowledge of the roads and streets in Hong Kong, he saved the drivers’ time and energy. The owner of the company appreciated his attitudes towards his job, hardworking and willing to learn. The job not only solved his financial problems, but also gave him a sense of recognition and satisfaction. It was very encouraging to him.

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Regarding his financial management, Ah Sen could afford 3 meals a day and his basic necessities with his daily payment in cash, but he had no savings for something he wanted to buy - a camera. Our staff devised a saving plan for him to obtain it. He then learned how to manage his earnings and savings. He put part of his daily earnings in his savings account every day. A few months later, he could manage to have enough money for his favourite camera which cost him 10 thousand dollars.

Owing to the different habits and lifestyles of the residents in the Centre, conflicts and struggles were inevitable. Our social workers have set a 'Stress Reduce Corner' assisting the boys to express their emotions and feelings probably. Ah Sen does not argue and fight with others anymore. He has learned how to talk and discuss with others when they have different thinking or opinions over some issues in the Centre.

Ah Sen goes to take photos of buses in different districts whenever he has the time. He is dreaming of being a bus driver. He intends to get a driving license when he is 18 years old. By that time, he wants to make his dream come true.

With the support and assistance of the staff and social workers in YO, Ah Sen is now becoming mature. He is willing to learn how to plan his career and his future life. He desires to create his own life, being an excellent bus driver and making contributions to our society.

Ah Sen now lives on his own with a stable job and salary. We are planning a field trip for Ah Sen and the residents in YO to visit the Bus Companies and the Manufacturing of Buses for enhancing their knowledge about them.

The inspiration of Ah Sen's story, once again, confirms our belief that everybody, every youth is unique. They have their dreams and talents. As long as we are willing to be their companion, listen to them, provide them with support and understanding, our young people can make their life story by themselves.

N.B. Youth Outreach (YO)'s Transitional Housing for Boys and Girls (THB/THG) is located in Sai Wan Ho with an accommodation of 70 beds. It provides 1-year accommodation services for youth aged between 15 to 21 who are either working or unemployed and in crisis, as well as youth probationers referred by court.

Through individual and family counselling and remedial small group activities, THB and THG aim to improve the relationships between youth and their family and assist them in study and job. The centres offer training to promote youth's self-care ability, social skills and financial management, strengthen their emotional management and develop abilities to live independently.