

Community Development Services



Service Orientation

Amid Hong Kong's dire housing situation, issues such as unaffordable and inadequate housing have persistently remained a major concern for the city. Over the past year, our Community Development Services continued to serve underprivileged individuals in various deprived communities, with measures ranging from promoting environmental improvements in squatter areas and providing diverse learning opportunities for children living in sub-divided units, to supporting transitional housing residents in building new lives. By leveraging community resources and enhancing community engagement, our goal is to improve the living conditions in disadvantaged communities and help their residents remain motivated and hopeful about their future lives.



Learn more about our Community Development Services

Service Highlights

Building Vibrant and Caring Communities in Deprived Neighbourhoods

Helping Underprivileged Residents of Transitional Housing Integrate into New Communities

Our "CRISSCROSS" Social Housing Project offers 1,211 affordable housing units through four projects in Cheung Sha Wan and Tseung Kwan O, which will accommodate single residents and households of up to five people. The residents began moving in last June, with the average occupancy rate reaching 80%. A team of on-site social workers and property managers was set up for each project, in order to provide comprehensive support that will address the diverse needs of the residents.

While moving into transitional housing can improve residents' living environment and ease their rental burden, the relocation often puts these individuals under financial pressure. To address this problem, our social workers worked with local groups to relieve a significant amount of the burden faced by residents by offering them various kinds of move-in assistance, such as providing them with used household items, offering financial support for the purchase of electrical appliances and furniture, arranging for volunteer helpers to help with the logistics of the move and donating electric stair climbers for carrying bulky furniture. Our social workers also organised a series of community events for those who had moved in, including festive celebrations and group activities, in an effort to strengthen neighbourhood interactions and work with the residents to build a caring and supportive community.



➤ The social work team organised various festive activities to provide residents with opportunities for communication and interaction, strengthening their sense of belonging to the community.



➤ Residents celebrated their first Mid-Autumn Festival at the new residence by gathering to solve riddles written on lanterns, while appreciating the colourful lanterns in the festive spirit of togetherness and unity.



➤ Residents shared home-cooked dishes with their neighbours in celebration of Chinese New Year.



➤ Our social workers and volunteers assisted new residents in applying for and installing used electrical appliances.



Empowering Transitional Housing Residents to Continue Improving Their Lives

One of our transitional housing projects, Yin Ting Terraced Home, participated in the “JC Project LIFT” programme created and funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. We helped to develop a pioneering intervention model for poverty alleviation, which was tailored to the needs of transitional housing residents in order to help strengthen their financial capacities, broaden their social networks and open up new career opportunities through a diverse range of community activities, as well as vocational upskilling, financial support and help-to-save schemes, thereby benefitting 450 people in total.



Children learned how to use a computer to expand their skills.



“JC PROJECT LIFT” is a new programme that makes use of an innovative model for the benefit of residents by improving their financial situation.

Providing Holistic Development Opportunities for Children Living in Sub-Divided Units

With support from Hongkong Land, our Locality Development Team launched the “Inspiring Hope – Comprehensive Child Enhancement Programme” to offer free tutoring, STEM courses and community exploration activities for 120 primary and junior secondary school students living in sub-divided units in Kwun Tong. The goal of the programme was to support the students’ diverse needs in relation to learning to personal growth, and help them to discover their talents and interests. Stress relief and parenting education activities were also arranged for 150 parents from underprivileged backgrounds, in order to alleviate the stress of taking care of their families and help them develop better skills for communicating with their children. The programme lasted for a year, with a total attendance of more than 30,000.



Community exploration activities were held to broaden the children’s life experiences.



Children applied themselves to learning extra-curricular knowledge.

Beautifying Squatter Areas with Colour and Unique Characteristics

To improve the drainage facilities in the Lei Yue Mun squatter area, the Drainage Services Department re-laid the sewage pipes and manholes, and added 10 electrical and maintenance boxes to the area. After the construction, the Department and its contractor invited our Lei Yue Mun Community Development Project to co-organise a community painting activity. At the event, 25 residents and volunteers came together to design and paint unique, colourful patterns on the stainless steel boxes. This represented yet another effort by the Lei Yue Mun Community Development Project to beautify the city's squatter areas, following the painting of the wave walls, the facades of squatter structures and manhole covers.



Volunteers drew paintings featuring the local characteristics of Lei Yue Mun on light boxes, giving the community a unique appearance.

Outlook

Our Community Development Services have stayed up-to-date with the evolving needs of our service communities to provide tailored support for underprivileged individuals. In the coming year, we will continue to muster and use a variety of community resources to support families living in sub-divided units and those affected by inadequate housing in squatter areas, to improve their living environments. We will also implement innovative pilot programmes across our four transitional housing projects to enhance the living conditions of the residents, while preparing them for a better future during the transition.

Service Statistics 2023-2024 (as of 31st March 2024)

