

C-LINK

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C for Christ, His Care and Concern for all



Rev Stephen Pang
Chairman
SANA Christian Counselling
Services

Ministry for 2011

“For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.” Romans 14:7-8.

This is a stark reminder by apostle Paul that as Christians, our lives belong to God no matter what circumstances we are in, living or dead. Even after we die, we still belong to God. Because God is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, He is the one who controls our lives.

Therefore, we ought to treasure every moment of our lives. Like a lamp that gives light and leads people in the right direction, we can be a beacon to others who are lost and seeking a meaningful and purposeful life.

Ministering to prisoners is one of the ways that we can fulfil God’s calling. For the past thirty years, our volunteers have been working tirelessly, permitting no pause in their strides, to bring the Good News to those behind bars. The results may not immediately be apparent, but by the saving grace of Jesus, the word of God that has been sowed in their hearts today

may eventually blossom. They can then become a new person, casting aside their sinful past, and have a new life as promised in 2 Corinthians 5:17.

The Christian Counselling Services (CCS) is very fortunate to have volunteers like you who are dedicated and committed to this ministry. Selflessly and without grumbling, you go to the prison week after week to use your lives to influence and counsel the inmates with the word of God. Not only that, you continue to show your care and concern for them, even after their release from prison, by providing advice and guidance to them. You bring them to church so that they can be encouraged by the fellowship of believers. With your help, they can now face the real world and lead a normal life.

Many people can witness the gradual but significant change in the ex-offenders’ lives after they have accepted Jesus as their personal Saviour and Lord. From harbouring mostly negative and evil thoughts, they become more positive and responsible. From being naive and foolish in their actions, they realise their

folly and discover a new objective in life.

In 2011, CCS would like to further strengthen our after-care programme for those who have been released from prison. Besides the bi-

“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people.”

Ephesians 6:7

monthly Grace Fellowship, we plan to arrange home visits to the ex-offenders and their families, who may need help. The form of help under consideration includes counselling, job search and financial aid for ex-offenders to go for skill training. These are some practical ways to help them reintegrate back into society and gradually become a productive citizen.

Although an affiliate of the Singapore Anti-Narcotics Association (SANA), the CCS operates autonomously and does not receive any financial aid. We do not have any regular donors and our funds rely mostly on the generosity of friends and well-wishers. As the first fund raising project for this

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Kuan Yok's story



Ms Lim Kuan Yok

Ms Lim Kuan Yok was a simple and playful girl who spent her childhood on one of the offshore islands. At a tender age of about 15, she came over to mainland Singapore to look for work. For the first time, she was introduced to the seemingly colourful and glamorous city life of tea-dances and parties. Life could not have been more exciting for her. But behind the glamour lurked the ugly Devil. With the encouragement of her friends, she was introduced to heroin!

She did not realise how terrible the unrelenting clutch of drug is until she tried to quit. The pain of the withdrawal symptoms was too much for her. Taking the easy way out, she became enslaved by the drug. She was about 20 when she was first arrested for drug offences. But she jumped bail and was on the run for more than three years. During that time, she managed to wean herself off the drug habit. She eventually surrendered herself and she was given only a light sentence as she was free from drugs then.

Kuan Yok got married in 1982. But her marriage broke up soon after. Feeling depressed, she turned to drugs again. She was arrested in 1987 and thereafter, the Drug Rehabilitation Centre (DRC) became her regular abode. And it was during this time that the Holy Spirit began work on her life through the prison ministry by the Christian Counselling Services (CCS) and the various Christian half-way houses. But she

lacked a real impetus to change and remained in the bondage of drugs.

this time of bereavement. God had become very real in her life. She vowed to give

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

2 Corinthians 5:17

In 1990, she was arrested again. But this time, she was charged with drug trafficking as well. So, instead of the DRC, she was remanded at the Changi Woman Prison. Subsequently, her drug trafficking charge was dropped and she was acquitted. Due to an administrative foul-up, her lawyer managed to get her released to a halfway house for a night before going back to the DRC the next day. So, that evening, Kuan Yok managed to have a proper dinner and a good talk with her mother whom she dearly loved. She had not done that for many years.

A few months later, her mother passed away. It was only then that she realised that God had miraculously set up the foul-up so that she could have that last meeting with her mother. She had always thought that she still had a lot of time to make amends to her mother and that she could spend more time with her after her release. But without the divine intervention, she might never have had the chance to spend those last few hours with her mother.

The passing of her mother was a devastating blow to Kuan Yok. But her realisation of what God did for her was a real comfort during

up drugs and to follow Christ. She wanted to put away her old self and to start anew - just as it is stated in 2 Corinthians 5:17.

Since then, Kuan Yok has been free from drugs. Today, she is a volunteer with the CCS and goes to the prison and the DRC regularly to share the Good News of Jesus to those who are still lost. She is thankful to God for what He has done for her and she wants others to know and share this grace of God.

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year, the CCS will be launching a charity car wash programme. We hope to raise \$100,000 from it. We look forward to your generous support for this meaningful ministry for God's glory.

In conclusion, let us ponder on Paul's instructions in Ephesians 6:6-7: "Obey them not only to win their favour when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people." In all things, let us serve wholeheartedly as if we are serving the Lord. Amen!



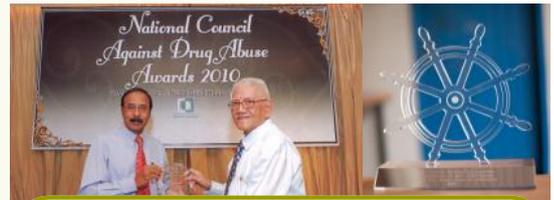
Volunteers, overcomers and friends came together to celebrate Christmas at the CCS premise on 20 December 2010. It was an evening of festivity and celebration as we remember the birth of our Lord. The highlight of the evening was the mystery gift exchange when many of us were pleasantly surprised by what we received.



Our CCS annual volunteer appreciation dinner was held on 11 February 2011 at the River View Hotel. This is the time when we show our appreciation to all our volunteers for their commitment and dedication to our ministry.

During his dinner address, CCS chairman, Rev Stephen Pang, thanked the volunteers for their faithful services. In view of the growing needs of the ministry, he appealed to those present to encourage their friends and colleagues to join CCS in this battle against the drug menace.

Later in the evening, 24 volunteers, who have served between 5 to 25 years, received awards for their services to CCS. They include Dr Peck Hock Cheng and Ms Khew Swee Ling who received the silver medals and Ms Doris Soh Geok Har who received the bronze medal.



In 2010, CCS received awards from the National Council Against Drug Abuse (NCADA) and the Singapore Prison Service in recognition of its contributions to the society. These awards are affirmations of the excellent work done by our volunteers. Well done!

Rev Stephen Pang and several CCS volunteers attended the 19th Asean IFNGO



Workshop in Manila, Philippines on 27 - 29 October 2010. The theme of the workshop was *Youth and Family Together Against Drugs*. Delegates from 11 countries came together to share their experiences in tackling the drug menace.

On 6 - 8 December 2010, one of our volunteers, Desmond Teng, shared his testimony during the 5th Asian Recovery Symposium held in Jakarta, Indonesia. About 280 delegates from 17 countries attended the symposium.



SANA Volunteer & Donor Appreciation Night 2010



A/P Ho Peng Kee giving his address

SANA hosted the 2010 Volunteer and Donor Appreciation Night on 26 November 2010 at the Furama Riverfront Hotel. The guest of Honour for the evening was Associate Professor Ho Peng Kee, Senior Minister of State for Ministry of Home Affairs and Law. This event is a special occasion to pay tribute to all the volunteers, donors and partner organizations of SANA for their keen support and contribution to the anti-drug mission.

To recognise the dedication and commitment of volunteers in rebuilding the lives of many individuals and their families, various awards were given out during the event. Dr Peck Hock Cheng and Rev Sam Rasoo Muthusamy received the Medal of Honour (Gold) while Ms Khew Swee Ling

received the Medal of Honour (Silver). Mr Daneshwaran Ranganathan, Mr Reuben Bala and Mr Ronnie Tan received the Certificate of Honour. Our heartiest congratulations to them!



Mr Poh Geok Ek, President of SANA



My response

- I would like to receive your newsletter, the C-link magazine, regularly.
- I would like to donate *\$_____
- I would like to make a monthly pledge of *\$_____
- I would like to have more information about the drug ministry.

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