



**NANYANG
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY**

OG DEPARTMENT STORES - MR TAY TEE PENG DISTINGUISHED

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

SHARE AND CARE 2017

Name: Joel Lim Yi Jie (CBC Year 3)

Period of Project: 19 February 2017

Report Date: 12 May 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Share and Care is a food donation drive, which brings food and joy to the low-income families of Boon Lay. In collaboration with Boon Lay Community Centre Youth Executive Committee and Nanyang Technological University Motoring Club, Welfare Services Club Internal Relations organised and executed this event on 19 February 2017 at Boon Lay Community Centre. To bring informative tips on healthy living and security, the carnival sought to benefit the families beyond the food donation drive and to better meet their daily needs. Over 240 volunteers took part in the event, and served over 170 families in Boon Lay area. As the third year running since Food for Hope, Share and Care continues to tackle issues on bridging understanding between student and communities, engaging the low-income families and the sustainability of such community projects.

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1. EVENT OBJECTIVES

The Food for Hope was an initiative launched by Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Welfare Service Club (WSC) Internal Relations (IR) committee since 2014. Previously, it comprises of a canned food collection, quality control and packing of the collected cans, and distribution of the canned food and staple packs to the low-income families of Boon Lay. This year, as part of a novel variation to the conventional food donation drive, Share and Care is born. In addition to the distribution of staple food packs to the families, a fun-filled carnival would provide informative games and interactions to the families. Boon Lay Community Centre (CC) Youth Executive Committee (YEC) and NTU Motoring Club are our partners of the event.

The objectives of this event are:

1. to provide aid in terms of staple food (such as rice, oil, Milo, and crackers) to the lower-income families in Boon Lay area,
2. to provide the beneficiaries with an interactive, informative, helpful as well as enjoyable event
3. to foster closer bonds among volunteers through coordinating efforts in the event.

The event coincides with the Lunar New Year period each year. Not every family is able to enjoy the festive season. The goal of the event is to tap on the spirit of giving during the new year period and to allow more people to enjoy the start of a new year.

Overall, there are 240 volunteers at present at the event (consisting of WSC members, NTU volunteers and international students). The volunteers reached out to over 170 households as identified by ComCare, 145 of which at the carnival. Those families who did not collect during the carnival had their food packs delivered to their home by the volunteers and NTU Motoring Club, whose members volunteered their driving and personal vehicles for the event. The families who were not at home were contacted by the family services centre and will be able to collect the food packs at their own leisure at the community centre. The event amounted to more than 2820 volunteer-hours.

2. ABOUT JOEL LIM YI JIE

Joel is a Nanyang Scholar, pursuing his degree in Chemistry and Biological Chemistry (CBC) in School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences (SPMS) (2014-2018), with specialization in Medicinal Chemistry. He has been awarded the Dean's List in academic year(s) 2014/15 and 2015/16. As part of the fulfilment of the OG Department Stores – Mr Tay Tee Peng Distinguished Undergraduate Student Award, Joel and WSC IR organised the Share and Care event, with the aim of improving the lives of low income families in Boon Lay.

Joel was the Chairperson of NTU Welfare Services Club (WSC) Internal Relations (2015/16). During his term, he organized the community service project Food for Hope, collecting over 9000 canned foods for over 290 families. He also broadened the scale of operation by increasing the number of estates in the collection of canned food, to enable more low-income families to celebrate Chinese New Year. Currently serving as the Vice President of WSC (2016/17), Joel oversees several portfolios, including IR and the supervision of Share and Care.

Joel was also the President of NTU Runners' Club (2015/16) and is currently an active volunteer at Woodlands tuition centre for the Deaf, under Regular Service Project (Deaf Community).



Picture 1: Joel during Food for Hope (2016) as Chairperson of Internal Relations.

3. ABOUT NTU WELFARE SERVICES CLUB



Picture 2: Logo of WSC

Founded in 1985, the Welfare Services Club (WSC) is a non-academic constituent club in NTU which provides an umbrella of voluntary activities and social work to all students. Besides growing from strength to strength in membership, the WSC has also undergone incredible expansions in its activities to reach out to more beneficiaries every year. Currently, it runs 7 Regular Service Projects (RSPs) serving the Deaf, Elderly, Children, Intellectually Disabled, Physically Challenged, Visually Handicapped and Youths-at-risk, which

comprises of volunteers serving these beneficiaries weekly at various locations.

WSC also runs 6 Special Projects and 4 Supporting Committees. Its Special Projects provide additional support to beneficiaries both locally and overseas. These projects, which include Camp OutReach, Challenge ur Limits, Ignite Change, Operation Hope, Overseas Volunteering Expedition and Volunteer Management, have established themselves well within and beyond the university. Volunteers engaged in Special Projects and Supporting Committees gain invaluable skills in entrepreneurship, events management, planning, coordination and many more.

Awards and Achievements:

- The President's Social Service Award 2008 (Informal Category) – Winner
- The Singapore Youth Award 2006 (Medal of Commendation) Recipient
- The Commonwealth Youth Gold Award 2004 Recipient
- Singapore Youth Award 1999 – Community and Youth Services (Team) – Winner

4. ABOUT INTERNAL RELATIONS



Picture 3: Logo of Internal Relations

The Internal Relations (IR) committee is one of the supporting committees of Nanyang Technological University's Welfare Services Club. IR's biggest event of 2016 was Community Service Day (CSD), also known as Food for Hope, which was a food donation drive that benefited the low-income families

in Boon Lay. Due to the roaring success of CSD 2015, we expanded our area of food collection and the number of beneficiaries to 400. Students and staff from NTU and youths living in Boon Lay, were all involved in bringing positive impact to the Boon Lay community. IR played a pivotal role in planning, leading and facilitating the event, making Food for Hope 2016 a huge success. It organizes events and activities to bond WSC members from various portfolios with the aim of increasing club cohesion.

5. ABOUT BOON LAY COMMUNITY CENTRE YOUTH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Comprising an exciting blend of youths from various education institutions as well as the workforce, the Boon Lay Community Centre (CC) Youth Executive Committee (YEC) aspires to make a real difference in the community through its meaningful range of projects and activities.

The YEC's work in the community focuses on two key areas: Community Engagement and Community Service. This vision has built a strong foundation for the development of many interest groups in recent years:

- Icube Youth Community (Community Service Interest Group)
- Black Sheep Balloonists (Balloon Sculpting Interest Group)
- Department of Dance (Dance Interest Group)
- ACE @ Boon Lay (An interest group serving the needs of students at a latchkey centre)

6. DETAILS OF EVENT

Date: 19 February 2017

Time: 9.00am - 4.30pm

Venue: Boon Lay CC

In the weeks prior to the event, publicity was made to recruit volunteers and collect donations (as approved by Student Affairs Office) at the Social Impact Week, organised by WSC Growth and Opportunities. Concurrently, orders of the staple food were made to Foodbank@NTU and delivered to the community centre for storage.

On the actual day, in the morning 9am to noon, the volunteers were briefed about the event and assumed their respective roles. The booths for the carnival were set up. Simultaneously, volunteers packed the staple food into tote bags.

Upon the arrival and registration of the beneficiaries, the participants were given a lunch set and enjoyed the series of performances. During the free-and-easy period, they could visit booths and play interactive and educational games. Volunteers served as booth master and guides to the families. By completing several stations, the beneficiaries were able to redeem Kacang Puteh. The event ended with more performances (Dance item and singing performances) and lucky draw (home appliances).

At the same time, delivery to the families not present was made.



Picture 4: Volunteers during the brief by Chairperson Wei Jie

7. TIMELINE

Date	Activity	Parties involved
Early Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Get relevant details such as the targeted units (beneficiaries) and storage place - Publicity materials to be prepared - Inform all portfolios regarding the events (recruit volunteers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IR members - Boon Lay CC
23 rd and 24 th Jan	- Social Impact Week (donation drive and recruitment of NTU volunteers)	- IR members
30 th and 31 st Jan	- Purchase and delivery of food items (to check for bulk purchase discount)	- Logistics committee
	- Allocating WSC volunteers to various roles (Booth manning/collection point/distribution)	- Events committee
19 th Feb	- Carnival, concurrently with the packing and distribution of food packs at Boon Lay CC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WSC members - IR members
5 th Mar	- Distribution of remaining food packs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WSC members - IR members

Table 1: Timeline of planning to execution phase

Packing of Staple Food Packs (19th February 2017) [Concurrent with Carnival]

Time	Activity	Venue	I/C
0900-0915	Arrival of IR / WSC Members and Participants	Boon Lay Community Centre	IR Members
0915-1200	Organisation of food items and packing of food packs		IR Members
1630	Distributing of Food packs to beneficiaries Distribution to beneficiaries not present		IR Members

Table 2: Programme flow of the packing of food packs

Carnival (19th February 2017)

Time	Activity	Venue	I/C	Remarks
0900-1200	Arrival of volunteers and briefing	Boon Lay CC	IR Members	All volunteers to know their job
1200-1315	Arrival of beneficiaries and registration		IR Members	Issuing of booth cards

1315- 1300	Opening Speech by IR Chairperson and SAO Personnel		IR Chairperson	
	Performance by CAC Lion Dance		CAC Lion Dance	
1130- 1200	Performance by NUS Magic Club		Magic Club	Water to be distributed
1200- 1330	Lunch Break + Free & Easy (explore booths)		IR and volunteers	Lunch provided
1430 - 1530	Mini Stage Games		IR members and volunteers	
1530 - 1600	Lucky Draw		IR Chairperson	
1600 - 1630	Collection of Food Packs		IR and volunteers	

Table 3: Program flow of the carnival

8. CARNIVAL BOOTHS



Picture 5 (left): Volunteers engaging the families about the importance of healthy living via games

Picture 6 (right): President of WSC, Shiqi interacting with a beneficiary



Picture 7 (left): Booth on 'household hacks', such as an improved way to hang clothing.

Picture 8 (right): Volunteers giving lunch packs to the families





Picture 9 (left): Volunteers preparing the Kacang Puteh booth

Pictures 10 and 11 (right and below): Simple games such as chess with some beneficiaries





Picture 12 (above): Volunteers engaging the families in throwing the balls into the slots



Picture 13 (above): Volunteers explaining to a child rules of the game



Picture 14 (left): Volunteers explaining to the children the importance of first aid

Picture 15 (right): Lion dance performance with Chairperson Wei Jie



Picture 16 (left): Stretching workshop



Picture 17 (above): Lion dance opening to the event



Picture 18 (above): CPR demonstration



Picture 19 and 20 (above and below): During a booth game



9. Food Packing and Distribution



Picture 21 and 22 (above and below): Volunteers during the packing of food packs





Picture 23 and 24 (above and below): Volunteers on the way out to deliver the food packs



SHARE & CARE

Lend a hand, Help a friend

19 FEB 2017 - PACKING & CARNIVAL

An exciting new element to our event! Would you like to interact & chat with our beneficiaries? Then come on down for our carnival!!

5 MARCH 2017 - DISTRIBUTION

Your assistance will play a crucial role in ensuring the success of this event, and bringing a smile unto our beneficiaries' face!

Venue: Boon Lay CC

For more information, visit our facebook page
www.fb.com/internalrelationswsc
or contact 9321 9327 (Chan Wei Jie)
wsc-ir@e.ntu.edu.sg

See you there!



Picture 25: Publicity flyer used for the event

11. FEEDBACK

WHAT WE HAVE DONE

The primary objectives of distributing staple food packs, to the list of families as registered under ComCare, were met.

The carnival was well-received by the families. Some beneficiaries noted that the games were interesting and enriching. Not only does the carnival meet the goals of attracting the beneficiaries to participate in the event, it fulfils the additional



Picture 26: How do the beneficiaries find the carnival booths?

objective of providing the families useful tips at home and in the community. Many family members were pleased with the change of venue and the array of entertaining stations at the carnival. In this way, the families would not just be receiving food packs, but also learnt useful information about healthy living and neighbourhood security.

The volunteers also provided generally positive feedback. Many felt that the modification of event directions was meaningful and there are much interactions with the residents, targeted beneficiaries, and other participants from varied backgrounds.

WHAT COULD BE DONE BETTER

However, the goal of bonding volunteers could be better improved in the subsequent annual events. Due to the implementation of the carnival, the amount of interactions amongst volunteers have been reduced. It is noteworthy that the overall experience of volunteers is paramount to garnering recurring support over the years. Besides the interactions with beneficiaries, the friendship forged among volunteers has been a key factor in encouraging continuous volunteerism within WSC and across NTU. In previous years when emphasis was made in collection of canned food, packing, and distributing of food packs, greater bonding was made. Better efforts in managing group interactions among volunteers could be achieved.

Accessibility has been one of the concerns in organising the event. Beneficiaries with physical disability or health concerns may not be keen in travelling to the community centre. Even among beneficiaries who attended the carnival, moving about within the community centre basketball court and the booths on higher floors may be dissuading (even when the use of lift is encouraged). Although volunteers were assigned to the family members to assist in directions and movement, and dispatch of food packs by NTU Motoring Club was made to the families who were not present, the accessibility remains as a serious consideration for future planning.

Space constraint within the community centre is noted as a limitation. If the activities could be conducted within the basketball court, less travelling would be required of the participants. In the consideration of future events, the nature of activities and the booking of community centre facilities should be revised to expedite the purposes of the event.

Number of families which benefited from the event has been reduced due to difficulty in contacting the family members in the ComCare, and the shift in focus to the carnival in providing a better overall Share and Care experience.

PERSONAL REVIEW



Picture 27: Joel with several WSC Executive Committee members at the event

As part of the continuous effort in the Boon Lay Community, the project must be sustainable in the long term. There has always been concern in every committee of the new academic year in securing the grants and income required to ensure the success of the event. The project of Food for Hope and Share and Care is passed down from one committee to the next every year, just like from me as Chairperson to the

Wei Jie, the current chairperson. I am fortunate to be able to supervise and take part in the planning of Share and Care as Vice President. Proper handing over of information and experience should be carried out to prevent mistakes in future planning.

Support from organisations such as People's Association and Boon Lay CC YEC has been crucial in the planning and execution of the event. In addition, systematic feedback channel and perpetual innovation and enhancement from the previous events are important to the organisation of the events in the subsequent years.

Therefore, the leadership and team dynamics are important in the planning and setting of directions of the events. As a leader myself, I would personally provide advice to the next committee to the best of my abilities. As observed from my experience from the 3 years in the event, the student body at large and external organisations are supportive of the idea of Food for Hope/ Share and Care. It is henceforth vital for the team to maintain good relations with the supporting organisations for their continued assistance over the years.

The aim of the event is to enrich the lives of the low-income families in Boon Lay, while discouraging any possible dependence on the annual event. While the set up of a carnival is a step in the right directions, more adjustments ought to be made in establishing the most desired form of service towards the community.

12. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to express his utmost gratitude towards OG Department Stores – Mr Tay Tee Peng Distinguished Undergraduate Student Award and the College of Science for this opportunity to expand on the project, and the recognition to student leaders and their efforts towards the community. This project could not have been possible without the continuous support from the award and College of Science.

He would also like to thank NTU Student Affairs Office for their advice and support of the event for the past 3 years. Special thanks are extended to Collab4Good, Foodbank@NTU, People's Association, NTU Alumni Affairs Office and the NTU Student Community Engagement and all the volunteers of the event for the additional support.

The Boon Lay CC YEC Chairperson Kaiwen has also been supportive of Food for Hope and Share and Care. Without her team's support and the offer of the venue, the community would not have been able to enjoy the event as they have.

Finally, the author would like to acknowledge the swift executions and dedicated efforts of NTU Welfare Services Club Internal Relations (Chan Wei Jie, Kuah Rui Wen, Edmund Tan and the current committee) and NTU Motoring Club (Lim Liang Yuan and team).