

# SAHK

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**Introduction:** One of the major focuses of Conductive Education is to cultivate one's self-efficacy and self-worth for self-actualization and lead to active participation in community eventually. In December 2008, SAHK started a community education programme to promote public's understanding on people with disability and bring out the positive view of life. 7 clients and 1 project team from sheltered workshops were appointed as SAHK Ambassador. They visited school, youth centre and disable people self-help group to share their past experience, successful story and achievement. The feedback and response from the participants were very encouraging and positive which in turn became the driving force for the Ambassadors to develop a more positive and energetic personality. Both general public and the clients can ultimately benefit through this win-win programme.

**Programme Description:** 7 clients and 1 project team with outstanding achievements were appointed as SAHK Ambassador. Majority of them suffered from cerebral palsy, while there were two clients suffered from spinal muscular atrophy and cerebral vascular accident. These ambassadors included 2008 Beijing Paralympics boccia gold medalist, Awardee of Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong and winners of various arts, sports and social activities. They were organised to visit schools, youth centres and self-help group with the objectives: 1. Assist the youth and people with disability to develop a positive view of life and enhance their adversity quotient through life education; 2. Provide opportunity for the public to increase understanding on talent and potential of people with disability; 3. Promote the self-image, confidence and self-efficacy of SAHK Ambassadors and cultivate their perseverance and positive personality development.

During the visits, Ambassadors introduced themselves as well as their assistive device, shared their own story, played role-exchange games and all participants were required to write down their self-reflection at the end of programme.

**Programme Review:** In the period between December 2008 and April 2010, 62 visits have been organized for 15 primary schools, 26 secondary schools, 1 tertiary education institute, 1 special school and 19 welfare organisations. The total attendance was 15,153 and there were 244 participants in each visit averagely. A unit based program evaluation and opinion collection were done after each visit. During the period, 62 questionnaires were distributed to the organisers and 58 valid responses were received. The average score of overall rating was 2.64 out of 3. In other part of questionnaire, like extent of achieving objectives, program design and speaker performance, the average score was 2.64, 2.57 and 2.60 respectively.

**Discussion:** Actually, it was really not an easy task for the clients to face such a big crowd of participants (244 in average) in each visit. The impressive ratings from participants' evaluation further confirmed their hard working and excellent performance on the stage have won the

recognition from public. Conductive Education emphasis on developing one's own attitudes or personality to solve their problems encountered, SAHK Ambassador is a good arena for this purpose.

**Conclusions:** In conclusion, the SAHK Ambassador is an effective programme. The clients can be empowered through this community education in one hand, the general public, especially the youth and disabled person, can be cultivated a more positive view of life and acquired deeper understanding about people with disability on the other hand. The programme provides an excellent education opportunity for our clients, even in the adult stage, to temper their personality and equip them necessary quality to conquer future challenges.



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