


SWSA
Department of Social Work and Social Administration
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
香港大學社會工作及社會行政學系

FEPT HKU

# Placement Briefing Services for Children and Youth

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# Type of Services

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| Centre Based<br><br>(ICYSC) | Youth At Risk<br><br>(YR) | Residential Setting<br><br>(RS) |

# Centre Based Services

# (ICYSC)

1. 139 Integrated Children & Youth Services Centers

2. 22 Children & Youth Centers

# Youth At-risk Services

# (YR)

1. 19 district youth outreaching social work teams (YOTs)
2. 18 designated ICYSCs are provided with additional manpower and funding to provide Overnight Outreaching Services for Young Night Drifters (YNDs)
3. 5 community support service scheme (CSSSs)
4. Service for Drug Abusers
5. Correctional and offender Services

# Residential Services

(RS)

1 Children's Homes (aged 6-21), Boys/Girls Home (aged 7 -21), Hostels (aged14-21), Small group homes/ Hostel (aged 4 to 18)

# Integrated Children & Youth Service Centers (ICYSC)

- Report on the Review of Children & Youth Centre Services(1994): **C&Y Centre services** + outreaching social work + School Social Work Service
- Target: aged **6-24 children** and youth/ parents (age range: flexible)
- ICYSCs have different operating hours
    - A Shift: morning session (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.)
    - P Shift: afternoon session (2 p.m. to 6 p.m.)
    - N shift: evening session (6 p.m. to 10 p.m.).

# Services Provided

- Core programs:
  1) Guidance and counseling;
  2) Supportive services for young people in disadvantaged circumstances;
  3) Developmental and socialization programs;
  4) Community engagement programs
- Non-core programs (drop-in service, interest groups, overnight camp, summer youth program and/or study/reading room service)

# Learning opportunities

- Mainly Group work (e.g. volunteer training, social skills training), workshops and mass program (camps and adventured-based activities, community engagement programme)
- Working with different stakeholder and/or outside organizations (e.g.: Schools, IFSCs/ District Council etc.)
- School supportive work e.g.「小學全方位輔導服務」、「成長的天空」、「共創成長路」、「區本及校本課後支援計劃」
- IDP (new) Individual Development Plan, using ”casework” approach and packaged by “programme” to help young service users under continuous review

# Things to Note

- Casework (IDP/ informal case) requests special liaison with FWS
- Irregular working hours (am, pm & evening sessions, occasionally weekend and holidays)
- Include many school support services
- Be very proactive to recruit group members
- Not easy to engage adolescents, mainly are children (at after school programme)
- High chance working with SEN children, new arrivals and/or low-income families

# Residential Services

- Non-institutional Care

  1) Ordinary Small Group Home: (4 to 18 years old)

  - for those needy families who could not take care of their children temporary, just like a home-like environment for the children until they can return to their families or a long-term alternative living arrangement is achieved

  2) Integrated Small Group Home

  - 7 children with ages of 4 to 18 and 1 mildly mentally handicapped child with ages of 6 to 18

- Institutional Care

  1) Boys' / girls' homes

  - for children or young persons aged 7 and under 21 with behavioral or emotional problems.

  2) Boys'/ girls hostels

  - for young persons between 14 and under 21 years of age who are studying or working

# Learning Opportunities

- Engagement skills;
- Trust and attachment
- Daily operation in structured setting
- Case, group, programs
- Inter-disciplinary cooperation (such as: nurses, childcare workers, teachers);

# Things to Note

- Working hours covers 3 shifts, depending on agency's requirement; be prepared to work take up night shifts until 10p.m. to engage clients who return from school or work
- High sensitivity to protect client's privacy
- Clients usually develop strong attachment with student worker, be prepared for good termination
- Get ready to deal with SEN related behavioural problems

# Services for Youth-at-risk

- District Youth Outreaching Social Work Service (YOTs)
- Overnight Outreaching Service for Young Night Drifters (YNDs)
- Community Support Service Scheme (CSSSs)
- Service for Drug Abusers
- Correctional and Offender Services (Not availiable this year, sorry!)

# Outreaching Services (YOTs)

- Target: 6-24 youth-at-risk
- Reach out to individuals and groups who use to hang around in public premises;
- Spot Works: possible working spots to engage users at football pitches, parks, game centers, fast food shops, street corners, shopping malls… all are unstructured sites.
- Common issues: drug abuse, triad society, truancy, sex-related issues, crime, emotional disturbances, family issues
- Irregular working hours and outdoor work
- Usually between 10a.m. to 10p.m. (No overnight outreaching placement)
- Night shift is common (6p.m. onwards till 10p.m.)
- Casework, groupwork, mass program

# Things to Note

- Acceptance and confidence in handling their testing behaviors and misbehaviors;
- Icebreaking & engagement skills are crucial; not afraid of being rejected
- Independent, mature, initiative, creativity, interest in working with these youngsters;
- Understanding natural group and gang dynamics;
- Very challenging and with frequent frustration, especially related with value and ethics

# Community Support Service Scheme (CSSS)

- Community Support Service Scheme (CSSS) aims at helping children and youth cautioned under the Police Superintendent's Discretion Scheme (警司警誡令) with a view to re-integrating them into the mainstream education or work force and reducing the likelihood of re-offending.
- Five CSSSs are attached to 5 ICYSCs
- Irregular working hours, sometimes need to accompany clients to Court or Police answering bail

# Services Provided

- Casework

  1) Guidance and counseling;

  2) Supportive services for arrested youth and their families

  3) Noted that client can deny service once the Police Discretion is given

- Programmes e.g. Day camp, volunteer services, community education program with HKPF, education talk
- Group is arranged only on need based, e.g. sex offenders group, anger management group

# Things to Note

- Primary clients are youngsters under Police Superintendent's Discretion; some clients are consented to receive service right after their arrest (i.e. Arrested Youth) and they can also refer their peers for service
- Clients may also refer “Peers Case”
- The continuity of case intervention is unpredictable
- Sensitive to multi disciplinary co-operation e.g. work culture of HKPF
- Very challenging and with frequent frustration, especially related with value and ethics
- Very ad hoc calls or work on public holiday

# Services for Drug Abusers

- Voluntary Residential Treatment and Rehabilitation Services (e.g. Hong Kong Christian Service Jockey Club Lodge of Rising Sun)
- Counselling Centers for Psychotropic Substances Abusers (e.g. TWHGs CROSS Centre, PS33)
- It aims at providing counselling and assistance to habitual/occasional/potential psychotropic substance abusers and to young people at risk with a view to assisting them to abstain from psychotropic substance abuse and develop healthy life style.
- case and group counselling for psychotropic substance abusers;
- counselling for their family members;
- regular preventive education programs/talks for secondary students and the community

# Things to Note

- Mainly deal with unmotivated and involuntary clients (CSSSs, drug abusers…)
- Be familiar with the drugs effect and medical model on treatment
- Be initiative, good engagement skills
- Special talents to attract the youths to talk to you

# Correctional & Young Offender Services

- Secondary setting, service provided by Correctional Department, institutes usually located at remote areas.
- Dealing with clients who have committed criminal offences, clients' family support work may not be possible.
- Not open for summer placement

# Things to Note

- Pre-placement security vetting will be conducted by CSD which usually take time
- Working hours start from 8am to 5:30pm at restricted working conditions, with rare outside duties. E.g. when working inside the office, all personal mobiles or private computers need to be kept at the visitors' lockers. Internet service is limited within the work setting.
- Need to follow strict security requirement e.g. security check at every main-gate area, no mobile phone or internet services
- Require to be familiar with the rules and regulations of each institute.
- When performing case interviewing or group sessions or projects, additional staff would be placed in the room for security reason.
- Placement supervisor may have limited on-site supervisions to placement students owing to the security reason, therefore, additional supervision meetings need to be arranged at HKU on non-placement days.

# How to prepare your placement?

https://placement.socialwork.hku.hk/placement.html

Placement form:
A-09 Agency Feedback Form [Agency expectation]
A-10a Assessment of performance [FWS Expectation]

Increment weather arrangement and Safety measures
For contingency, well prepared for summer outings/ camps or any outdoor activities, agency may have specific guidelines

# Contemporary approaches to work with young people

- Expressive Art
- Positive Psychology
- Narrative Therapy
- Mindfulness
- Career guidance
- Use of Play
- Newly emerged sports
- Adventure Based Counselling
- Self-understanding tools
- Employment support
- Strength based approach



# Latest trend

HKJC Youth Projects:

21C@JC

LevelMind

Project Bonfire

Youth Development Blue-Print

YDC Youth Ambassadors Programme

# Highlights of placement choices

- ICYSC – Caritas Shek Tong Tsui
- Outreaching – Playground YTM district
- CSSS – BGCA Kowloon West
- Centre/ School - Centre of Restoration of Human Relationships
- Residential – SA Wan Tsui Boy Home

# Useful websites

- http://www.swd.gov.hk
- https://www.childprotectiontraining.hk/self-learning
- https://www.youthblueprint.gov.hk
- http://www.hkfyg.org.hk
- http://www.bgca.org.hk
- http://hkcs.org/gcb/ps33
- https://www.salvationarmy.org.hk/
- https://hksas.org.hk
- https://www.sbc.org.hk/service-units/sbcstc
- https://csss.hkpa.hk
- https://www.csd.gov.hk
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