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



MULTI-CULTURAL SOCIAL WORK PLACEMENT BRIEFING

2027-2028 Setting Briefing



WHAT IS ‘HONG KONG PEOPLE’ ?

咩叫香港人

THREE TYPES OF TARGET GROUP

Non-Chinese EM constitute 8.4% population in HK (Population By-census)

1) Ethnically diverse residents 多元族裔居民

•The majority of low-income clients are local South Asians (e.g. Pakistani, Nepalese, Indian), then Southeast Asians (e.g. Thai, Filipino) , including locally born residents & and new arrivals

2) Refugees 難民/ Asylum seekers 尋求（政治）庇護者

•The majority are Vietnamese, Africans, South Asians & and Egyptians, with around 14,800 (2022)

3) Foreign Domestic Workers 外籍家庭傭工

•Over 98% FDWs are Indonesians & Filipinos, on working visas

•Over 330,000 FDWs (about 4.5% of HK population)

PLACEMENT AGENCIES (*Examples* only)

1)**Project for Ethnically Diverse Residents多元族裔居民服務(EDR)**

- **Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council B-square – Outreaching Team for ethnic minorities (** 鄰舍輔導會少數族裔外展服務隊)

- **HKSKH LMC (ethnic minority unit) – Kwai Chung <Non-subvented and project-base>**
  香港聖公會麥理浩夫人中心 (少數族裔服務)

- **HKCS (CHEER centre) –Kwun Tong <subvented by Home Affair Department>**
  基督教服務處 (匯融-少數族裔人士支援服務中心)

- **International Social Service (HK Branch) (Hope Center) – Wan Chai<subvented by Home Affair Department>** (國際社會服務社 – 少數族裔支援服務中心)

2)**Centre for Asylum Seekers / Refugees 尋求庇護者/難民服務(ASR)**

- **Christian Action 基督教勵行會 – Centre for Refugees, TST**
- **International Social Service (HK Branch) – Project Assistance for the** non-refoulement claimants

3) Centre for Foreign Domestic Workers 外籍家庭傭工服務(FDW)

- **Mission For Migrant Workers**
- **Caritas Asian Migrant Workers Social Services Project**



1. SERVICES FOR ETHNICALLY DIVERSE RESIDENTS
多元族裔居民

➔Placed in either government-subverted or non-subvented Specialized Centres/ projects.
➔Placement services are mainly rendered in Case, Group Work (e.g. women empowerment , youth/employment groups) and Community Work (e.g. concern group, social inclusion activities, political lobbying)
-Outreach ans Shift duties



ISSUE FACED BY CLIENTS :

-language, education, employment, racial discrimination
- access to public & and mainstream services problems, affecting their tertiary education admission, employability, social integration, poverty coping and civil participation
- cultural identity issues, and some lack a social supportive network (e.g. Pakistani women)

Strengths

-cultural strengths (e.g. arts & crafts, cooking, dancing, language),
- close family & and intra-ethnic bonds

2. SERVICES FOR FOREIGN DOMESTIC WORKERS (FDW)
外籍家庭傭工

-Placed in a non-subvented centres, with drop-in office and/or shelters serving Indonesian & Filipino FDWs
-Casework and group work are commonly practiced during weekdays. Mass programs (e.g. life skill training, anti-discrimination, social action) are rendered on Sundays (for MMW)
-Evening & Sunday shift duties are required
-Bilingual in English and Cantonese is needed to communicate with client and employers



ISSUE FACED BY THE CLIENT

- exploitation & violation of employment contracts by local employers, job performance conflicts & legal issues, thereby in need of labor rights & compensation protection, legal case follow-up & escort, supportive counseling and shelter services
- over-charging by employment agencies,
- debts

Strengths :

- Tough
- Understanding on policies
- Bonding with other FDW

PATHFINDERS

Marriage ,pregnancy problem
Equip pregnant foreign domestic workers with knowledge in taking care of their baby



MISSION FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

Advocate rights (Living Conditions)
Empowerment (labour rights ,facilitate mutual understanding among workers and employees

3. REFUGEES 難民/ ASYLUM SEEKERS 尋求（政治）庇護者

Refugee definition:
UNHCR spells out that a refugee is someone who,

"owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of Race, Religion, Nationality, Membership of a particular Social group or Political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country.“

「由於種族、宗教、國籍、屬於某一社會團體或持有某種政治觀點而有充分理由擔心遭受迫害，因此居留在其國籍國之外，並且由於這種擔心而不能或不願接受該國保護的人」。



3. SERVICES FOR REFUGEES難民/ ASYLUM SEEKERS 尋求（政治）庇護者

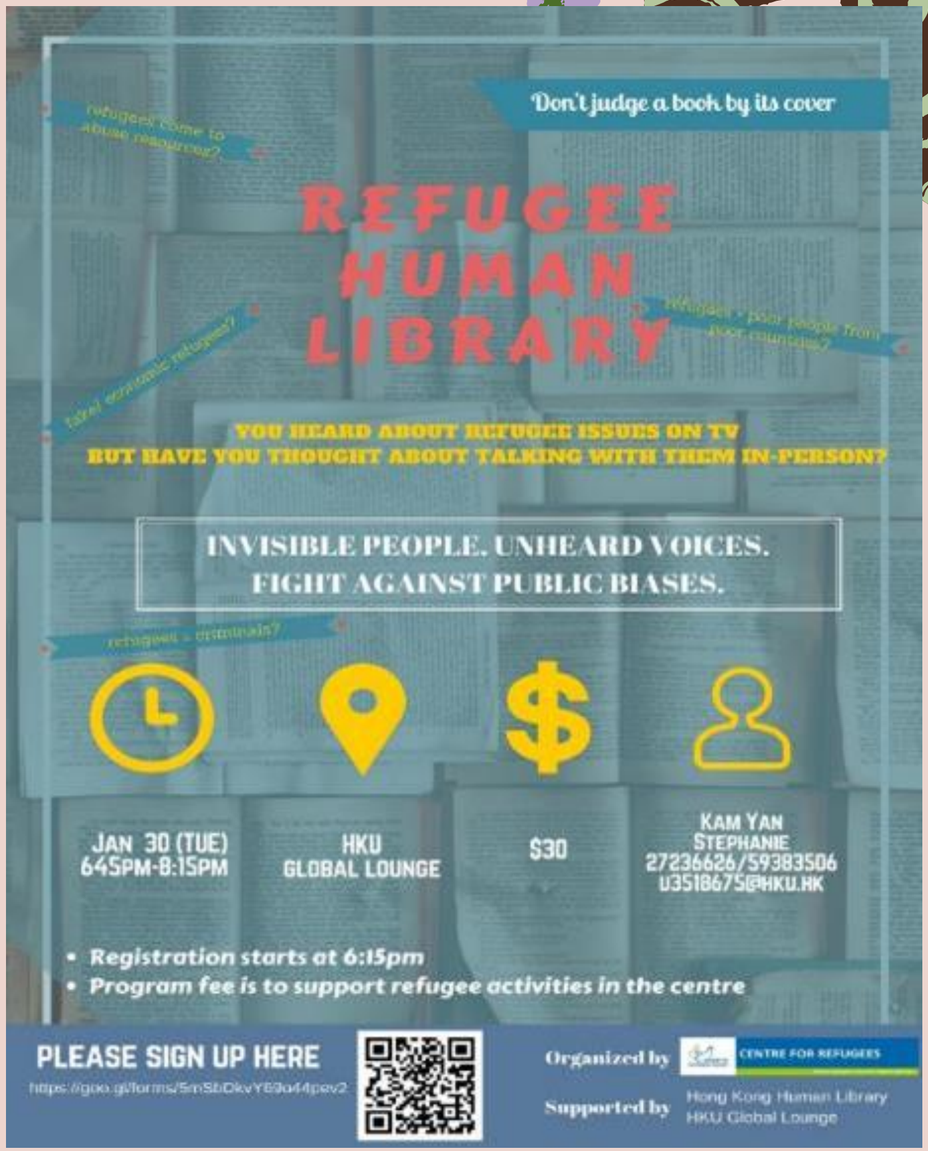
-Work with multi-ethnic team and clients in a non-subvented centre
Provides basic humanitarian care and social services, in forms of casework (tangible, counseling & employment support), group work (e.g. empowerment & concern groups, skills training, parenting workshops) and community project (human library, advocacy group, community education) and sometimes in-kind donations
-Mostly regular office hours 9 am-6 pm and Sat am

ISSUE FACED BY CLIENT
- basic need deprivation, especially among new arrivals before visa expiry (e.g. housing, shelter, health, food, transportation),
-children education
-emotional/ mental problems (e.g. PTSD, depression)
-lack of meaningful time use (e.g. no right to work, except mandated refugees & substantiated asylum seekers) when stranded in HK for years

EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES







SPECIAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

1) Meaningfully work with one of the most disadvantaged and oppressed minorities being stereotyped against, regardless of race, religion, culture, language & social class

2)Communicate with multi-ethnic teams from diverse cultural & training backgrounds to learn about Racial Diversity

3)Practice cultural sensitivity and polish your spoken English and transcultural communication skills

4)Challenging but Rewarding (e.g. eyes opening, racial harmony or equality ambassador)

5) Local (HK) students : linking up local resources and getting familiar with local policies.

Non-local students : show empathy to those EM clients who face language barrier & social adaptation problems



REQUIREMENT

- Show genuine interest to learn, respect & communicate with clients and staff from diverse ethnic, cultural & religious backgrounds

- Proficiency and dare to communicate in English . Able to speak Cantonese is better to communicate with some Indonesians & Thai

- Be self-initiated & courageous to do outreaching
- Be open-minded to respect cultural differences, and be culturally sensitive to cultural & religious taboos, strengths & festivals
- Be flexible to work under less structural & less resourceful settings
- Be helpful to take up ad-hoc & drop-in duties occasionally
- Be keen to empower EM clients & EM/ local Chinese volunteers promoting racial harmony and equality



CAREER PROSPECTS

-Caritas youth project - outreaching to both local and EM youth in Southern District, promoting Anti- drug message

Possible job: Community Living room in district with EM (e.g Jordan)

(Not current year)
-International school social worker
-Migrant worker support service
-Community Centre EM team



MAKE YOUR PLACEMENT A ‘COLOURFUL’ ONE :

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