

SOCIAL SERVICE RESEARCH NETWORK (SSRN) 2015

“Mobilising Assets to Meet Social Needs”

Friday, 27 March 2015
Training Hub, Level 4
Social Service Institute

Listening to the Community Chorus

Mr Gerard Ee

Executive Director
Beyond Social Services



Listening to the Community Chorus 27th March 2015

Building Futures through Friendships



The main ingredient

- The main ingredient for any social programme to succeed is that its intended participants must have a genuine stake in its success.
- In our organisation, we call this...

The Local Response



Beyond's Position

- We are a membership organisation where programme participants, staff, volunteers and donors identify themselves as members of a community who share the responsibility of getting disadvantaged young people out of the poverty cycle.
- You are a member of Beyond because you believe that you are a member of the community.

Participatory-Action-Research

- **Facilitate Participation**

Engage members in activities* where they can articulate:

- their aspirations, challenges and resources
- what they can offer and are willing to do
- what would make their membership meaningful

*door knocking, walkabouts, celebrations, flea markets, “incidental” purposeful discussions, etc

The Participatory Process

Noises

Voices

Chorus
for action



The Participatory Process

Noises

Voices

Chorus
for action



An example



F&P
2012

Next Meeting
12th Oct 2012.

Henderson Residents 101

Dare to DREAM

PRACTICES:

Plans to make it Happen:

- 2 SACRIFICE & CONTRIBUTE
- 1 VOLUNTEER COMMITTEES FOR ACTIVITIES

- > Clean Environment
- > Family Camp
- > Youth & Children
- > Elderly

KEEP F

REGULAR MEETINGS WITH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Activity

CLEAN N GREEN ENVIRONMENT.



NEEDY PEOPLE
GIVING FOOD FOR ELDERLY PPL.

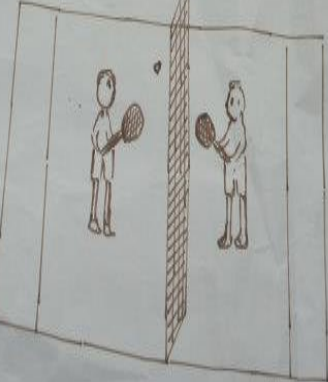
TO Help Youths to go to the right way by organizing

dancing, competition computer class and other activity that invokes the youth that excite them. like sports, singing competition

FOR HENDERSON



- Flea Market.
- SEWING CLASS.
- COOKING CLASS.
- DIXIE BRAT N DANCE GROUP.
- MAKING GUAHAN (WEDDING GIFT).
- CHAMPION OF THE BLOCK SULLER.
- TEAM FOR CHILDREN.
- Handy Craft.



FOR HENDERSON

MORE CHILD CARES
MORE GATHERING

Rajes, Durgo, Mahnom, Murni, Yuhanna, Maristin.

Participatory-Action-Research

- Advocate – rallying neighbours around a problem or a need
- Enabler – organise aspirations into a work plan
- Motivator – linking resources to support the plan

18 months later..



TEL: 1800-2755555



Participatory-Action-Research

- Our ongoing research questions:
 - How have local communities been helping themselves?
 - How can we activate local communities to help themselves?
 - How can larger and local communities work together for a common good?

Participatory-Action-Research

- How effectively are we building the village?
 - How is the village evolving?
 - How significant is the village in supporting its members?
-
- Research serves to intentionally engage stakeholder in mutual learning and co-creation of solutions that serve the common good

Conclusion

- A socially integrated society is not about getting people to change but getting people to be more accepting of each other and working toward a common good.
- Participatory Action Research has a role in keeping the community inspired in supporting their vulnerable members and in addressing the issues affecting this group.