

Heart2Heart

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BCCS Newsletter issue #2020/3

Give of your
time & talents
to impact another's life



Bartley
Community Care Services
Touching hearts, building lives.

ZHONGHUA reading programme



We were so excited to be able to start our after-school Reading Programme at Zhonghua Primary School in August. The children look forward to their weekly Tuesday and Wednesday sessions of interactive reading and engaging learning activities conducted by Patrick Wee and Joe Lee. We hope to nurture a love for reading in these children and help them gain confidence in the use of English language.

CAPLE programme




BCCS CAPLEkids had fun doing colour and shape sorting learning activities at one of the Saturday's session. It was heartening to see the children's eagerness to learn.



Teacher Erwanie joined us alongside as a volunteer this year. She was once a participant in our Tuition@Bartley Programme and today she is back to help these precious children at CAPLE. Thank you for giving your time to teach while taking a course in Early Childhood Education.

"We first got to know Erwanie when she was in Secondary 2. She had brought her little siblings to CAPLE for the first time. In our conversation at tea break, she was expressing her wish for help in her studies but her family could not afford the tuition fees. I will always remember how her eyes had lit up when she learnt of our free tuition programme. We are so proud of you, Erwanie!" - Low Lye See, Volunteer Management

A wooden mannequin is shown from the waist up, holding a large, vibrant red heart with both hands. The mannequin is positioned in the center-left of the frame, with its arms extended forward. The heart is the focal point, held prominently in front of the mannequin's torso. The background is a solid, muted grey, providing a neutral backdrop for the subject. The lighting is soft and even, highlighting the textures of the wood and the smooth surface of the heart.

Many of our CAPLEkids struggle with phonics and numeracy concepts. There is an increase in the enrolment of participants this year and we hope to call forth passionate volunteers to come forward to help these children to bridge their academic learning gaps.

It takes a **BIG HEART**
to help shape
the **LITTLE MINDS**

GIVING YOUR **time & talents**

BCCS is grateful to many passionate and capable volunteers for stepping forward to bless others. In this issue, we ask our volunteers, Alex Lim and Carina Chia, some candid questions.



Alex Lim

Area of volunteering:

Photography + IT + Web

No. of years volunteering with BCCS:

4 years

How would you be spending your time if you were not volunteering?

■ **ALEX** If I were not volunteering, I would be spending my time reading, working, exercising, serving in other ministries and spending time with my family.

What motivated/inspired you to volunteer with BCCS?

■ **ALEX** I am inspired with any of God's work that I can be contributing to with my gifts and talents that are given by God. It keeps me motivated and happy and I do not feel tired.

What personal satisfaction/gratification from volunteering have you received (if any)?

■ **ALEX** What satisfies me most is the smiling faces and happiness from others - the team, the people whom we touch and our family. It is gratifying to know that I can play my part to bring hope, peace and love to them.

What is your hope for the ones whose lives you are touching?

■ **ALEX** After my first mission work, I found that there are so many people who need our helping hands. I was pondering how much I can do to help with my two hands, then God spoke: "Through Him, everyone we touch will count". From then, I just do my best to touch as many lives as I can. I do not look at my limitations but I look to God's grace and love for others.

What are some lessons/ takeaways you have gained through your volunteering experience with BCCS?

■ **ALEX** I feel blessed, a sense of worthiness and experience joy and happiness. I have made new friends and gained good fellowship. I learn to love and glorify God's work.

What advice or encouragement do you have for aspiring volunteers who have yet to sign up with BCCS?

■ **ALEX** Before I started volunteering, I always hesitated on what I could do, what I could contribute, if I could fit the role, would I do a good job and etc. I felt that mindset was not right as it stopped me from stepping forward to volunteer. I now know that doing this (volunteering) is not because of me and my abilities, it is all about His will, His way and His purpose. Not by our own strength, nor by our work and power, it is all about our Lord God ... So JUST DO IT!





Carina Chia



Area of volunteering:

CAPLE
(work with K1 and K2 students)

No. of years volunteering with BCCS:

3 years

How would you be spending your time if you were not volunteering?

■ **CARINA** If I were not volunteering, I would be spending more time with my family.

What motivated/inspired you to volunteer with BCCS?

■ **CARINA** I am motivated to help the needy and disadvantaged. Bible commands us to serve especially the low and needy ones.

What personal satisfaction /gratification from volunteering have you received (if any)?

■ **CARINA** I feel a sense of gratification to see an improvement in these students' learning, especially when they are able to catch up with their peers and enjoy their studies in school. I am glad to work with these children, for a better future in making.

What is your hope for the ones whose lives you are touching?

■ **CARINA** Improvement in the quality of life through education. To break out of the poverty cycle they are in now.

What are some lessons/ takeaways you have gained through your volunteering experience with BCCS?

■ **CARINA** To teach a man to fish than give a man a fish.

What advice or encouragement do you have for aspiring volunteers who have yet to sign up with BCCS?

■ **CARINA** Pray about it - Do you have passion to work with young children or in other areas that you are signing up for? Are you willing to commit and be accountable to the team? I encourage aspiring volunteers to use God's gifts in a way that fulfil their calling to serve God.



BCCS continues to welcome all who share our vision, to give your time and talents, to help the work of BCCS flourish. We hope you are inspired to join us to be part of BCCS Volunteer Team. Register your interests at <https://www.bccs.org.sg/volunteers-registration>.