



July 2017

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Inspired to do my best



Yong-en supervises interns from various Educational Institutions. Each year, we would be pleasantly surprised by the creativity of our interns, this year is no different. Interns shared on their project learnings on 6th July to Yong-en staff and special guests from Tan Chin Tuan Foundation (TCTF): TCTF CEO, Ms Yap Su-Yin and Programme Executive, Ms Fiona Lioe. The foundation's gift to Yong-en for this year was used to support Yong-en's Interns' allowance.

Ms Yap was invited to share her perspectives as a senior leader and she regaled both Yong-en interns and staff team with animated stories of purposeful living through day-to-day activities; sharing insights on attitudes and perspective to be effective in the social sector.

Our interns presented on their various projects comprising of curating motivational sessions for lower income individuals & families, children and single mothers; curating Family Day cum

Financial Literacy workshop for lower income families; creating dementia friendly newspaper and electronic games option for our seniors with dementia at dementia day care, etc.

Apart from improving lives in the community, Yong-en chose to invest time and effort in purposeful internships so that students will be exposed to the needs on the ground and have first-hand engagement with our clients and beneficiaries.



There are many students who tell us that their choice of future studies, and in some cases, the vocation of social work, were determined and/or affirmed after their internship experience at Yong-en. We thank the Foundation for supporting us in such internship engagements, partnering us in building interest and capacity for the social sector; impacting communities.



Thoughts/Learnings from some of our interns:

"In almost all workforce, the norm is to be very serious and there is no joking around. I found an exception in Dementia Day Care Services (DDCS) in Yong-En. To communicate and engage the elderly, I learned to be hyper and goofy. The elderly love it when you speak to them in their dialect, give them opportunity to talk about themselves, and crack jokes with them. There is always laughter in DDCS amongst the elderly and the team. Lots of patience and understanding is needed when engaging people with Dementia."



**Jermain Chu, Degree in Psychology
Nanyang Technological University**

"I had the opportunity to be involved in case assessments and home visits, which taught me to be objective and not to form any biases towards or against anyone. I also got to see the living conditions of the less fortunate, which made me not take things for granted and more appreciative of whatever I have in life.

I'm grateful to have met the staff at Yong-en, their passion for the job constantly inspired me to do my best and to go the extra mile to improve the lives of others, and I think that social work as a career is something that is very meaningful and rewarding. More recognition should be given to VWOs and social workers for their efforts and selfless actions."



**Rachel Tham, Degree in Psychology
Nanyang Technological University**

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