

Overview on Youth Services, Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services and Community Development Services in Hong Kong

Service Direction

- To address the multifarious and changing needs of young people, we adopt a **holistic and integrated mode** of service.
- The Social Welfare Department subvents and monitors Non-governmental Organisations to run a wide range of **preventive, developmental and remedial services** for young people, to help them become mature, responsible and contributing members of society.

A. Major Youth Services in Hong Kong

Early Identification and Intervention

- Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres The Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres (ICYSCs) adopt a whole person and community approach to meet the multifarious needs of children and youth, through professional social work intervention (including preventive, developmental, supportive and remedial services) in working with children and youth, their significant others as well as the community. Through the flexible application of social work intervention strategies (including casework, group work and community work) in different platforms (i.e. centre, school, or community), forging strategic alliance and making use of information and communication technology (wherever appropriate), ICYSCs provide professional guidance and counselling, support programmes, developmental and socialisation programmes; community engagement and collaboration programmes; and referrals for other services and resources for children and youth. The main target group of ICYSCs are children and youth at the age between 6 and 24. Services may be extended to children and youth beyond the specified age range, their families and siblings, as well as any community members should such needs be identified. For list of ICYSCs, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_young/centerb/integrated4/.

School Social Work Service in Secondary Schools

- School Social Work Service is implemented in accordance with the policy of “**two school social workers for each school**” in secondary schools. Each secondary day school is provided with two full-time stationing social workers to identify and help needy students with academic, social or emotional problems. Please approach

respective school for enquiries.

After School Care Programme for Primary School Student

- After School Care Programme for Primary School Student (ASCP) aims at providing **care services** for children whose parents are unable to give proper care to them during **after-school hours** because of work or other reasons. ASCP is operated by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on a **self-financing and fee-charging** basis, providing care and support services for the **primary school students**. Services provided include homework guidance, parental guidance and education, skill learning and social activities, etc..

For list of centres, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_young/ascp/index.html.

- SWD provides financial assistance for the low-income families in need through the Fee-waiving Subsidy Scheme (FWSS). Needy and eligible families can apply directly to ASCP operators for the subsidies of full fee-waiving, half fee-reduction and one-third fee-reduction.
- To support parents who may need to work over weekends, or those with longer/unstable working hours, SWD has started from December 2014, providing additional fee-waiving and fee-reduction quotas and enhancing the ASCP by extending the service hours on weekday evenings, Saturdays, Sundays and school holidays in some ASCP centres (3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday, 8 hours of service on each Saturday and Sunday, as well as 10 hours of service on each school holiday. The actual opening hours may vary in different centres).

Timely Support

District Youth Outreaching Social Work Service

- District Youth Outreaching Social Work Teams are provided on a territory-wide basis to **reach out and provide counselling and guidance** to those young people aged between 6 to 24 who normally do not participate in conventional social or youth activities and are vulnerable to undesirable influences. The service is effective in addressing the needs of high-risk youth and tackling juvenile gang problems. For the list of teams, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_young/out_resident/districtyo/.

Overnight Outreaching Service for Young Night Drifters

- Overnight Outreaching Service for Young Night Drifters is provided on a territory-wide basis to reach out to **high-risk young night drifters** exposed to possible moral danger. For the list of teams, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_young/out_resident/overnight/.

Cyber Youth Support Teams

- Cyber Youth Support Teams provided professional social work intervention for **at-risk and hidden youths** including online and offline counselling and group/programme services. They will form partnership with other community stakeholders and organisations to foster cross-sectoral collaboration to address the needs of at-risk and hidden youths. For the list of teams, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_young/cyber_hotline/cyberyouth/.

Hotline Service for Youth- at-Risk

- Hotline service runs by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (**2777 8899**) is to offer immediate counselling to youth-at-risk facing crisis through **telephone contact**. Services provided to the callers include telephone guidance and counselling, face-to-face counselling for immediate intervention and referrals to other appropriate service units.

District Support Scheme for Children and Youth Development

- The targets of the Scheme are children and youth aged 24 or below who are financially deprived or under disadvantaged circumstances in the districts. The resources are distributed as **direct cash assistance** to subsidise the expenses on individual items for the children and youth to meet their developmental needs. Needy and eligible customers who are in need of counselling services may approach their responsible social workers for details.
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Steering Young People back to the Right Course

- Community Support Service SchemeCommunity Support Service Scheme (CSSS) aims at providing support services for young people at the age between 10 and 18 who are arrested

by the police and/or cautioned under the Police Superintendent's Discretion Scheme and their peers so as to help them re-integrate into the community and promote their law-abiding awareness with a view to reducing their likelihood of law infringement. Services include individual and family counselling, therapeutic groups, skill training/educational groups, community services, crime prevention programmes, etc. For better service integration for synergy, the CSSS teams are each attached to an Integrated Children and Youth Services Centres. For list of teams, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_young/centerb/cssscheme/.

B. Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Services

Counselling Centre for Psychotropic Substance Abusers

- Under the lead of the Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau, the SWD helps the drug abusers to abstain from their drug-taking habits and re-integrate into the community through community-based and residential services by means of individual and group counselling, vocational training, social skills training and aftercare service, etc. The 11 Counselling Centres for Psychotropic Substance Abusers (CCPSAs) in Hong Kong provide services to habitual/ occasional/ potential psychotropic substance abusers and to young people at risk. Services provided include individual and group counselling service for psychotropic substance abusers and their family members; peer support service; supportive services for pregnant drug abusers or drug-abusing parents and their family members; preventive education and publicity programmes to students of secondary schools, post-secondary institutions, and vocational training organisations and the general public at community level; professional training for allied professionals and stakeholders; and on-site medical support service for needy people to early identify and motivate them to seek early treatment and rehabilitation services. For the list of centres, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_dtrs/ccpsa/index.html.

Residential Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres and Halfway Houses

- Under the lead of the Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau, the SWD helps the drug abusers to abstain from their drug-taking habits and re-integrate into the community through both community-based and residential services by means of individual and group counselling, vocational training, social skills training and aftercare service, etc. The 13 residential drug treatment and rehabilitation services units in Hong Kong serve those drug abusers who wish to seek voluntarily residential drug treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration. Services provided include rehabilitation

programmes such as religious activities, counselling, peer support, recreation and sport, work therapy, vocational and developmental training; nursing care services; medical and allied health care, and drug-testing service; and aftercare service to help them achieve and maintain a drug free life and start a new healthy life. According to the Drug Dependent Persons Treatment and Rehabilitation Centres (Licensing) Ordinance (Chapter 566, Laws of Hong Kong), all residential drug treatment and rehabilitation services units should be subject to regulation by the issue of licences. For the list of the subvented centres, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_dtrs/voluntaryr/index.html.

Centre for Drug Counselling

- Under the lead of the Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau, the SWD helps the drug abusers to abstain from their drug-taking habits and re-integrate into the community through community-based and residential services by means of individual and group counselling, vocational training, social skills training and aftercare service, etc. Two Centres for Drug Counselling (CDCs) in Hong Kong help drug abusers (especially adult drug abusers) to abstain from drug abuse, assist ex-drug abusers to maintain abstinence and assist their family members to deal with problems resulting from drug abuse. Services provided include individual and group counselling; peer support service; supportive services for pregnant drug abusers or drug-abusing parents and their family members; preventive education and publicity programmes to various target groups; and on-site medical support service to early identify and motivate drug abusers to seek early treatment and rehabilitation services. For the list of centres, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/young/cat_dtrs/cdc/index.html.

Community Development Services

Community Centre

- Community Centre is a **focal point for all age groups** in a locality which promotes social relationships and mutual support; develops a sense of self-reliance, social responsibility and cohesion within the community; and empowers individuals and families in solving community problems and improving the quality of community life. For the list of centres, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at <https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/comm/commcenter/>.

Neighbourhood Level Community Development Project (NLCDP)

- Neighbourhood Level Community Development Project (NLCDP) is to serve the **deprived and transient communities** where the provision of welfare services and facilities is inadequate or non-existence. NLCDP service is anticipated to be phasing out with the provision of more community based services to serve the vulnerable groups in the community and the drop in clearance programmes of temporary housing areas, squatter areas and public housing estates etc. For the list of teams, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at <https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/comm/neighbourh/>.

Care and Support Networking Team (CSNT)

- Care and Support Networking Team aims at assisting mainly the **ex-offenders, ex-mentally ill persons and street sleepers in West Kowloon** to reintegrate into the community through provision of outreaching, support, casework and group work services. For the list of teams, please refer to the website of the Social Welfare Department at <https://www.swd.gov.hk/en/pubsvc/comm/careandsup/>.

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