



OUR SOCIAL MISSION

BY CARITAS SINGAPORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

New centre to help Telok Blangah families

Marine Parade FSC spins off a branch, @27FSC, to help needy residents. It needs volunteers and donations to support its services to the poor.

Residents in Telok Blangah can look forward to more community services and activities with the arrival of a new family service centre (FSC) at Block 27, Telok Blangah Way.

Simply named @27FSC, it has been providing casework management, counselling and outreach programmes through home visits, social activities and providing food rations and financial assistance to needy families in difficulty.

Now that its new premises are ready, @27FSC hopes to roll out more services, such as programmes for families with young children, focusing on nutrition, life skills and family bonding.

The centre is a branch of Marine Parade FSC which has helped residents in this area for about 10 years. @27FSC Centre Manager Annie Chia, who previously worked at Marine Parade FSC, said it was the right time to expand.

The new centre fills a gap in social services coverage for about 117 Housing Board blocks in the Telok Blangah area. Besides its Marine Parade parent office, @27FSC is also supported by Caritas Singapore, Catholic Welfare Services and the Brothers of St Gabriel.

The FSC has six staff and so far has served about 250 households. With donations of food supplies from individuals and groups such as the Christian Community Chapel, the FSC supports about 80 families with supplies such as milk powder, cooking oil and rice. Such emergency supplies are critical for low-income families waiting to receive financial aid, said Ms Chia.

@27FSC holds a weekly outreach programme on Thursday mornings where about 30 elderly people come together to interact, play games like bingo and discuss ageing issues. FSC staff also conduct at least three home visits a day to reach out to elderly people and residents who are weak and unable to visit the centre or attend community activities.

The centre also welcomes volunteers for some of its activities, and reaches out to schools and churches. For example, it organised a Christmas family and games day last year in partnership with a Christian community chapel.

@27FSC is looking for volunteers to help in activities for children, families and the elderly. It tries to match volunteers to an area where they can serve best, and will provide basic training for those who come forward to help.

The centre also needs donations to support the poor families it helps. It can cost more than \$100 to buy a month's supply of rice, cooking oil, canned food and milk powder for a family of four.

You can reach @27FSC at contact@27fsc.org.sg or call 62708327.



The staff of @27FSC run a weekly outreach programme, bringing together about 30 elderly people to interact, play games like bingo and discuss ageing issues. The FSC also provides emergency food supplies to families in need.



To find out the needs of residents and help those who cannot leave their flats, FSC staff conduct at least three home visits each day to reach out to the elderly and those too weak or unable to visit the centre and attend community activities.

The Social Mission Conference 2012

Partnering - Growing to the Poor
Living Our Faith

WHEN
Saturday 1 September 2012
8.30am to 5pm

WHERE
Catholic Junior College
Performing Arts Centre
129 Selegie Road
Singapore 291822

WHO
Those interested in the Catholic Social Teaching and/or care engaged in social mission work.

Come reflect, share and be inspired to help shape a more participatory Church.

REGISTER NOW!
(limited to 400 participants only)

www.caritas.org.sg

Have you signed up yet?

Saturday 1 September 2012, 8.30am to 5pm
Catholic Junior College Performing Arts Centre

Themed "Partnering The Poor, Living Our Faith", the biennial conference offers a platform to examine social and economic issues through our Catholic lens and the Gospel. It aims to shape a more proactive and participatory Church in reaching out to the poor.

Join us for in-depth discussions on the underlying issues facing the poor, personal and theological reflections on what it means to be partnering the poor and proposals for sustainable solutions.

Make this your call to action!

Pick up a registration form from your parish office or visit www.caritas-singapore.org