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The Turning Point

APRIL ISSUE

Newsletter

2019

GREETINGS

Joyous greetings from The Turning Point (TTP) in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.



My name is Talia Lee, newly appointed Acting Executive Director of TTP. I am honoured to share with you the awesome work our Lord is

doing at TTP! Witnessing God transforming the lives of our residents is such a joy.

As an overcomer to drugs and alcohol, I pray to be a shepherd for every lady who walks through the doors of TTP. Knowing how Jesus pulled me out of my darkness and rescuing me from an overdose, I testify that He is our redeemer and will surely transform our lives.

I have since dedicated my life to Jesus and am humbled and honoured to serve Him together with the Executive Committee, Staff and dedicated volunteers. We have the opportunity to advance TTP's mission to rehabilitate the lives of female substance abusers, penal code offenders and ex-offenders.

CHANGES

With the new amendments to the *Misuse of Drug Act*, we have seen shorter periods of incarceration for drug offenders and earlier reintegration into society for them. This has resulted in a spike in our number of emplacements and a longer work phase for our residents. While we welcome the increase in the number of residents, we also face the challenge of finding understanding employers for them. We are looking to explore more avenues of employment for them to best match their capabilities and interests to ensure that they will continue to stay employed after their release.

Recovering addicts often find returning to the workforce stressful. Relapse happens when they are unable to find a job that keeps them gainfully employed and financially sound.

Therefore, we see the importance in ensuring residents get matched to jobs they enjoy rather than one that is just a means to live.

COLLABORATION

Through our collaboration with various agencies, we aim to equip our unskilled residents with skills that would help them secure better jobs. We believe equipping our residents with relevant skills will build up their self-esteem for self-

motivation. This in turn will help them find new meaning in life and stay clean in the long haul.



Just like E. Andrea, 28 year old, who was recently released from our program.

TESTIMONY

“ I was released from prison for community-based program at TTP for 9 months. When it was time for my work phase, I was very excited yet apprehensive because I heard that there are only a limited type of jobs available; mostly laundry helpers, cleaners, and F&B servers. I shared my thoughts about my passion to return to the beauty industry as a Beauty Therapist but was told that there was a low chance that I might be able to do so and was reminded that I was in a prison program. I was disappointed but I submitted to God. I prayed that He would open a door for me. 3 days later, I was called into the office and was told that my request was granted and an employer was ready to employ me. Tears flowed down my face as the love of Jesus arrested my heart. I knew He has opened the door for me and I am very grateful to TTP to consider my interest and was willing to go the extra mile for me. Currently I am working with the same employer who will be sending me for my CIBTAC International Diploma in Beauty Therapy and other professional



courses like eyebrow embroidery. Despite my past, my employer and colleagues treat me like equals. I feel accepted and grounded in my job and this has encouraged me to do better and to stay away from my former lifestyle. I now have a goal in life and I look forward to a good future ahead as Scripture says in

Psalm 119:30-32,

I have chosen the way of
faithfulness;
I have set my heart on your laws.
I hold fast to your statutes, Lord;
do not let me be put to shame
I run in the path of your commands,
for you have broadened my
understanding. ”

E. Andrea is an example of the many residents who left TTP with employment which they secured during their in-house work phase. We are heartened to see them flourish in their jobs and continue to stay clean from drug abuse. This has convinced us of the importance of a good job match.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

We will share and provide further updates on our progress in this area at our next Annual General Meeting, to be held on 11 May 2019, Saturday, 2.30PM-4.30PM. We are extremely honoured and blessed by Prof Stanley Cheng as our Guest Speaker. Prof Stanley Cheng is an Elder of the Asian Institute of Technology Christian Fellowship (AITCF) and the author of the God-ordained book “Divine Encounters @ Marketplace” Volume 1. So please do mark the date and come and be blessed by Prof Stanley Cheng.

Spiritual impartation remains the main pillar of our rehabilitation program and we are beholden to you, our Ministry Partners, Christian Volunteer Groups and Prayer Warriors for your time and dedication. It is TTP’s fundamental mission and belief that only the Word of God can bring about true transformation for our residents. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

In Christ’s love,

Talia Lee

Acting Executive Director

STAFF OF THE TURNING POINT | Ms Talia Ivy Lee Ming Yee, Executive Director | Ms Coreen Chong Ann Foong, Case Manager | Ms Angelica Loh Cheng Yee, Administrator | Ms Violet Lim Siew Kiak, Social Work Associate | Ms Tay Lee Leng, Social Work Assistant | Ms Sharon Law Lay Choo, Operations & Admin Executive | Ms Low Siang Hong, Operations Assistant | Ms Emily Chua Bee Choo, Night Duty | Ms Jenny Cheong Hing Moi, Night Duty