

- * CDC website at <http://www.northwest-cdc.org.sg> /Job Website at <http://www.jobconnect.com.sg>
- * Banners, posters and fliers
- * CDC Hotline No. 6 767 2288

Bulletin: What are the challenges you face in your CDC? How do you respond to local needs? What is the strength of an organization like a CDC and in what way it can do things better than the ministries that govern Singapore? In particular, in this economic climate, what are the special things that you are doing to help the residents? Do you give handouts?

Mayor: First, the challenge posed by the diverse profile of our residents - How do we come up with activities and programmes that will interest and attract people from various age groups, interests and races? One of our mission statement is Building a Community for All. As such, we design and implement events and programmes with all in mind. Our North West CDC Brisk Walking Clubs is one initiative that appeals to people of all ages, racial and social backgrounds in view of its characteristics - simple to do, highly interactive, a healthy activity and it's free. Residents' participation in the activities and programmes that we organise are important to us as we can only ever truly gauge the effectiveness and success of the activities and programmes through our residents' responses.

Next, we are also challenged geographically - How do we reach out to all residents in the district and let them know about our CDC, our services, activities and programmes? We explore ways to reach out to our residents as effectively as we can (see key direction Connecting the Community). In response to the economic downturn affecting our residents, we have in place assistance schemes to help our residents tide over periods of hardship. On a case-by-case basis, we give residents financial assistance; food rations or food vouchers and help them to find jobs. 'Handout' is not appropriate to describe the help we give as not only material help is given. We aim to help our needy residents to eventually get back on their feet again and be able to continue to support their families and themselves.

While ministries tackle policy issues, CDC handles local day-to-day issues hands on. Thus, our strength would lie in understanding ground sentiments. We take challenges in our stride. After all, like the saying "Rome wasn't built in a day", building reputation takes time too.

Bulletin: Would you like to tell us more about CDC that we have not asked earlier?

Mayor: We would like to encourage more residents to come forward and contribute their time and effort towards making a difference in the community that we live in. For those keen on volunteering, you can join us as CDC volunteers, as our e-Ambassadors (help others be IT savvy) or as Community Befrienders. Do visit our website at <http://www.northwest-cdc.org.sg> for further information and to sign up.



Editor note: This interview appeared in the previous edition of the bulletin. It is repeated here as the previous edition carried many typo errors.



王源枝

中秋节是华族同胞第二大的传统节日，每年农历八月十五日是天上月亮娘娘向地球上的人类显示最耀眼的时刻，也是人民从地球上看见月亮最圆的时候，华人重视一家团圆满满团聚的日子，因此中秋节也是除春节以外最受华人重视的传统节日，更是世界上最祥和的佳节。



新加坡的华人社团，普遍有中秋节的庆祝聚会，本会所在的芽笼二十九巷有多间宗乡团体，每年都有庆祝中秋佳节的习惯，俗语说：与其独乐乐，不如众乐乐，因此本会当时便发起本街坊联庆中秋的设想，当初只有五间团体响应，随着联庆的场面越来越热闹，吸引了其他团体也加入，六年的时间过去了，到今年参加的团体已超过15间之多，这包括马来同胞的Khadijah Mosque和印度同胞的Sir Sivan Temple*

今年本街坊联庆中秋已进入第六个年头，由同敬善堂诚信社领衔主持大局，与去年由南洋廖氏公会主催一样，街头一端搭起了中央舞台，呈献多姿多彩的歌舞节目，场面更加热闹精彩，吸引不少远近不同种族的男女老幼到来观赏，此外各族代表也在庆祝会上一同宣读宗教和谐声明，异族同胞的儿童也与华族孩子一起提着灯笼游行，体现了一幅种族和谐的美好景象。



配合本街坊联庆中秋，本会与往年一样，除派五位代表参与联庆活动外，也在会内与惠华国术研究社特备自由餐共庆中秋，当晚吸引了约200人参加，余兴节目相当丰富，包括武术表演，华乐演奏，茶艺品茗，美术速描，书法示范，孩童游戏及幸运抽奖，多姿多彩的节目，丰富的自由餐，还有月饼与柚子可供品尝，怪不得参加者，尤其是天真活泼的孩童们个个玩得不亦乐乎，从参加者脸上的表情可以看出，大家是高兴而来，满意而归。

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