

Project CONNECT- Community Outreach Navigation for Non-Ethnic Chinese (Territory-wide)

BDF 220034



1/8/2023-31/7/2025

The Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers



Introduction



- 1/8/2023 - 31/7/2025 (a two-year project)
- 1 social worker & 1 non-ethnic Chinese project assistant
- A holistic intervention for NEC drug abusers and their families
- To provide preventive programs to the community and professional trainings to diverse community stakeholders
- To cooperate with cross-sectoral community stakeholders concerning non-ethnic Chinese and drug issues in HK

Project Content



OP1A. Anti-drug Awareness Workshops & Professional Trainings / Sharing Sessions

- To raise non-ethnic Chinese people's awareness on drug-related issues



Project Content



OP1B. DTRC Guided Tours or Visits

- To set up a solid referral mechanism within different districts
- To develop formal and informal groups with community stakeholders concerning NEC
- To raise acceptances of drug rehabilitees, drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities



Project Content



OP2. Outreach Activity – physical and online outreaching

- To reach out high-risk NEC people
- To have early identification on the service targets in need
- To provide appropriate drug preventions and intervention to at-risk users



Project Content



OP3. Family-based Intervention Activities & Mutual Support Group

- To support and to be with the targets along the recovery
- To strength the role and abilities of family members in identifying and seeking help early for drug-abusing family members



Project Content



OP4. Drug Treatment Service Referral

- *To reconnect high-risk NEC drug abusers to the community resources*

Project Content



OP5. Vocational Training

- *To approach different NEC people and hidden drug abusers*
- *To assist drug-dependent NEC people to develop themselves*



Project Content



OP6. Job Placement Program

- To strengthen and empower targets to resist the temptation of drugs
- To raise public acceptance on drug rehabilitees
- To enhance the targets' self-efficacy



Output & Outcome Evaluation



Item	Expected Output	Output	Expected Outcome	Outcome
Anti-drug Awareness Workshops Professional Trainings and Sharing Session	6 sessions & 3 sessions 270 community stakeholders 270 person-times	7 sessions (116.7%) & 5 sessions (166.7%) 591 community stakeholders (218.9%) 591 person-times (218.9%)		
DTRC Guided Tours or Visits	6 tours or visits 90 community stakeholders 90 person-times	6 tours or visits (100%) 117 community stakeholders (130%) 117 person-times (130%)	70% of participants show improvement in their acceptance of rehabilitees and drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities	117 questionnaires were collected. 81.2% showed improvement.
Outreach (Physical / Online)	96 sessions 1440 man-times in total 240 man-times for online	298 sessions (310.4%) 3093 man-times in total (214.8%) 243 man-times for online (101.3%)		
Family-based Intervention	120 sessions 60 family members 120 person-times	270 sessions (225%) 135 family members (225%) 270 person-times (225%)	70% of participants show improvement in capacity to support drug abusing family members.	135 questionnaires were collected. 91.1% showed improvement.
Mutual Support Groups	24-36 sessions 60 family members 192-288 person-times	54 sessions (225%) 134 family members (223.3%) 524 person-times (272.9%)		
Referral Services	40 referrals 28 drug abusers successfully entering T&R services	59 referrals (147.5%) 59 drug abusers successfully entering T&R services (210.7%)		
Vocational Trainings	6 vocational trainings 30 NEC drug abusers	6 vocational trainings (100%) 30 NEC drug abusers (100%)	50% of rehabilitees show improvement on employment readiness	30 questionnaires were collected. 100% showed improvement.
Job Placement Programs	72 sessions 18 drug rehabilitees 72 man-times	76 sessions (105.6%) 30 drug rehabilitees (166.7%) 76 man-times (105.6%)		

Process Evaluation



- The project **established a collaboration network** with various stakeholders to work with non-ethnic Chinese drug abusers, such as the police, the Nepalese Foundation, the Salvation Army, etc.
- The team could **build a significant image** in the community among non-ethnic Chinese drug abusers by outreach programs, especially regular outreach programs, which help the team engage with the users.
- The project strengthens and supports family members so that they can provide acceptance and understanding to their members who suffer from drug issues.
- Vocational training sessions provided various experiences to users on employment prospects. The participants could be coaches in emerging sports, such as Fu-net.

Experience Gained



- A non-ethnic Chinese assistant is vital in the team that engages the service users and promotes the project.
- A collaborative network provided all-around services to service users.
- New or special professional training programs could raise the motivation for rehabilitees to explore the employment prospects and hopes without drugs.

Other Findings



- Nepalese make up the majority in the sector. The further finding is exploring the reason for Nepalese drug abusers being attracted to opioids instead of various drugs.

Conclusion



- **Conclusion**
- Overall, we achieved all the output indicators and got satisfied outcome in all items.
- We well established good relationships with stakeholders and service users and provided appropriate services to them in these two years.
- **Suggestions**
- Expand the team by recruiting more non-ethnic Chinese assistants to enhance engagement and cultural sensitivity, building on the vital role they played in outreach and promotion.
- Strengthen vocational training by introducing more innovative sessions (e.g., in emerging sports like pickleball) to motivate rehabilitees and improve employment readiness.



- Foster deeper collaborations with stakeholders such as police and community foundations to create formalized referral mechanisms across districts, ensuring sustained support for high-risk groups.

- **Way forward**

- Extend the project beyond the current two-year period to maintain momentum in community outreach and family support, potentially scaling to include more districts or online platforms for broader reach.
- Integrate ongoing professional trainings and guided tours to further raise acceptance of drug rehabilitation facilities among diverse stakeholders.
- Focus on long-term tracking of rehabilitees' progress in job placement and recovery to measure sustained impact and refine services accordingly.



End