

CCSS Made My Day!



A bed to sleep on. A meal at a restaurant. Money to attend a school camp. These are things you and I take for granted. But to some, these are special treats that don't come by often. **Care Community Services Society** (CCSS) puts a smile on the faces of these beneficiaries by blessing them with something you and I would consider ordinary.

Delighting a Family of 6 Kids

Mdm N, in her mid-30s, has 4 children of her own. Her husband has just been sentenced to 10 years in prison for drug abuse. To add to her already heavy burden, Mdm N's brother is also a drug addict and has disappeared, leaving his 2 children to her care.

Managing a brood of 6 school-going children, and putting food on the table for all of them, is no easy feat. In fact, the children cycle 20 minutes to school and only the eldest child has pocket money for recess.

CCSS decided to *Make Their Day*. We brought them to Swensens Restaurant and the Night Safari. What is so special about these 2 places? Firstly, the family had never been to Night Safari. Secondly, in Mdm N's own words, "The last time I went to Swensens was more than 15 years ago – when I was in Secondary 2."

The day came. The children had been waiting with anticipation since morning for the evening outing. They kept looking out from their window for the CCSS van that would come to pick them up.

When we arrived, their eyes were wide open with excitement; they were all ready for the outing. When we reached Swensens at Holland Village, the family was warmly greeted by the restaurant staff, and the children were presented with colourful balloons. The family was treated to a sumptuous meal which was sponsored by Swensens. Dinner was peppered with laughter and jokes among the family members.

After that, it was off to the Night Safari. The family watched the animal show, took the tram ride around the safari and had a ball of a time! The family enjoyed themselves so much that they went on foot to walk along the Tiger Trail. They were exhausted by the time they reached home, which was close to 11pm.

To crown the evening of fun and delight, CCSS blessed Madam N with some shopping vouchers for herself. We was glad that we made their day. Will you come alongside with us and make someone's day?

An Extreme Home Makeover

Mr T lives in a 3-room flat in MacPherson with his mother and brother, who are both mentally challenged. His father had just passed away. Being the sole breadwinner, Mr T struggled to keep the family going, and their home, functional.



It was a real challenge. When CCSS stepped into the flat, we were greeted with the stench of accumulated rubbish. The floor was littered with plastic bags and styrofoam food containers. In the midst of the mess lay a bedbug-ridden mattress. The kitchen cupboard was filthy and grimy. **The toilet bowl and walls were dirty and badly stained, worse than any public toilet we had seen.**



CCSS decided to *Make Their Day* with a complete makeover of their home. We roped in Singapore Contractors Association, Woh Hup Pte Ltd and VSL as our corporate sponsors to do the renovations and to produce the furniture. We put in new vinyl flooring, a fridge, a water heater, a basin, 2 wardrobes, 4 mattresses on 2 roll-out beds, a kitchen cupboard, a sofa and a new electrical distribution board.



It was indeed an extreme home makeover. The home looked new and smelled clean. It was a real gift to this family that spoke volumes. More than making their day, **it made a difference to them every single day and lifted their quality of life.** Mr T was very grateful for the makeover done to his home. It was just in time for Chinese New Year too!



CCSS helped me go for a School Camp

Jasmine (not her real name) wanted very badly to attend her secondary school's annual leadership camp. Being a foreign student, she was not entitled to any subsidy for the camp. **Her mother was terminally ill and her dad, a foreigner on social visit pass, was not able to find a job in Singapore.**

Jasmine had to juggle the heavy responsibility of being her mum's caregiver, doing the housework and studying – all at the same time. She wanted

very badly to attend the camp, and she was sorely disappointed when she realised there was no way she could afford the full fees.

To make her day, CCSS roped in a sponsor who paid her camp fees in full. She was elated and deeply grateful. She told us, "I was very surprised when my CCSS counselor told me that I had a sponsor for my camp! I never expected that someone would think of this as important. I'm really very thankful!"



Make Their Day, as the name suggests, is a programme by Care Community Services Society to surprise and delight our beneficiaries, and to make their day a memorable and meaningful one. We work with corporate and individual sponsors to make this happen.

Why Make Their Day?

In the course of our work, we noticed that many of our beneficiaries had lost their joy in life. Because of the practical difficulties they faced, some had even lost hope for the future. The challenges had become so overwhelming that they dreaded opening their eyes to face each new day. The constant pressure of making ends meet took a toll on their physical, emotional, mental and spiritual well-being.

To put the smile back on their faces, we launched our *Make Their Day* programme, which seeks to bless and delight our beneficiaries. The *Make Their Day* programme supplements the on-going practical help and counselling they receive from CCSS. What we hope to achieve is to help restore their hope in life and their faith in people, to reignite their confidence to face the future, and to help them lift up their heads to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Help us put a smile on the faces of our beneficiaries!

Would you like to be part of this meaningful programme? CCSS invites you to partner with us by being a corporate or individual sponsor of our *Make Their Day* Programme. For more information, please call Ms Daryl Lee at 6304 7618 or email daryllee@carecom.org.sg

Founded by Trinity Christian Centre, Care Community Services Society restores hope and purpose to people of all races and religions.

It is an affiliate of the National Council of Social Services, and more than 30,000 people have benefited from its programmes. Visit www.carecom.org.sg