

ISSUE #35 (15 October 2018)



Welcome to Student Community Engagement's fortnightly update.

Wasting less, eating better and adopting a sustainable lifestyle are key to building a world free of hunger. The choices we make today are vital for a secure future of food.

According to the [National Environment Agency](#), Singapore generated 809,800 tonnes of food waste in 2017 and this is equivalent to more than 54,000 double-decker buses! There is a need to manage food waste on a whole – reduce food wastage, redistribute unsold or excess food, and recycle/treat food waste – as we work towards becoming a [Zero Waste Nation](#) under the [Sustainable Singapore Blueprint 2015](#).

You can also help to reduce food waste here in NTU! Just bring your non-perishable food items that are unopened, unused and with at least four weeks of shelf life to [any of the four Food Bank bins around campus](#). There will also be initiatives by Earthlink NTU to collect these food items from residential halls – stay tuned for more updates on their [Facebook page](#).

Each year, the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) (FAO) celebrates [World Food Day](#) on 16 October to commemorate the founding of the Organization in 1945. Events are organised worldwide to promote awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and for the need to ensure food security and nutritious diets for all. World Food Day is also an important opportunity to send a strong message to the public: we can end hunger in this lifetime and become the [#ZeroHunger](#) Generation, but everyone needs to work together to achieve this goal.

Be informed. Be inspired. Be the change.



Articles and Updates

Giveaway highlights food waste problem

About 800kg of food was given away to more than 200 members of the public in two hours by SG Food Rescue. These fruits and vegetables were perfectly edible but were rejected by suppliers because they don't look nice. Read [more...](#)

Food insecurity in Singapore

Despite being ranked the fourth most-secure food nation in the world by the Economist Intelligence Unit in 2017, researchers have found that there are people here who struggle to get access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food. Some go hungry because they lack money or are too frail to leave home to buy food. Read [more...](#)

Nutritious food crucial for needy

It is important to provide the needy and vulnerable with nutritious food, as having additional health issues is a situation that is best avoided. Read [more...](#)

Start-ups help Indonesia's farmers to grow their sales

E-commerce platforms connect farmers to buyers, boosting efficiency and distribution. Read [more...](#)

Urban farming social enterprise bears fruit for local community

Social enterprise Edible Garden City has two aims: bring people together through farming and solve the sustainability problem in Singapore. It also brings these farming lessons to people with autism, people with mental disabilities, and inmates as well, equipping them with the skills to pursue farming as a career. Read [more...](#)

Volunteer Opportunities



FREE HUGS SG

[Free Hugs SG](#) promotes positive interactions with the migrant community in Singapore. It aims to reduce the expenses of migrant workers and increase their savings through activities such as free haircuts and rescued food redistribution.

Free Hugs SG also rescues food that would have been discarded due to cosmetic reasons and redistribute these rescued food to dormitories on a weekly basis. The team is constantly looking for volunteers (vegetable collectors and drivers with own personal vehicle) to help in their distribution outreach.

Email freehugssingapore@gmail.com or write them a message on their facebook page to register your interest.



FOOD BANK AMBASSADOR

Passionate about reducing food wastage?

[The Food Bank Singapore](#) is a place where companies and people can come to deposit/donate their unused or unwanted foods which will then be collected and allocated to the needy via various channels through social service organisations, charities, soup kitchens, etc.

As price of food continue to increase, many middle to low income families have problems putting food on the table as salaries aren't increasing as quickly. In addition, there are also pockets of unused food within the food industry that can be most certainly be put to better use.

The Food Bank Singapore strives to bridge the gap in the market by collecting the surplus foods and provide them to organisations and people in need of food.

Volunteer as Food Bank Ambassadors or Ambassador Assistants to share about Food Bank Singapore's vision and how members of the public can be involved to support their cause.

Click [here](#) to find out more and register your interest.



M.Y MENTORING 2019

Organised by [Metropolitan YMCA Singapore](#), [M.Y Mentoring 2019](#) is a programme for Lower Secondary Normal (Academic) students, and it emphasises on developing self-esteem and self-identity through social-emotional learning components and empowerment by community project work.

Student volunteers play a role of a trusted friend and mentor to these students, as well as journey the programme with them which encompass direct teaching of social emotional skills, self-reflection and critical thinking.

- **When:** 14 January - 17 May 2019, 12.00 pm - 5.30 pm (weekly)
- **Where:** Various secondary schools in Singapore

Click [here](#) to register your interest. Email your queries directly to Grace Chua at grace.chua@mymca.org.sg. The last day of registration is **9 November 2018**.



Embarking on your own volunteer activity or social advocacy project?

The CoLab4Good Fund seeks to support meaningful ground-up initiatives. Find out more [here](#).



Upcoming Events



A PLACE TO CALL HOME : A PHOTO ESSAY EXHIBITION BY SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES

For many families in Singapore, home is a stable sanctuary and a space to unwind. Single-parent families want the same things. But many have to also grapple with frequent moves, housing insecurity and tighter finances.

Five storytellers, all from single-parent families, bare their homes and their hearts in this photo essay exhibition. Their stories add to the calls single parents have made over the years for greater support and protection for their families. These personal accounts show how "home" can be a journey through adversity and grief; a feat of hope and strength; and a long search for security and stability.

This exhibition is organised in conjunction with AWARE's long-standing [#asinglelove](#) campaign, which works to support and empower single parents through advocacy, services and programmes.

- **When:** 9 October - 4 November 2018
- **Where:** Intermission Bar @ The Projector (6001 Beach Road, Golden Mile Tower, #05-00, Singapore 199589)
- **Cost:** Free

FESTIVAL FOR GOOD

FESTIVAL FOR GOOD 2018

Organised by the [Singapore Centre For Social Enterprise](#) (raiSE), this annual event showcases a variety of social enterprises – with everything from health and wellness, fashion, lifestyle and technology to coffee, food bites and more. There will even be experience capsules as well as interesting talks. Discover a world of possibilities as you engage with the various products and services that social enterprises have to offer.

Be *#PartOfTheGood* and take a step towards the GOOD life.

- **When:** 20 - 21 October 2018, 11.00 am - 7.00 pm
- **Where:** Marina One (7 Central Boulevard, Singapore 018936)
- **Cost:** Free admission



TEH TARIK SESSIONS @ THE RED BOX – WHAT THEY DON'T TELL YOU ABOUT SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

After running social enterprise [Skillseed](#) for five years, Huijia has amassed a wealth of experience (mainly mistakes) and insights that she hopes will better inform youths contemplating taking the plunge into the social sector.

Amongst the light-hearted talk by Huijia, come hear about hard truths and little things that people don't talk about, but can make all the difference if you want to journey far in your own social venture.

- **When:** 26 October 2018, 7.00 pm - 9.30 pm (dinner is provided)
- **Where:** The Red Box (113 Somerset Road, Level 2, Learning Hub, Singapore 238165)
- **Cost:** Free admission

Click [here](#) to register your interest. Email your queries directly to Edmond Kwek at Edmond_kwek@nyc.gov.sg. The last day of registration is **25 October 2018**.



PURPLE PARADE 2018

The Purple Parade is back!

A mega celebration is in store for participants at this year's Purple Parade. Activities include a fun-filled carnival (food and games), special concert (by musicians with special needs) and a parade to celebrate and display creativity of the special needs community and their supporters.

This is an event not to be missed!

- **When:** 27 October 2018, 3.00 pm - 7.00 pm
- **Where:** Suntec City (outdoor spaces between Tower 1 & 5) (3 Temasek Boulevard, Singapore 038983)
- **Cost:** Free

Click [here](#) to read more.



WAKE UP YOUR IDEA!

Organised by [UNFRAMED](#), [Teck Ghee Community Club Youth Executive Committee](#) and co-hosted with the community, the upcoming edition is specially tailored towards the senior population residing and hanging out in the area. Come and Eat, Play and Learn about 15 impactful social initiatives as they share how they are driving positive change in the community!

- **When:** 27 October 2018, 10.00 am - 1.00 pm
- **Where:** Teck Ghee Community Club (861 Ang Mo Kio Avenue 10, Singapore 569734)
- **Cost:** Free

Click [here](#) to read more and register.



THE IMPACT ACTXCHANGE DIALOGUE SERIES : BEYOND REFUGEE

Featuring Social Impact Enterprises from around Southeast Asia, [Actxplore](#) hope to provide a platform for them to share about their acts of doing good that are impacting the communities around them.

In this inaugural session, two speakers from Kuala Lumpur will share about their work in providing refugees above and beyond a mere shelter, in response to one of the world's greatest humanitarian crisis.

- **When:** 1 November 2018, 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm
- **Where:** The New Charis Mission (11 Jalan Ubi, Kembangan-Chai Chee Community Hub, Block 1, #01-01, Singapore 409074)
- **Cost:** Free

Click [here](#) to read more and [here](#) to register your interest.



PROJECT ZERO - WHAT IF YOU WERE CALLED TO BE BOLD?

Project Zero is an exciting local-based learning project, organised by [Bold at Work](#), nested in Jurong and it is looking for a pioneer batch of youths aged 17 to 30 years old committed to lead the change in transforming Jurong into a real world school.

If you are a believer in a journey that is partly discovery and partly self-creating within a community that has much to be discovered, join us for an immersive experience where you'll get to find out about our ambition and if it fits into your aspiration!

- **When:** October – December 2018 (flexible)
- **Where:** Jurong
- **Cost:** Free

Email QCommE@ntu.edu.sg to register your interest by **18 October 2018**.



EMPOWERING YOUTHS ACROSS ASEAN PROGRAMME

The [#eMpoweringYouths](#) across ASEAN, a partnership programme between Maybank Foundation and [ASEAN Foundation](#), will enable you to unleash your creativity, develop your leadership skills, and elevate your entrepreneurship spirit, all while leaving lasting impacts on the ASEAN community.

In this programme, your project management skills will be enhanced through intensive capacity building and you will have access to project grant of up to USD 20,000 per project to kickstart your own social enterprise.

Join this initiative and turn your dream into reality.

Click [here](#) for more information and [here](#) to register your interest.

The last day of application is **18 November 2018**.

Student Community Engagement aims to empower students to make a difference through positive social actions. We believe that young people have a critical role to play in building a better world for themselves and the community.

We provide students access to opportunities such as grants for their ground-up initiatives and social entrepreneurship efforts, internships at non-profit organisations, and training programmes to develop community leadership skills. More information at <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/sasd/communityengagement>.