

WORKSHOPS ON “GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING” AND “PRESENTING WITH IMPACT”

“Do well all that you do; let the person who works, work. See how persons in the world seek to excel in their calling.” St Mary Euphrasia

The period 7 to 15 March 2017 saw 14 Good Shepherd mission partners living in community and studying together at the Good Shepherd Place, Singapore. They came from Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Vietnam, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Malaysia, to attend two workshops - grant proposal writing, and presentation skills - organised by Restful Waters, Province of Singapore-Malaysia.

Programme Objective

The objectives were for the participants to:

- Achieve higher proficiency in writing professional and compelling grant/funding proposals,
- Deliver presentations effectively,
- Network and grow in confidence to participate in discussions with a wider community,
- Experience Good Shepherd Mission partnership.



*Back (L-R): Sutisa, Lakana, Rebecca, Matilda, Rozina, Agnes, Rodelia, Anne, Remoshini.
Front (L-R): Magdalena, Theresa, Theresa, Kolianey, Flora, Madonna, Sobia*

Workshop on Grant Proposal Writing

The 4-day workshop on grant writing was facilitated by Ms Rodelia Albotra, independent Consultant on Organisational Development and Management. With her extensive experience in project development, assessment and evaluation, Rodelia brought the participants through the entire grant proposal writing process from planning to structuring and to follow-up on the grant proposal.

She shared important tips on how to write compelling, and professional proposals. Participants practised using tools like the Problem Tree, Rapid Participatory Appraisal, Environmental Scan, and Logical Framework Analysis. At the end of the 4-day workshop, each sector presented their proposal paper to fellow participants and guests. The guests were key personnel from CHARIS (Caritas Humanitarian Aid & Relief Initiatives, Singapore). It was a good opportunity to network and share knowledge with one another.



Workshop on Presenting with Impact

After a day of rest and sightseeing, the group returned to the classroom for the next 2-day workshop on “Presenting with Impact”. Mr Noel Capel of Capel Consultants LLP led the group through exercises and activities, role-play, and the process on preparing an impactful presentation that resonated with the audience. The participants also learnt the “dos and don’ts” of preparing slides for their presentations. Every participant had to make a 7-minute presentation of a project that they are working on, or hope to get off the ground.



Some Words from the Participants

“Many thanks for the two workshops held over the past week. Both were good experiences and had multiple benefits; not only in knowledge gained but also in building relationships with my fellow mission partners from Asia-Pacific.” Ms Theresa Symons, MDO Asia Pacific

“Thank you very much for your hospitality, kindness and openness. Learning went beyond the classroom. I learnt much more – your strong motivation to help us through your sharing, encouragement, especially your example, and active witnessing.” Sr Agnes Nguyen, Vietnam

“This is my first time learning how to write a project funding paper. I found it not easy but it is something that I have started to learn and I like it. I will work more with my sisters and team.” Sr Sutisa, Thailand

“The lecturers were good...Rodelia understood our level and taught us accordingly. The way the workshop was conducted was very effective. The positive ways of Noel, how he looks for the positive side of the persons strengthened me to overcome my nervousness.” Sr Madonna, Sri Lanka



The mission partners have returned home, bring all that they had learnt together with the draft proposal that they had worked on in addition to the friendships made. The learning journey continues back home where they would refine and finalise their proposals for submission to prospective funding agencies.

We wish all of them success in their respective applications for funding or sponsorship of their projects/programmes.

*“Have zeal for this mission, courage, confidence in God, and above all, the hope of success.”
St Mary Euphrasia*

*Melina Ong
20 March 2017*