



香港保護兒童會

Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children



Brief Introduction of HKSPC

- established in 1926, a child-focused agency
- pioneer in child care services
- we are operating 5 day creches, 18 nursery schools, 1 children's residential home, 1 after school care centre, 2 children and family service centre/ project, 1 NS school work project



Brief Introduction of HKSPC

Vision:

To lead and to excel in keeping children healthy, happy and safe

Mission:

- To provide for and promote the care, education and social development of children and families in partnership with the community
- To protect children and promote their welfare



Support Poor Families is Our Core Value

“Babies are cared for, mothers instructed in baby-craft, minor medical treatments given, clothes and comforts distributed, families visited, letters written for free schooling, licences, work, accommodation and a host of other duties carried out in an endeavour to make life better for the oncoming generation...”

HKSPC annual Report 1956



What is Family-Centred Practice?

- a way of working with families, both formally and informally
- Goal: to enhance their capacity to care for and protect their children
- Strategies:
 - 1) advocating for improved conditions for families
 - 2) supporting families
 - 3) stabilizing families in crisis
 - 4) reunifying families that are separated
 - 5) building new families
 - 6) connecting families to resources that will sustain them in the future



Informal Family-Centred Practice

Supportive Services to Families

1) Child Care Services

- Daily and occasional child care and after school care services from newborn to 12 years old

2) Parent Education

- Coach and educate new/ young parents how to take care of infants and young children

3) Education support services

- Daily tutorial service in after school care program
- “Learning Together Program”
- Saturday learning classes
- Reading room service for teenagers



Supportive Services to Families

4) Financial Support

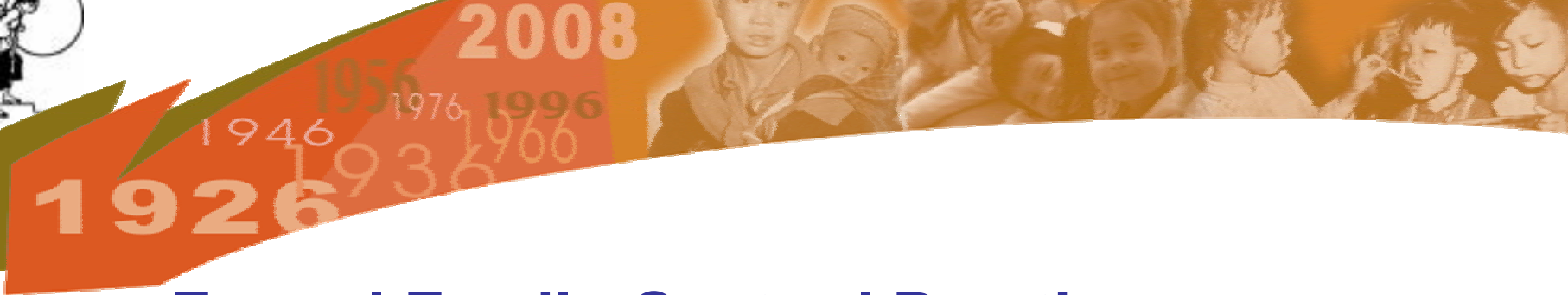
- Emergency Education Start Up Fund to support children from immigrant families to start school, with community partners since yr. 2001
- Protection of Angel Fund to support integration of underprivileged children
- 舒困基金 to support poor families/ families in crisis to sustain early childhood education



Reunifying Families that are Separated

Children's Residential Home

- Service targets: families lacking the capacity to take care of their babies (newborn to 3 years old)
- Provide temporary refuge and long term care to babies
- Regular parent education and parent-child activities to increase parents' capacity to understand and take care of their babies
- Monitor potential child abuse incidents



Formal Family-Centred Practice

- In 2003 the Society decided to expand her service scope to include Family Services
- Started the first non-subvented Children and Family Service Centre (CFSC) in 2003 and started the second one in 2009
- Mission of CFSC
To provide services to the deprived families with children, to enhance, strengthen and stabilize family life
- Service targets: CSSA, low income families, new arrival families, single parent families and ethnic minority families



Children and Family Service Centre

- Family membership system
- Integrate casework, group work and community work methodologies in service provision
- Offer a basket of supportive services with built in parent education
- Turn parents' motivation to change their children's behaviours into openness to increase their competence as parents, e.g. parent-child parallel groups, parent-child activities
- Connect families to community resources, especially for ethnic minority families



Building New Families

- Parent-child play groups from 12 months to 36 months
- Baby message courses from 1 months old to 9 months



Stationing Social Work Service in Nursery Schools

- Survey on 幼兒家庭潛在危機調查 (2008年1月)
- Outreach to needy families
- Service targets: immigrant families, single parent families, parents with mental health problems, families with excessive stress or parenting difficulties
- Teamwork with child care workers/ kindergarten teachers
- Child-centred vs parent-centred



The missing Piece --- Advocating for Improved Conditions for Families



Advocating for Improved Conditions for Families

- Active advocacy on issues related to deprived children and parent support since 2006
- Soft advocacy on racial integration: DOSTI Performance Team



Challenges

- Blind spot in professionalism
- Government's segregated service policy
- Agency resources and commitment



Thank you