

**For discussion on
19 February 2024**

Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services

Services of Parents/Relatives Resource Centres

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the policy objective of the Parents/Relatives Resource Centres (PRCs) and the supportive services rendered to parents and carers of persons with disabilities.

Policy Objective

2. The Government's policy objective is to support persons with disabilities, and facilitate the development of their physical, mental and social capabilities to the fullest possible extent, and to promote their integration into the community. Apart from residential and day care services, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) has been providing subventions to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for operating various community care and support services for persons with disabilities, with a view to facilitating the development of their capabilities of adapting to living in and integrating into the community as much as possible, as well as strengthening the carers' caring capacity and relieving their stress so as to provide a better quality of life for persons with disabilities and their carers.

Services of Parents/Relatives Resource Centres

3. To strengthen the function of the family in taking care of the needs of persons with disabilities, SWD provides subventions for NGOs to operate PRCs across the territory, in order to provide emotional support and professional advice to the parents/relatives and carers of persons with disabilities, to help them learn how to take care of persons with disabilities, exchange experience and seek mutual support in order to cope with the stress and difficulty involved. The number of PRCs was increased from six in 2018-19 to 19 at present. Hence, there is one PRC to provide service in each district, and additionally one PRC designated for parents/relatives and carers of persons in mental recovery. The list of PRCs is at

Annex.

4. PRCs provide a range of support services and organise various types of activities, including counselling, service information, emotional support groups, community education, care skills workshops, social and recreational activities, etc. to the parents/relatives and carers of persons with disabilities. In 2023-24 (as at December 2023), a total of around 6 800 groups/programmes were organised by the 19 PRCs to support the parents/relatives and carers of persons with disabilities, involving over 130 000 participants.

Specialised ethnic minorities units

5. In view of the double challenges due to language barriers and cultural differences encountered by ethnic minorities (EM) with special needs, SWD had allocated additional resources in 2020-21 for setting up specialised EM units in five PRCs located in districts with more EM population (viz. Central and Western, Kwun Tong, Yau Tsim Mong, Kwai Tsing and Yuen Long) to provide tailored services to EM with disabilities and their family members and carers in the district as well as nearby districts, so as to encourage their use of community services to meet their needs and to promote social inclusion.

Support for parents/relatives of persons in mental recovery

6. In addition to setting up one PRC in each of 18 districts, there is another one designated for parents/relatives and carers of persons in mental recovery in Kowloon East to provide territory-wide support services for them including counselling and therapeutic groups to enhance their capacity in taking care of persons in mental recovery, groups and programmes to relieve their stress, and community educational programmes to promote public understanding and acceptance of persons in mental recovery. For the particular needs of the parents/relatives and carers, the PRC provides training activities and mutual help groups for the parents/relatives and carers of persons in mental recovery with different kinds of mental illnesses (including depression, bipolar disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder and psychosis, etc.) to enrich their knowledge of the mental illnesses and acquire the effective communication skills, so as to facilitate their understanding and skills to interact with their family members in mental recovery. In 2023-24 (as at December 2023), the number of participants of groups/programmes organised by the PRC to support the parents/relatives and carers of persons in mental recovery is over 7 700.

Way Forward

7. The Chief Executive announced in the 2023 Policy Address that SWD

will set up four additional PRCs for carers of persons in mental recovery by the third quarter of 2025. In addition to the existing PRC in Kowloon East, PRCs will be set up in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon West, New Territories East and New Territories West to support persons in mental recovery and their carers.

Advice Sought

8. Members are invited to note the content of this paper and give views.

**Labour and Welfare Bureau
Social Welfare Department
February 2024**

Annex**Parents / Relatives Resource Centres**

Region	District	Service Unit	Address
Hong Kong	Central and Western	Caritas - Hong Kong Caritas Parents Resource Centre ¹	Room 101, Caritas House, 2-8 Caine Road, Hong Kong
	Southern District	Heep Hong Society Sandy Bay Parents Resource Centre	7/F, 19 Sandy Bay Road, Pok Fu Lam, Hong Kong
	Islands	The Neighbourhood Advice-action Council Togetherness Parents Resource Centre	1/F, Carpark 1, Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung, Lantau Island, New Territories
	Eastern District	Heep Hong Society Jockey Club Parents Resource Centre	G1, Oi Sin House, Oi Tung Estate, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong
	Wan Chai	St. James' Settlement Family Joy Spot	Room 1004, 10/F, Emperor Group Centre, 288 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Kowloon East	Wong Tai Sin	The Hong Kong Down Syndrome Association Bradbury Parents Resource Centre	G/F, Wing A, Chun Tung House, Tung Tau Estate, Kowloon
	Kwun Tong	Hong Kong Christian Service To-gather Parents Resource Centre (Kwun Tong) ²	Units 1017-1018, 10/F, Chevalier Commercial Centre, 8 Wang Hoi Road, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon
	Sai Kung	Hong Kong Society for the Deaf Parents Resource Centre	Shop S16, 1/F Commercial Centre, 11 Tong Chun Street, Bauhinia Garden, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories.
Kowloon West	Kowloon City	Caritas - Hong Kong Caritas Blissful Life Parents Resource Centre	Unit 09, 11/F, Hunghom Commercial Centre A, 37-39 Ma Tau Wai Road, Hung Hom, Kowloon
	Yau Tsim Mong	Heep Hong Society Hoi Fu Parents Resource Centre ³	1/F, Hoi Yan House, Hoi Fu Court, Mong Kok, Kowloon
	Sham Shui Po	Hong Kong Christian Service To-gather Parents Resource Centre (Sham Shui Po)	Shop 1 & 2, 1/F, Southern Lodge, 362 Un Chau Street, Cheung Sha Wan, Kowloon

Region	District	Service Unit	Address
New Territories East	Sha Tin	The Salvation Army 'Share-care' Parents Resource Centre	Unit 1003, 1005 & 1018, 10/F, Shatin Galleria, 18-24 Shan Mei Street, Fo Tan, New Territories
	Tai Po	Hong Kong PHAB Association Family Parents/Relatives Resource Centre	Shop Nos. 105-105A, on Level 1, Plover Cove Garden, No.3 Plover Cove Road, Tai Po, New Territories
	North District	Heep Hong Society Fanling Parents Resource Centre	G/F, Wing B, Cheung Chi House, Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling, New Territories
New Territories West	Tsuen Wan	SAHK Shek Wai Kok Parents Resource Centre	Unit 202, 2/F, Carpark Block No. 1, Shek Wai Kok Estate, Tsuen Wan, New Territories
	Kwai Tsing	Caritas - Hong Kong Caritas Blessed Life Parents Resource Centre ⁴	Unit 1107-08, 11/F, Tower 2 Metroplaza, No. 223 Hing Fong Road, Kwai Chung, New Territories
	Tuen Mun	Yuk Chi Resource Centre Limited Yuk Chi Resource Centre	Room 124-125, Oi Ming House, Yau Oi Estate, Tuen Mun, New Territories
	Yuen Long	St. James' Settlement Family Joy Together ⁵	5B, Car Park, Tin Heng Estate, Tin Shui Wai, New Territories
Parents / Relatives Resource Centre designated for carers of persons in mental recovery			
Territory-wide	Territory-wide	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service Resource & Service Centre for the Relatives of Ex-mentally Ill People	G/F, Wing C, Choi Yip House, Choi Fai Estate, Ngau Chi Wan Street, Choi Hung, Kowloon

¹ with Specialised Ethnic Minorities (EM) Unit (serving Central and Western, Eastern, Wan Chai and Southern District)

² with Specialised EM Unit (serving Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin, Sai Kung and Sha Tin)

³ with Specialised EM Unit (serving Yau Tsim Mong and Kowloon City)

⁴ with Specialised EM Unit (serving Kwai Tsing, Islands (mainly Tung Chung), Sham Shui Po and Tsuen Wan)

⁵ with Specialised EM Unit (serving Yuen Long, Tuen Mun, Tai Po and North District)