



香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Multiculturalism in Action Project

Intercultural Ambassador Program 2018-19

Intercultural Neighborhood Program – Sports

The Intercultural Ambassador Program partnered with the Kabaddi United Hong Kong (KUHK) to form a community group which aimed to promote interculturalism through kabaddi. The project, entitled “Kabaddi @ Wan Chai” aimed to enhance and sustain positive ethnic relations between Chinese and non-Chinese in Wan Chai through kabaddi training and tournaments. Members of the group included local Chinese, Nepalis, and Indians.

Kabaddi @ Wan Chai organized two activities. The first activity on 16 December 2018 targeted members of the Sikh Temple. Although most of the Sikhs are experienced kabaddi players, it was the first time for them to play with Hong Kong Chinese. It was also the first time for the Intercultural Ambassadors to play kabaddi with the Sikhs. After the first event, the Sikhs agreed to partner with the community group to organize a friendly game once a month. The second activity was held on 20 February 2018 and targeted students from Confucius Hall Secondary School (CHSS). Through these activities, participants developed cross-cultural friendship and learnt kabaddi skills.

Furthermore, in June 2019, the Kabaddi Group organized an inter-school kabaddi competition. This program was sponsored by the IAP. Rosaryhill School and Delia Memorial School (Glee Path) were invited to join the competition by forming teams which included members of different ethnic backgrounds.

During the competition, team members learned how to communicate with people of different ethnic backgrounds. Teachers from both schools commented that the competition was a good opportunity for character education and they are interested to have kabaddi class again in the next school year. A direct quote from one of the teacher: “It was fun! It was great! The students

really enjoyed. They will push their principal to make kabaddi regular next year. The kids are looking forward for more kabaddi classes.”



Members of the Kabaddi Group playing kabaddi with CHSS students

Apart from using kabaddi as a way to enhance intercultural sensibility, IAP also partnered with the Jockey Club BGCA South Kwai Chung Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre to set up a neighbourhood women’s group “Ladies Club”.

This group has organized weekly gatherings since November 2018. Each session lasted for 1.5 hours, including a 1-hour yoga session in which participants learned the Indian health regime to bring about physical and mental health. It was a process of self-discovery as practicing yoga allowed them to mediate and re-connect body and mind. After that, there was a 30-min cultural sharing session. Members of different ethnic backgrounds took the lead to share something about their culture. These included henna drawing, cooking dishes such as curry chicken and dumplings, sharing sessions on South Asian religions (Ramadan and Islam), Bollywood dance, balloon twisting, and Chinese paper cutting. There was also an educational session on parent-child relationship by Prof. Raees Baig.

The Ladies Club has gathered women in Lai King neighborhood to form a peer-support group. It has served as a bridge to connect Chinese and non-Chinese women living in the same neighborhood. Qualitative feedback collected were very positive. Some members expressed that joining the Ladies Club has broadened their horizon by learning different cultures. The cultural sharing sessions empowered the women as they shared their knowledge and skills, as a result their self-esteem and confidence were enhanced by receiving positive feedbacks from

others. Members' sense of belonging to the group has been gradually strengthened as they became more engaged and took turns to host the cultural sharing session. We foresee that the group will be sustained in the long run with the support from the Centre.