



## Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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### **Establishing a Mental-health-friendly Community for Enhancing the Rehabilitation of Psychiatric Patients through Integrative Patient Empowerment Model**

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#### **Introduction**

Family Networks at Community”, as started in 2012 with Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service as project operator and funded by Community Investment and Inclusion Fund, aimed to enhance support networks and use of community resources by both patients and carers, and to cultivate HKEC to be a more mental-health-friendly community for supporting the rehabilitation of psychiatric patients through Integrative Empowerment Model.

#### **Objectives**

(1) To establish and enhance peer supporting networks (2) To enhance the community supporting networks through community empowerment (3) To establish a more mental-health-friendly HKEC community

#### **Methodology**

(1) To strengthen Patient Support Station at Psychiatric Outpatient clinic through peer volunteer service (2) To establish District Committees with mental health stakeholders together in HKEC (3) To convey a research on the change of social capitals after community empowerment

#### **Result**

18,013 patients and carers at Patient Support Stations at Psy OPD and Admission wards of PYNEH were connected with peer support and community resources. 6 District Committees (CW, SSW, SKW, QB, NP, WC) were formed with the participation of community stakeholders as advisory committee member for the concern and promotion of “mental-health-friendly community”, with the professional input by the clinical teams of Psychiatry. It was demonstrated by the research that,

higher contact with psychiatric patients is correlated with the promotion of acceptance as well as the reduction of prejudice and avoidance, towards the psychiatric patients. Based on the significant results, the Project will start a second phase in 2016-2018 for further enhancing the integrative patient empowerment model.