

Union Box

# Young NTUC Champions Anti-Drug Movement

Young NTUC has tied up with Awakening Productions to work with less privileged youths to increase the awareness of the dangers of drug abuse.

Through Project GreenGrass, it hopes to highlight the hazards of drugs and vice and to encourage youths to use their creative gifts and talents in a positive manner such as through music and the arts.

A series of public talks will be conducted by Singapore Youth Award 2005 winner and Awakening Productions founder, Mr Glenn Lim, to increase awareness of the dangers of drug abuse among the more vulnerable in society, especially the young.

Senior Minister of State for the Ministry of Home Affairs Professor Ho Peng Kee kicked off the first public talk at DXO on 25 March 2006.

Speaking to 60 youths from Teen Challenge's Bukit Batok Hostel, Professor Ho said he was glad that Young NTUC was undertaking this project with Mr Lim to promote the anti-drug abuse message.

"By sharing his personal journey as an ex-drug offender, Glenn has shown by example how determination and the love and support of family members and loved ones, helped turn his life around. His success today is also proof that given a second chance, ex-offenders can also contribute meaningfully to society," he said.

The youths watched "GreenGrass", a short film based on Mr Lim's struggles and eventual triumph over drug dependency as well as experiences revolving around his relationships.



The youths also put up a dance performance and participated in games and team building experiences with members and volunteers from Young NTUC, Awakening Productions and Teen Challenge.

Young NTUC and Awakening Productions plan to organise similar talks at other locations in the future.

Young NTUC Secretary Noorfarahin Ahmad noted that Project GreenGrass allows Young NTUC members to contribute to society by reaching out to fellow Singaporeans.

"Young NTUC, being a large youth organisation with 150,000 members, takes upon itself to set a good example to youths in Singapore. Hence, we have identified social activism as one of the key programmes that we would like to support. Awakening Productions has a noble cause in working with young people to avoid the perils of consuming drugs. We can identify with this cause and wholeheartedly support Glenn and his team," she said.

# Get A Diploma In Employment Relations

What price, tripartism?

Unionists, Industrial Relations Officers and human resource practitioners came together for a lively discussion on the value of tripartism with the real-life example of PSA.

On 21 May 2006, former PSA Chairman Stephen Lee, NTUC chief Lim Boon Heng and Ministry of Manpower Divisional Director Ong Yen Her shared with the participants about how they dealt with the difficult retrenchment exercise, restructuring

of the port's operations and in reducing costs.

The presentation was an introduction into the Diploma in Employment Relations course offered by the Ong Teng Cheong Institute and UniSIM. Applications for the 14th intake of the DER programme will close on 27 April 2006.

Applicants should have at least two 'A' and two 'O' level passes or completed the Advanced Certificate in Industrial Relations. Unionists who are Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents are eligible for a grant from the Skills Development Fund.

Union leaders with more than three years of constant service can apply for the NTUC Training Awards to offset more of their course fees. The NTUC Leadership Development Department is offering 10 awards to applicants of the 14th DER programme.

With SDF Grant	Course Fee (including GST)	Less SDF Grant	Nett Amount Payable
Below 40 years; and above 40 with 'A' levels or higher	\$4,620	\$3,200	\$1,420
Above 40 years with 'A' levels or lower (For the 2 <sup>nd</sup> category, participants need to make a down payment of \$1,000 upon acceptance into the programme)	\$4,620	\$3,960	\$660

With SDF Grant and NTUC Training Awards	Course Fee (including GST)	Less SDF Grant	Training Awards Pays	Nett Amount Payable
Below 40 years; and above 40 with 'A' levels or higher	\$4,620	\$3,200	\$958	\$462
Above 40 years with 'A' levels or lower	\$4,620	\$3,960	\$198	\$462

**Starting Date**  
26 May 2006

**Time**  
7 pm to 10 pm  
(Mondays and Wednesdays)

**Venue**  
Ong Teng Cheong Institute,  
NTUC Centre

**Contact**  
6213 8139 or  
tanse@ntuc.org.sg

# Bigger Bonuses For Income's Policyholders

For the third year running, NTUC Income is giving bigger bonuses to policyholders with participating life policies.

The insurance cooperative will distribute \$620 million in bonuses to 730,000 policyholders, including its 26,000 annuity customers.

NTUC Income's Chief Executive Officer Tan Kin Lian said he was delighted that the cooperative has been able to achieve excellent investment returns for its policyholders.

"As a cooperative society, we always aim to look after the welfare of our policyholders," he said, "Compared to other insurance companies, we declare a higher proportion of our surplus to our policyholders in the form of bonuses. We also provide better value to our policyholders, through effective processes and careful investment of their monies."

Overall, 80 per cent of NTUC Income's 730,000 participating policies will get a larger bonus this year. A whopping 97 per

cent of regular premium policies will enjoy a bonus increase of 5 per cent to 30 per cent, compared to the previous year. No policyholder will face a bonus reduction.

All of NTUC Income's 26,000 participating annuity policies will receive bonuses this year. Y-series annuitants can expect to receive 0.25 per cent more in addition to their very attractive monthly payout, which has a guaranteed 5 per cent rate of return.

K-series annuitants, which have a lower guaranteed rate of return of 2.5 per cent, will receive a bonus of 2.75 per cent.

Mr Tan added: "Our investment performance has, for many years, been well above industry average. The latest bonus rate increase demonstrates our strong performance and our commitment to reward our policyholders fairly."

From 1 April 2006 onwards, policyholders will get their bonuses credited into their accounts on their policy anniversaries.



# Coffee Prices That Won't Keep You Awake

NTUC FoodFare won't raise its coffee drink prices at its seven outlets. In spite of rising operational and raw material costs, customers will continue to pay 60 cents for a cup of black coffee or 70 cents for coffee with milk at the cooperative's coffee shop outlets.

At FoodFare's foodcourt outlets, it will be 70 cents for black coffee and 80 cents for coffee with milk.

FoodFare's Human Resource Manager Alice Yeoh said: "NTUC Foodfare is staying true to its social mission of stabilising the prices of food and beverages, hence the prices of coffee drinks in our outlets will remain unchanged."

That undertaking has resulted in a \$1.40 Super Value Breakfast Set for union members, introduced since 2005. The set includes a cup of coffee or tea, two slices of toasted bread with kaya and a couple of half-boiled eggs.

Look for FoodFare's two foodcourts and five coffee shops at:

- **Bedok North Eating House** Block 204 Bedok North Street 1 #01-393 Singapore 460204)
- **Choa Chu Kang Foodcourt** Block 303 Choa Chu Kang Avenue 4 #01-723 Singapore 680303
- **Choa Chu Kang Crescent Eating House** Block 673B Choa Chu Kang Crescent #01-01 Singapore 681673
- **Jurong West Central Eating House** Block 679 Jurong West Central #01-02 Singapore 640679
- **Anchorvale Eating House** Block 308 Anchorvale Road #01-07 Singapore 540308
- **Admiralty Foodcourt** Block 678A Woodlands Avenue 6 #02-01 Singapore 731678
- **Rivervale Mall Foodcourt** 11 Rivervale Crescent #02-01 Rivervale Mall Singapore 545082

# Sign Up For Your Progress Package



**CENTRAL PROVIDENT FUND BOARD**  
Robinson Road Post Office  
P.O. Box 2609, Singapore 904609  
Progress Package website: www.progress.gov.sg  
Progress Package Hotline: 1800-222-888



By now, Singaporeans aged 21 and above should have received a letter from the Central Provident Fund Board informing them of how to sign up for the Progress Package.

The package comes in four payouts – Growth Dividends, Workfare Bonus, 40th Anniversary National Service Bonus and CPF top-ups to the Special or Retirement and Medisave Accounts.

Since 1 April 2006, Singaporeans could sign up at any automated teller machine belonging to DBS, POSB, UOB or OCBC, or through the Progress Package website at www.progress.gov.sg for the money to be paid into their bank accounts.

If they want the money to be credited on 1 May 2006, they must sign up by 25 April 2006.

For those people who do not have a bank account, they can request for a cheque by filling up a PP/1 form available at any SingPost office, Community Centre, Community Development Council or CPF Service Centre. They must send the form to the CPF Board by 15 April 2006 to get their cheque by 1 May 2006.

Low-income and older Singaporeans can get help to sign up for the Progress Package. Since 1 April till 15 April 2006, Progress Package Help Desks have been set up at Community Centres and Community Development Councils to help them understand the Progress Package and fill up the forms.

For more information, please visit www.progress.gov.sg or call the CPF Board at 1800-222 2888.