

UNITED VOICE CELEBRATED 15TH ANNIVERSARY IN JULY 2020

Celebrating our 15th Anniversary... what started out as a small organization with few members and employees has now grown into a bigger group of people around us in our own building. YES! This is definitely a milestone to celebrate. Over the last 15 years, we have acquired the experience and the in-depth knowledge on how to ensure our members are updated on self-advocacy policies, employment opportunities as well as being equipped with the necessary skills for open employment. Through this beautiful journey, we have come across obstacles which have taught us many lessons. Nevertheless, it has been a tough but a fruitful journey. We managed to encounter our obstacles and serve the best service to all to our members.

We are glad and honored to receive positive feedback from our UV parents such as : "United Voice has definitely given him a boost in his confidence and his ability to do some things by

himself." "United Voice is not only a place for PWLD, it is a place where I find comfort in knowing that my daughter has friends who understand her without saying a word, colleagues who support and give her encouragement for simple tasks that we take for granted and where she will have fond memories here that she will cherish."

These feedback mean so much to us. We are proud of our members' achievements and happy to be part of their growth. We plan to keep our services and relationship growing with our members and continue to provide them with nothing less than the best. With your support, we wish to explore new heights this year.

We thank all of you for providing us the opportunity to be a part of your journey.

by Suet Ming

Activities During MCO...

During the Covid-19, I am at home playing phone games and during MCO, I have SST class meeting online with UV members.

by Renee Chan

I joined many United Voice activities in FB during MCO as well as CMCO.

Some of the activities include joining the FB Live session with Wendy and Moh Foong on 15th April 2020. It was a session where we discussed on what we have been doing during MCO. We also gave feedback on how the pandemic has affected our lives and the things we have been doing to occupy ourselves. I shared with others on the few activities I did such as going for a jog with my dad, helping my mom to cook, watching TV, listening to songs and playing my electone. I do miss my friends, however staying safe is equally important too.

Every year on the July 12th, UV will celebrate their anniversary. For year 2020, it was United Voice's 15th anniversary. I was given the privilege to design the Anniversary Post Card. I used the computer and Canva

to design the postcard. I also participated in introducing the Easy Read version of AKTA OKU 2008 in English and Bahasa Melayu to United Voice members. AKTA OKU is an act to protect People with Disabilities. With an Easy Read version, with much simple explanation and simple terms would ensure that people with learning disabilities would know their rights.

In another FB Live session with May Yoong, Wendy, Moh Foong and the host, Fice Bee on 26th December 2020, a lengthy discussion was on how being a member of United Voice has impacted us. We shared about the programmes at United Voice and Self Advocacy. I shared on my journey with United Voice and how big the impact it has to my life and along the way, discovered myself. Fice Bee, the facilitator, also asked us some questions on whether we enjoy working in United Voice, what are some of the things which we think United Voice should work on and how each of us should do to have meaningful lives.

by Felicia Fang

About Covid 19 I feel scared to get virus when I go out buy something I wear all the wear mask, I go behind my house walk with my dad.

During MCO time I was work from home. I also do my hobbies as practice drawing & colouring, colouring number using my hand phone, sometime play games using my hand phone, watch Netflix show using my hand phone, watch TV also, clean the house, sometime help my mom wash n cut veggies and more and sometime I help my mom to cook.

Every morning/evening follow YouTube exercise and go out my house area walk exercise. Every morning & evening I water the plant outside the car porch sometime sweep the floor if dirty. Sometime I also clean my dad's car inside.

Sometime afternoon nap. Sometime Saturday I online another group. Once a month Committee meeting online on Sunday afternoon. Sometime social media need to post to United Voice facebook. Self-Advocacy sometime meet up, every two weeks on Friday peer support group meet online. Sometime got Inclusion International online conference & meeting.

by Esther Emily

I feel sad that the pandemic Covid-19 had affected many people around the world including Malaysia. It disrupted my normal lives because I cannot go to work and socialise with my friends. I also cannot do the activities that used to do.

During the MCO last year, I worked from home by doing Saori. I also kept myself entertained by watching the T.V, playing computer games, surfing the internet and learning new language. Besides that, I also do exercise to keep myself fit. I hope the pandemic will end soon and return to normal lives.

Peer support group

This group was started since year 2020.

We will meet up two week once on

Friday evening

*We share our high & low by
speaking up.*

We have fun chit chatting in this group.

We communicate in this group.

We listen to other without interrupting.

We take turn to talk.

*By having this Peer Support Group I feel
relief, because I can share my feeling
with others.*

by Lee May Yoong



editor's note

Happy New Year 2021



Esther

Hi, my name is Esther Emily. I have been with United Voice since 2015. I am working at United Voice in the Project Impossible. I was also involved in Self Advocacy class and the Peer Support meeting group.

The year 2020 was a very challenging year for everyone. I am working from home most of the time since the MCO started. I feel so sad that most activities were not able to be held because of the pandemic. I hope life will be back to normal in the coming year. I wish everyone to have a happy year and enjoy reading our newsletter.



Renee

Hi to all of you. I am Renee Chan, your editor for this year with Esther Emily. Happy New Year 2021 to everyone! The pandemic has changed the lifestyle for all of us in some ways or another however, we must remain positive and embrace changes. I hope we will all stay encouraged and that year 2021 will bring new beginnings for all of us. Happy Ox-some Year and may this year's journey be filled with optimism and success stories too!

Art Exhibition at Mandarin Oriental



Wendy teaching saori weaving to Daniel Hansen (Mr. Tourism World 2019).



UV's Artist - Clement Ooi, busy drawing an orchid

We are delighted to have Larissa Ping (Miss World Malaysia 2018); Haziq Waquiuddin; Daniel Hansen (Mr Tourism World 2019); Joel Kuan (Emcee & Host) and Nicole Tan (Social Media Influencer) visit our Art Exhibition

AUGUST

31

Day 1 - Preparation of Art Exhibition at Mandarin Oriental. Need to set up and arrange the handmade craft as well. We have many hotel people came to help us to unwrap bubble wrap and other stuff as well. We are very happy and excited as well for the next day.

SEPTEMBER

1

Day 2 - Opening of our Art Exhibition. We have a little bit of guest from the hotel and other people as well. We have staff and two UV members to promote the paintings and also our products.

SEPTEMBER

2

Day 3 - We had some customers and a famous model in Malaysia visiting the exhibition. Wendy showed him how to do saori weaving. We had so much great time and were happy as well. Customers have bought cookies, T-shirt, metal straw pouches and art as well.



SEPTEMBER

3

Day 4 - We had our artist, Clement drawing to show the customer and guest as well. Seng Kit came as well doing the drawing too by himself

DECEMBER

4

Day 5 - Also the last day of the Art Exhibition. We have to wrapped the arts to transport back to UV together with all our other products.

by Sa Kar Yee



Employees from CIMB and UV Members



Friendly Bowling Match with CIMB

Experience Bowling with the team members of CIMB

I was thrilled to be invited by CIMB for Bowling Friendly Match under United Voice.

My friends and myself were looking forward to that day. When the day finally arrived, we gathered at Bandar Utama Bowling Centre early.

We were paired with staffs of CIMB and bowled by teams. There was much laughter and shouts of cheering for others. I even managed to strike twice! Luck must have been with me that day.

Alas all good things must come to an end. I look forward to bowl again with my friends and new friends I have made from CIMB.

by Renee Chan



CIMB staff and UV members in a combined team



Inclusion International Self-Advocates Global Summit

250 self-advocates and supporting friends joined from 40 countries joined this summit held on Zoom. There were a few speakers from different countries to speak. Chosen Power from Hong Kong spoke about their Covid 19 work, Robert Martin from People First, New Zealand spoke about his work at the United Nation on the CRPD committee. Fernanda from Mexico spoke about her work on Women's Rights. The Vice-President of Inclusion International, Mark

gave an update about Inclusion International's self-advocacy work. From United Voice attend are: James Kong, Emily Esther, Renee Chan, May Yoong and myself. Supporting friend is Moh Foong. We were divided into different groups for discussion after the sharing sessions. We share about our country and about self-advocacy work.

by Felicia Fang



"Group discussion to work on the E-module"

StartUp Seminar

Startup Seminar held in Malaysia, organised by United Voice from 4th March until 8 March 2020.

It is a collaboration between Greece group, Uk group, Chile Group and United Voice to discuss coming out with e-Module for support workers to support persons with disabilities to setup their own business. On 4 March I'm doing introduction, ask them to introduce own country, name. Then Wan Ching and I shared about United Voice. On 5th some guest came to share. Swee Lan shared about SUpported Employment in Malaysia and Job Coach and Aidil shared Autism Café, how to run his business and Anthony shared how he setup his travel business. On 6th we were separated into teams, I am team 1 leader by Aimilia to work on our modules. We discuss



support/youth group worker for disabilities. On 7th we continue discussion and we visited The Bassment Cafe run by deaf brothers and we had lunch there too. On 8th, last day all meet in hotel for discussion, feedback and choose which date and country. Because of pandemic we postpone date, month, year for the next trip to Chile.

by Felicia Fang

Malaysian Confederation of Disabled (MCD) council meeting

MCD also known as Gabungan Persatuan Orang Cacat Malaysia. MCD was formed through an affiliation with Non-Governmental Organization of the disabled people in Malaysia. MCD assist disabled community to receive welfare aid and urge groups.

Goal of MCD:

- Promote human rights of disabled people through full participation, equalization of opportunity

& development.

- Promote economic & social inclusion of disabled persons.
- Develop & support organizations of disabled persons.

We celebrated Hari OKU via facebook on 3rd December 2020

Committee of MCD:

President: En. Mohamad Sazali Shaari (MFD)
Vice President: Mr. Wong

Yoon Loong (NCBM)

Secretary: Ms. Harvinder Kaur (POCAM)

Treasurer: Ms. Law King Kiew (MASIA)

Council Members:

1. En. Ahmad Faresh Ahmad Zahid (POCAM)

2. Dato Haji Mah Hassan Omar (BRAILLE)

3. En. Muntazar Farhan B. Dato Mah Hassan. (BRAILLE)

4. Puan. Eamienor Zakiah Bt Md Zuki (MFD)

5. Ms. Lee May Yoong (United Voice)



UV Members learning the art of coffee making

Experience of Coffee Training

I am the head trainer of Snooze Caffeine Enterprise. I have recently trained the students at United Voice in their Barista skills for their new upcoming café. I am extremely pleased to be their coffee trainer and to share my knowledge on coffee in order to grow their coffee skills.

I have taught the students from United Voice for the very first time back in 2018. At that time, I was giving training with another trainer and there were four students present in the class. We taught them how to pull an espresso shot, techniques in frothing milk and how to pour latte arts.

I am always happy to teach at United Voice because students are always attentive and seeing them happy by their achievements such as pulling a shot of espresso and a simple latte art brings me joy. I think the small things in life are some of the things that matters most and teaching them coffee has not only been beneficial for them but it has definitely been one of the driving factors for me as a Barista Trainer in this coffee industry.

by David Teh (Barista trainer)



ART Therapy

Hari rabu merupakan hari yang paling ditunggu-tunggu oleh Shikin. Walaupun hanya bertemu secara maya, namun sesi online zoom bersama kawan² dari united voice membuatkan Shikin sangat gembira. Dengan cara tersendiri, Shikin akan bercakap sepuasnya dengan kawan² seolah² sedang bercerita stressnya duduk di rumah tanpa boleh keluar ke tempat lain.

Shikin selalu meminta kakak membuat persediaan awal bahan-bahan yang diperlukan setiap kali sesi online tersebut. Setiap kali sesi, Shikin akan jadi antara orang pertama menyertai sesi zoom tersebut. Shikin tidak pernah gagal untuk menghadiri sesi online zoom yang diadakan sepanjang PKP ini.

Sesi online zoom yang diadakan oleh united voice bukan sahaja dapat melepaskan rindu Shikin pada kawan-kawan, bahkan juga membantu Shikin belajar supaya dapat duduk dirumah dengan lebih tenang sepanjang tempoh PKP, melakukan aktiviti yang disukai bersama keluarga dan lebih bersemangat melakukan kerja yang diberikan dirumah.

Terima kasih united voice kerana terus memberikan galakan dan sokongan kepada Shikin, walaupun hanya seminggu sekali secara maya. Ia amat beerti buat Shikin dalam mengisi aktiviti seharian sepanjang tempoh PKP ini.

by Siti Khadijah Abdul Ghani (Shikin's sister)



Thank You!

United Voice would like to express our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all our Donors, Friends and Families for the financial support, making it possible for us to continue our advocacy work to empower persons with learning disabilities.



Tenaga Nasional Berhad - Program Surihati Bijak Generasi Terdidik



Latin Ladies Association of Malaysia (LLAM)



Mid Valley City Sdn Bhd



The Trustees of JCKL Charitable Foundation Registered



SMK Taman Sea - Projek Hamper -Muridku, Anakku Sayang



Yayasan Hasanah and the Pakej Rangsangan Ekonomi Prihatin Rakyat (PRIHATIN) under Ministry of Finance Malaysia