

Dear Team

A 15 year old girl rushed down to the football field after her school commitments to support her team but found herself comforting a group of boys and girls when she learnt that they had lost both their games. This 15 year was the Manager of this Under 12 football team but that day, her elder brother who is the team's coach covered her duties as she had to be in school. Nonetheless, she resumed her duties as Manager after arriving at the field and assured her team that they could only do better and she was going to see to it.

Within a few days, she gathered a group of friends who played football to help her brother with the coaching. The children were pleased with the closer attention during training and the huge dose of encouragement they were getting from these teenagers. It was more running and more drills but the children's enthusiasm never wavered. They believed their Manager and were determined to do better at their next game.

After the training proper, the children and the teenagers would have a kick about. This was probably the most enjoyable part of the day for all and their happiness was noticed by a passer-by who came up to talk to us. He told us that he was amazed to see boys and girls, teens and even adults playing together so harmoniously. He then asked our permission to take a few pictures and some footage with his camera. A couple of days later, he sent us a clip of what he took and we learnt that he was Clifton See from Incubate Productions. He entitled the clip "Whampoa All Stars" and he told us to let all the players know that they were all stars regardless of whether they won a game or not. We could not agree with him more and will be showing the clip and relaying the message to all the children before their next game. You may want to catch what Clifton has put together. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sGCG5jH0lgE&feature=youtu.be>

We are sure the children and youths will appreciate Clifton's gift and we are grateful for Clifton's generous gesture because it has affirmed our belief that volunteering promotes cooperation and friendship among people, fostering a sense of inclusion, integration and solidarity in our society.

The Inter-Neighbourhood Football League that is going on until 22 June 2013 is a means of developing local leadership; involving residents especially the youths to be active volunteers for the well-being of others in their neighbourhoods. Organising expenses have been generously covered by employees of the Energy Market Authority.

Finally, we are about a month away from Youth United Day which is an annual youth day event that celebrates the good our young people have done. It will be on Sunday, 7th July from 3.30 pm to 7.00 pm at Zouk. We will be providing more details in the weeks ahead but this is an early invite as we will be most honoured if you can join us then. We believe that everyone has strengths, talents & dreams that are worth celebrating. The presence of families, friends and volunteers reassure our youths and children that we journey with them through thick and thin. ☺

FROM STRONG FRIENDSHIPS COME STRONG COMMUNITIES!

Enjoy your weekend.

Gerard

Nobody grows old merely by living a number of years. We grow old by deserting our ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. - Samuel Ullman

Gerard Ee