

Name : Heng Han Wee

Student ID : 11873

Cohort : CAL 1401D

E-mail Address : deezombie dude 612@icloud.com

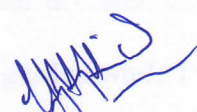
Title of Assignment: Project Report - Question 1

Date of Service :

Date Submitted : 4th April 2014

Names of Group Members (only for group projects):

This is my original work and no part of it has previously been submitted by others or for other purposes. I declare that any contributions made by others have been acknowledged and properly referenced. I have read the MCKL Student Handbook on *5.11 Academic Integrity* and understand the consequences for engaging in plagiarism and collusion.

Signature 

Date 4/4/2014

Based on the service-learning project I have been assigned to, being the El-Shaddai Refugee Learning Centre, I believe the community I'm targeted to reach should be the refugees being taken care of by the people managing the centre, especially the children it seems. However, while we were supposed to be serving them, as others would expect us to do, we were helping them indirectly, in my opinion. That was just because we were working out in the garden most of the time while for my first two sessions, I was helping out in the library, as mentioned in my first two journals. Nevertheless, it was beyond meaningless as I felt that my team's efforts in these areas were not fruitless; in fact it was like a win-win situation – we were able to help maintain the learning centre's condition to be conducive for use as well as to help beautify the area while helping indirectly to make the world a greener place. CP EE CP

In my first and second journals, I was stationed at the library, having to register the books into the computer database. Back then, I was actually unsure how this was to help me other than gaining experience becoming some sort of a temporary librarian. However, now I realise that it was not supposed to be focusing on helping me, rather it was to help out in the library, making it a better place for the children to come and read and learn from a rather great variety of books in the library. EE CP CP

In the library I was also able to conduct some teamwork activities with my teammates. From my second journal, I stated that my teammates had already done their job at the garden while I was still working on the computer database. What I did was just simple; I asked them to help rearrange the books I took down from the shelves earlier to be keyed into the database, which I had left on a table stacked up in piles, back to where they belonged. This was also an opportunity for me to start exploring, looking for things needed to be done. While I have to be aware of what

needs to be done and what is not supposed to be tempered with, I have started to become more aware and alert to see and act accordingly. EE

In my third journal, I have also stated the fact that there were miscommunications with one of my teammates due to the fact that we were not able to predict whether the weather that day would permit us to continue on with our service-learning project. Due to this, one of my teammates, namely Cheong Hsien Hwa, was seriously affected by the miscommunication problem that day. I felt ashamed and guilty, despite the fact that the blame was to be put against the weird weather. I felt that I was responsible for what I had done and not to mention the fact that it was still all because of that he wasted a session unintentionally. While I learnt to be more responsible towards my actions and learning how to communicate much more effectively, I was made determined by that experience to keep doing what needs to be done, no matter the odds; in this case, even if the weather does not permit, I will not stop what needs to be done. EE

I managed to learn quite a bit from my days in the garden. While again my teammates and I were able to display teamwork as narrated in my third and fourth journals, we learnt gardening skills like harvesting vegetables, moving plants and planting new plants. We persevered under the scorching sun, knowing that all of this would benefit not only us by experience, but also the environment, as our efforts, I believe would not only help beautify the scenery of the learning centre, but also provide a much more relaxing environment for whoever who comes, whether they are there to start working in the office, learn or for any other reason possible. EE CP

While we all learnt skills in the learning centre, I also managed to learn other things during the process outside our stationed area. According to my first journal, I was able to learn new shortcuts in a familiar place. This enabled me to view new areas and a place for me to get drinks to refresh us before continuing work, as stated in my fourth journal. EE

However, our efforts alone are not long lasting. In fact, no matter how many people there are in our team, if our efforts were not continuous, the learning centre would still be yearning for help. Despite all this, if we had more people in our team, we would be able to conduct teamwork efforts conducive. With the many hands we can recruit in our team, we can help do more activities in a shorter span of time. While not looking into more hands to work with, we as a team can still come over to help continuously. What I believe in is that non-continuous efforts will only bring you so far, but continuous efforts will continue to soar over time. As we end our service-learning sessions end soon, I hope that the next team assigned there may continue our good works and hopefully we can be of their assistance. CF CF

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