



Fly High With Us

2011 - 2014

Mentee

Karsten Cheng

Aged 17, Form 5,

Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Chen Zao Men College

Mentor

Cindy Fan

*Associate Director -
Customer Care & Online Services*

Fly High with Us

In 2011, Hong Kong Broadband Network (HKBN) participated in the mentorship program "Fly High with Us 2011-2014" organized by Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups. 23 HKBN Talents enrolled to become mentors for 29 local teenagers from underprivileged families in Kwai Chung, our neighborhood district. To prepare for the challenge, all Talents undertook a one-year mentorship training course held by Quality Mentorship Network. Since the program kicked off in October 2011, they engaged in a number of activities with their mentees. As both teachers and friends, all Talents put their hearts into the program to help these youngsters spread their wings in their adolescence, while learning about giving from this worthwhile experience.

2011

Oct - Start :
Mentor application and selection

2012

Feb - First meeting between
mentors and mentees



May - Program inauguration
ceremony

Jul - Volunteer activity



Clam digging & BBQ



Mentees and mentors having buffet lunch together



Delivering rice to the underprivileged elderly

Aug - Nov - Outdoor activities



HKBN management experiential trip to the US



Company visit: Cisco



Team building at the Grand Canyon



Christmas party



Dec - Celebrating festive occasions together



A cappella performance at HKBN Christmas party

2013

Feb - Lunar New Year party



Apr - Cycling day

Apr - Public speaking workshop



More are coming...



I never thought I could make such a difference to a teenager's life. One of my mentees told me on my birthday that she was very happy to have me as her mentor because I changed her mindset. She said from then on she would no longer be pessimistic and would have the courage to face difficulties. I am absolutely surprised and amazed by her changes.

I really enjoy the company of my two mentees as I am exposed to many creative ideas, as well as the joy and vigor coming from them. We really cherish, care and support each other.



Iris Chau / Mentor
Administration Assistant



Joyce Cheng / Mentee

Aged 17, Form 6,
Mentee of Iris Chau

This program changed my relationship with my daughter. In the past, I didn't understand why my 14-year old girl always ignored me. After joining the mentorship program, I had a better understanding of the teenagers, and I talked with and listened to them without a "father's judgment". It dawned on me that I could be a friend to my daughter too, just like I am to my mentee. The program made me a better father.

I really appreciate and admire the mentors' commitment, because they did not have the obligation to take care of us. It came purely from their hearts. Moreover, this mentorship program opened up a pathway for me to think and reflect on my goals and dreams before the releasing of examination results, so that I will have less chance of regret after. This is something that I am really grateful.



Chong Wai Keung / Mentor
Visual Editor



John Chong / Mentor

Chief Operating Officer -
Enterprise Solutions and Carrier Business

We mentors in fact received more than we gave. When I guided my mentee to set goals for his life, I also reviewed mine. That was why soon afterwards I joined the half-marathon, got together with old friends who I hadn't met for a long time, as well as stepped up my volunteering work for charity organizations. Mentoring the youths in fact reshaped my life too.

Within six months our relationship transformed from perfect strangers to friends. We talk about almost everything, from popular teenage topics to serious life lessons. I also shared my life experiences with my mentee, with the hope of supporting him through his growth and maturity.



Alfred Au / Mentor

Account Manager - Enterprise Solutions



Karsten Cheng / Mentee

Aged 17, Form 5,
Mentee of Alfred Au

My mentor not only guided me in times of trouble, but also helped me grow as a person. I couldn't thank him enough for being my mentor and such a wonderful friend. This program allows us to have fun and acts as a stress release. Activities such as bike riding, buffet meal and a cappella performance helped us improve our social skills and expand our circle of connection, as opposed to hibernating at home during weekends.

I can hardly believe that I have already joined this mentorship program for nearly a year, and I am now the mentor of two secondary school students!

The first meeting with my first mentee Ah Yan left a lasting impression. At the very beginning, I had no idea how to start mentoring my mentee. Until March 2012, I happened to notice that HKFYG was recruiting volunteers in Kwai Chung to distribute rice to the elderly. I immediately thought of inviting Ah Yan to take part in this activity together. Ah Yan accepted my invitation without hesitation.

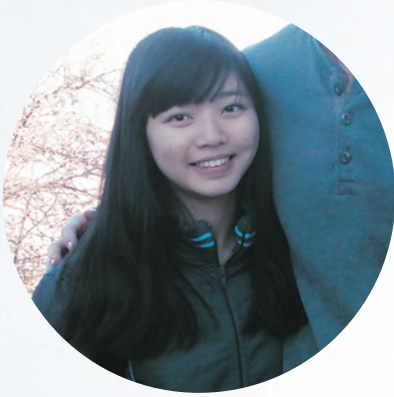
It turned out to be a tough job to both of us - we each had to deliver two bags of rice weighing 14 kilos in total to the homes of the designated elderly. In order not to give a wrong impression to Ah Yan that life is easy with just a wave of hand, I suppressed the thought of taking a taxi, and we took public transport together to do the rice delivery. Unexpectedly, the bus trip made a good opportunity for us to start chatting and knowing each other. That was how we began to bond.

Although I have only known my second mentee for a shorter time, I was taken by surprise when I received a greeting card from her last Christmas. She wrote on the card: "I am thankful for having you as my mentor! Very happy!" Another mentee who was not mentored by me also sent me a card which reads "Although we have just got to know each other for a short period of time, you are so kind to me, and I am very glad to have met you!" I was so moved that I came close to tears... Mentorship is long-term program, and I would continue my learning in getting along with the youngsters, and being a better mentor.



Cindy Fan / Mentor

Associate Director -
Customer Care & Online Services



Tracy Lee / Mentee

Aged 17, Form 6,
After her first trip to the US with
75 HKBN management in
November 2012

The visit to Zappos made me understand that creativity is boundless, and we do not need to stick to the old ways all the time. Things may turn out better if we learn to be more versatile and look for solutions from a new perspective. As long as we are willing to try new things, we might get something unexpected in the end!

As a student studying Business Management and Economics, visits to two multinational companies - Cisco and Zappos - certainly expanded my horizon. I learnt a lot and look forward to applying what I learnt in my life. The trip also stimulated my creative thinking.



Phillis Lau / Mentee

Aged 16, Form 4,
One of the two mentees joining
HKBN experiential
management trip to the US

I joined the program to help teenagers in need and to share with them my experience. My mentee Chee-chun and I get much closer and he even introduced his friends to me. I expect our friendship to grow stronger as time goes by.



Ryan Fung / Mentor

Senior Engineer - Network Operation

I visited a mentee's house. They don't own a camera, not even a single family photo. The only thing hanging on their wall is a self-drawn family portrait. Despite the lack of materialistic luxuries, they enjoy life... What we should do is to help develop the new generation, and give these teenagers the opportunity to pursue their dreams.



Annie Sin / Mentor

Director - Administration & CSR