

## **Family Council**

### **Progress of Work of the Sub-committees under the Family Council**

#### **PURPOSE**

This paper invites Members to note the progress of work of the Sub-committees under the Family Council (the Council).

#### **SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF FAMILY CORE VALUES AND FAMILY EDUCATION**

2. The Sub-committee on the Promotion of Family Core Values and Family Education (the Promotion Sub-committee) held a meeting on 30 July 2015. In brief, the Promotion Sub-committee deliberated on the production of family education package for new arrival families as well as monitored the progress on the publicity work of the family education package for families with newborn babies.

##### *Family Education Package for New Arrival Families*

3. The family education package for new arrival families covers the themes of marital relationship, parenting and inter-generational support. In examining the rough cut, the Promotion Sub-committee was in general pleased with the quality of the education package and suggested to present the advice of expert in a more lively way. Upon further editing, the education package is expected to be uploaded onto the “Happy Info Hub” in September 2015.

4. The Promotion Sub-committee also noted that the video would be broadcast at 31 Maternal and Child Health Centres (MCHCs) under the Department of Health and 65 Integrated Family Services Centres (IFSCs) under the Social Welfare Department (SWD). As one of the episodes covered families of ethnic minorities, the Promotion Sub-committee agreed

that the relevant episode should also be broadcast in six support service centres and two sub-centres for ethnic minorities.

#### *Family Education Package for Families with Newborn Babies*

5. The family education package for families with newborn babies (the package) has been launched in May 2015. The Promotion Sub-committee was pleased with the positive response and the wide press coverage. The baby journals<sup>1</sup> (寶寶成長日記) are being distributed to mothers-to-be registered at the MCHCs for ante-natal service from mid-June 2015 onwards. In collaboration with the Boys and Girls Clubs Association of Hong Kong, two workshops<sup>2</sup> have been organised in June and July 2015. A set of souvenirs including mommy tote bag, plastic folder and USB drive was distributed to participants of the workshops. In view of the good response, the Council Secretariat has already explored with SWD in organising related workshops and distributing the souvenirs in IFSCs.

### **SUB-COMMITTEE ON FAMILY SUPPORT**

6. The Sub-committee on Family Support (Support Sub-committee) met on 16 July 2015. Amongst others, the Support Sub-committee discussed the publicity work to promote parental responsibility of divorced parents being undertaken by SWD as well as the study on family mediation services in Hong Kong.

#### *Promotion of Parental Responsibility of Divorced Parents*

7. In the context of the study on “The Phenomenon of Divorce in Hong Kong”, the Support Sub-committee deliberated on the publicity work to promote parental responsibility of divorced parents. The Support Sub-committee welcomed the publicity work currently undertaken by SWD and invited the Council Secretariat to explore more collaboration opportunities with SWD in promoting parental responsibility of divorced parents.

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<sup>1</sup> The baby journals aim to provide tips to parents of newborn babies and record important milestone events of the newborn babies.

<sup>2</sup> A total of 18 workshops are being organised in 18 districts from June 2015 to mid-2016. The workshops aim to provide tips on “parenting”, “marital relationship” and “inter-generational support”.

*Study on “Family Mediation Services in Hong Kong”*

8. The Support Sub-committee noted that the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) was commissioned to conduct the study on “Family Mediation Services in Hong Kong” (the Study) with the following objectives –

- (a) to give an overview of the family mediation services in Hong Kong;
- (b) to review the Pilot Scheme on Family Mediation Services (Pilot Scheme); and
- (c) to give policy recommendations on future development of family mediation services in Hong Kong.

The Support Committee endorsed the research design, sampling procedures, format of focus group discussions as well as time schedule of the Study. CUHK was expected to submit the report in mid-2016 for deliberations by the Support Sub-committee.

## **WAY FORWARD**

9. The Sub-committees will continue to oversee their respective programmes and activities. Members are welcome to convey their comments and suggestions to the Secretariat.

**Family Council Secretariat**  
**August 2015**