

# PROJECTS FOR HAPPINESS

## 2015



### Application Form

Literacy Catch-up Programme  
Pow Yih Ling  
Bachelor of Psychology (HONS)  
November 14, 2015

HELP University  
Maybank  
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#### INTRODUCTION

School children who come from underprivileged backgrounds are disadvantaged in life. They do not have access or the opportunities to do well academically. They usually drop out of school and eventually get involved in crime, due to their low socio-economic status.

According to an Annie E. Casey Foundation report, children who don't read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma than students who are reading on grade level. (D. Hernandez, 2011).

According to data given in the Malaysian education blueprint and PISA 2012, the average performance in reading of Malaysian 15-year-olds is 98 points lower than the average of OECD countries, ranked 58/64.

And so The RE:ED Project (<https://www.facebook.com/thereedproject>) was established in 2013 to help these needy students have a better chance at success both in school and in life.

#### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The RE:ED Project is a student-led community organization whose goals are to: 1) To give underprivileged students equal opportunity to education, and 2) To help these students see beyond their circumstances

We are interested in seeing long-term improvements. By helping these students now, we will also indirectly help their future generations. We seek to end this cycle of poverty.

The Literacy Catch-up Programme was introduced to do so.

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## ACTIVITIES AND TASKS

Our programme involves tutoring the students one-to-one or in small groups

The success of the program depends on the following components: (1) stringent guidelines for screening mentors, (2) required orientation for all mentors, (3) assessment process that includes home visits and interviews with parents and youths, (4) matching process to find the best match for youth and mentor, and (5) supervision and support of mentoring relationship by program staff.

Our strategies include focusing on mentoring and tutoring. Our programme currently also targets young primary-level children. Starting while they are still at such a young age will produce greater long-term results, thus impacting the school and community. We are collaborating with a school, so our programme will be held in a safe learning environment.

Each student will be matched to one tutor that is best suited for the student. If there are not enough volunteers, the students will be tutored together in small groups. There will be schedules for assessments for the students and an individual learning plan (ILP) is developed that identifies literacy benchmarks and goals. The tutor creates a tutoring schedule for each student. All tutoring session will be held in one of the classrooms of the school of the students, Sekolah Kebangsaan Setapak Jaya.

We will tutor the students two and a half hours each week.

## PROJECTS BENEFICIARIES

- Low-income underachieving students in Sekolah Kebangsaan Setapak Jaya who are academically and economically at-risk and have the greatest risk for behavioral problems

## EXPECTED PROJECT RESULTS

1. Decreased percentages of truancy, absenteeism, discipline problems, and increased retentions
2. Increased students' grade point averages
3. Increased percentages of students who are on grade level and students who graduate on time
4. Better attitudes of students towards school, schoolwork and learning

## PROJECT TIMELINE

May – June – Volunteer Recruitment  
(Attracting people to join us and volunteer)

June 13<sup>th</sup> – Volunteer Induction Programme Batch 1  
(Briefing and training for new volunteers)

June 20<sup>th</sup> – August 29<sup>th</sup> – Literacy Catch-up Programme at Sekolah Kebangsaan Setapak Jaya  
(The project runs)

September 5<sup>th</sup> – Volunteer Induction Programme Batch 2  
(Briefing and training for new and returning volunteers)

September 6<sup>th</sup> – November 8<sup>th</sup> – Literacy Catch-up Programme at Sekolah Kebangsaan Setapak Jaya  
(The project runs)

November 14<sup>th</sup> – Year-end Field trip  
(Taking students out for a field trip, expanding their learning experiences and broadening their horizons)

## BUDGET

<b>Direct Equipment and Supplies</b>	3094
<b>Marketing and Event Support</b>	212
<b>Staffing Costs</b>	0
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	493
<b>Travel</b>	700
<b>Total</b>	<b>4499</b>

