



It pays to be a member!

A brand new year spells a new and better beginning – and we want to encourage more to join our fold and share the good news!

The new recruitment campaign, codenamed “HCSSU 2006 Membership Blitz”, was officially launched on 21 January 2006. 200 Exco and Branch committee leaders and members turned up. Speaking at the launch, Ms Janet Khoo, Chairman of the Membership Subcommittee, thanked all for contributing to the success of the 2005 campaign, which brought in more than 1,000 new members in 2005.

With the new target set at 1,400 new members, she urged the active participation of members to recruit more members for the union. HCSSU also launched the new Certified Recruiters’ Scheme, which pays a higher incentive of \$10 for each member recruited, for those who are keen to recruit on a regular basis.

This year’s Recruitment Campaign will last till 30 September 2006, and the prizes are even more attractive! As the one who introduced a new member, will receive a \$5 NTUC Voucher each. The top three recruiting branches will even receive cash prizes of \$500, \$300 and \$200 respectively!

What’s more, all members who sign up during the campaign period will be eligible to participate in the HCSSU Members’ Draw



2006, which will be conducted during the Dinner and Dance in November. Members stand to win the top prize – a trip for two to Gold Coast Australia; or a trip for two to Hong Kong for the second prize; and the third prize is a trip for two to Bangkok. There will also be another 30 consolation prizes of \$100 each.

One highlight of the 2006 launch was adrenaline-pumping e-Draw for the HCSSU Membership Extravaganza 2005. The top prize winner, Mr Koh Kim Hong from IMH walked away \$1,000 richer! The second and third prize winners won \$500 and \$300 respectively.

Here are the winners:

First Prize: Mr Koh Kim Hong (IMH)
SXXX6041F

Second Prize: Ms Kala d/o Narayanasamy (TTSH)
SXXX8858G

Third Prize: Ms Soh See Mui (KKH)
SXXX4354Z

Consolation prizes of \$100 each were given away to 30 lucky winners.

Build Membership and Earn Extra!

Here’s your chance! HCSSU is looking for YOU to join our ranks.

HCSSU has launched the Certified Recruiter Scheme and invites all interested HCSSU members to join the scheme. Modelled after schemes adopted by companies in the insurance industry, HCSSU recruiters can expect to gain not just monetary appreciation, but more importantly, attain intrinsic rewards too.

For each member recruited, and following a successful GIRO deduction, the certified HCSSU recruiter will receive \$10. He/She who has recruited at least 20 members as at 31 August 2006 will be invited to the HCSSU Recruiters’ Summit, which may take place either locally or overseas. Conditions for a minimum number of qualifiers apply.

Interested members are invited to register for the Scheme by filling up the registration forms and submitting to the Branch Office or Union HQ. You may also call 6326 5360.



The first Certified Recruiter Course was held on 18 Feb 2006 at SGH. 13 attended the course and 10 have been appointed as Certified Recruiters and have received their appointment letters.

Congratulations!





Word from the GS

Diana Chia

2005 was a good year for the Singapore economy which grew by a better than expected rate of 6.4%. Our members enjoyed wage increases and bonuses commensurating with the contributions of the healthcare sector. Barring any major incidents, we expect 2006 to continue to register good growth and our members to enjoy our fair share of the rewards.

On the Union front, we promise you an exciting year ahead.

Please mark 18 November 2006 in your calendar. Due to popular demand, we will be holding our Dinner and Dance at the Suntec City. Look out for the posters for more details.

Our previous membership campaign has ended. We recruited about 1000 members for whole of 2005. Congratulations to all the winners of the Members' Draw. We have launched the new recruitment campaign with more exciting prizes and incentives. I urge every member to do their part to build up the union by helping to recruit more members.

We are also working on the individual savings scheme. Starting with our members in the SingHealth cluster, we will help our members open a NTUC Thrift subscription account and deposit \$10 into their savings account. The NTUC Thrift subscription account will earn members dividends while the savings account will earn them interest. Members can also set aside a regular sum of money in the savings account to earn more attractive interest. These savings will serve us well in good and bad times. NTUC Thrift will conduct talks on the various savings scheme to our members. We are also in talks with the management of the NHG cluster so that our members in the NHG cluster will benefit from the savings scheme too.

On the wider front, the union has representatives in the tripartite committees to re-create jobs for Singaporeans and increase the employability of older workers. We will continue to represent your interests and be the voice of the workers in the healthcare sector.

I look forward to your active participation in our activities.

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Have You Bagged Your Gift?

Big and roomy, handy and mobile...and words cannot describe it enough! We are, of course, talking about the Union Gift to members – a cabin bag!

With double-zips for secure locking, the spacious interior is big enough to hold your travel knick-knacks for a quick

get-away. It features various compartments for easier storage and better organisation so that you will not forget where you packed that neck scarf. To top it off, there's an easier way to move your luggage around – by pulling it! With the in-built handle and roller wheels at the bottom of the bag, it definitely makes carting your bag around hassle-free.

The gift has received raving praises from many members. Said one of those who has given the thumbs-up, Mr Frankel Ng, "I would like to thank the Union for the wonderful gift we've been receiving every year. This gift is really useful and many of us are really thrilled with it. This year's gift is one of the best so far!"

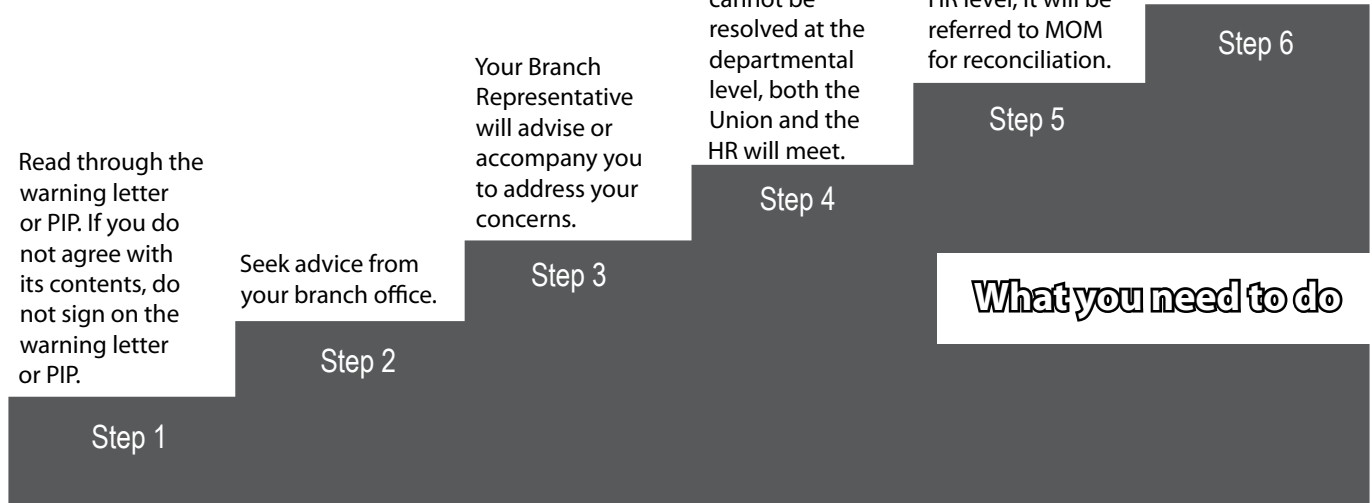
Be excited too! Your union gift is now ready for collection at the Branch Office. Hurry!

For more enquiries, please call 6321 3803.



If You Are NOT Sure...

Do you know that you can ask the Union for advice or representations if you have been issued a warning letter or a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP)?



Our Member Says...

Ms Tan CH was hospitalised a few months ago for four days due to an accident, and upon her discharge, she found out that she was entitled to the hospitalisation benefit of \$25 per day of stay at the hospital. For all the help and assistance rendered to her, Ms Tan wrote to the Union to convey her heartfelt thanks.

“Joining the Union is great! I get to enjoy the benefits of having discounted prices when booking resorts at Downtown and so much more. I would like to share my experience. A few months ago, I was admitted to hospital due to an accident and stayed in hospital for four days. When I was discharged, by word of mouth, I got to know that I can submit a claim of \$25 for each day of warding under the hospitalisation benefit. Hence I went to the Union office to submit my claims and for those four days, I was entitled to \$100. Although it was not much, it still came as a surprise relief for me. I really would like to thank the Union for having such benefits in place.”

Yours truly,
Tan CH, TTSH

Being a HCSSU member has its perks, and as an appreciative Ms Tan has experienced, she was entitled to submit a claim of \$25 per day under the HCSSU Welfare Benefits, Mutual Aid Scheme III (Hospitalisation Benefits).

	Scheme I and II Cash benefits ranging from \$75 - \$2,000 for death and disability of member, member's spouse or child.	SLF Insurance Gift Plus Cash benefits ranging from \$250 - \$30,000 for death and disability of member or member's spouse. * Policy covers eligible members and their spouses up to 65 years of age.
	Mutual Aid Scheme III (Hospitalisation Benefits) First ten days: \$25 per day Eleventh day to fifty-two weeks: \$35 per day Additional cash benefits of \$20,000 for permanent disability or loss of life as a result of accident after working hours.	WELFARE BENEFITS

Union Absorbs Fee Increase

NTUC has revised the union subscription fees from \$8 to \$9 per month with effect from 1 January 2006. The change is applicable to all affiliated unions.

HCSSU will top up the \$1 fee increase from January to June 2006 for members who sign up the GIRO conversion forms for successful deduction by June 2006. The \$6 membership fee rebate will be credited into the bank accounts of members in August 2006.



Time To Go **GIRO!**

In line with NTUC's move towards a seamless membership, HCSSU has been embarking on a series of road shows for members to sign up for GIRO deduction of their subscription fees.

The good news is, the Union will be crediting a \$5 GIRO incentive and a \$6 membership fee rebate into the bank accounts of members who sign up using the GIRO conversion forms for successful deduction on or before June 2006. So hurry and take advantage of this cash-back rebate!

If you have not signed up for GIRO, please approach your branch office or call Union HQ at 6321 3803.

** The credit will take place in August 2006.*

Reinstate Your Membership Today!

Did you drop out from membership in 2005? Here's your chance to reinstate your membership!

You may have forgotten to hand in your check-off forms for deductions of subscription fees from your salaries, or you may have submitted incomplete forms, and thus had your membership cancelled. We would like to extend our invitation to you to rejoin the Union.

The EXCO has decided to grant a one-off subscription fee reprieve by collecting three months' arrears in subscription fees for the reinstatement of membership. This amounts to \$24. Members are also required to pay their arrears in subscription fees for 2006.

You will be entitled to the union gift, although this will be based on availability of the bags. Members will be required to sign the GIRO conversion forms too. The deadline for the payment of arrears and signing of the GIRO forms is 31 March 2006.

Please call 6321 3803 for further enquiries.

Calling all Union members who are



Singapore PRs!

If you have just received your Singapore PR status, you may be eligible for HCSSU OB membership. As an OB Member, you can enjoy Hospitalisation Benefit, Orchid Country Club Pass, Union representation, union gift, participate in HCSSU activities and more!

For more information, please call us at 6321 3803.



Members enjoying a virtual tennis game at the SGH Roadshows in August 2005



Non-members signing up as members at the SGH Roadshows in August 2005



Member enjoying a Steady Hands game at the SGH Roadshows



Members enjoying the sumptuous spread Members' Nite at CGH

Our branches have been busy organising activities and roadshows for their members. Catch glimpses of these events in these photo specials.



Root Beer Challenge at CGH Member's Nite



Hip Hop Dance at CGH Member's Nite



Trying their hands at the putting game at Friday Nite Fever at SGH on 23 Sep 05



Henna at Friday Nite Fever at SGH

BRANCH ACTIVITIES



Guess the Marble at Friday Nite Fever at SGH



Who is the cutest baby? - SGH Friday Nite Fever



Dance items - SGH Friday Nite Fever



We hope to see you again at the next round of Branch Activities



Lucky Draw winners - SGH Friday Nite Fever



Some of the 60 new members who sign up for membership at the AH Roadshows



Member signing up for GIRO deduction of subscription fees



Enthusiastic responses to the KKH Roadshows

We give u the REASON, U watch the MOVIES



Mission Impossible, Finding Nemo, King Kong... familiar titles that speak a common language – the language of movies! And if you recognise these household names, you speak the language too! Welcome to the club, where you, the privileged movie-goer can enjoy even better benefits now.

U Movies is a movies lifestyle club exclusively for Union Members.

Members of the club can look forward to great savings on great deals for blockbuster movies, exclusive film previews and free drive-in movies... You can engage in the forum and share box office reviews with like-minded people like yourself. What's more, you can expect regular contests with attractive movie screenings and premiums waiting to be won!

U Movies membership is absolutely FREE for Union Members, so visit the website now at <http://www.ntuc.org.sg/umovies/> and sign up now! You don't know what you have missed out on!

And if you haven't already known, U Movies proudly presents Shaw movie vouchers at a special rate of S\$7.50 for members. For the avid

movie-goers, this will translate into savings of up to \$2! To make the deal sweeter, you can use the movie vouchers on **ANY** day of the week, **ANY** time you desire, at all Shaw Cinemas in Singapore. All you have to do is to pick the movie!

* Whilst stocks last. Terms and conditions apply.

LinkPoints Movie Specials for Union Members

You can now redeem Eng Wah movie vouchers with your LinkPoints!

First 100 vouchers in a quarter	840 LinkPoints
Thereafter	1,200 LinkPoints

* Visit www.linkpoints.com.sg for more details.



Come TRAVEL With Us!

Do you like to travel, but find it hard to hook up with like-minded people? Time to celebrate now, for NTUC has launched UTravel, a special interest cluster developed with members in mind. It aims to reach out to members by tapping on their common interest in travelling!

Not only do members get to enjoy great discounts at selected popular Asian Hotels and resorts, special land and airfare package deals, you also get to enjoy monthly promotions and events. U Travel also serves as an interactive platform between NTUC and members, where your interests are better understood and converted to practical action.

Drop by the website at www.ntuc.org.sg/utrade and you will find useful information such as Worldwide City Guides and Travellers' Tips, currency converter, health advice and travel guides. The interactive website also features a forum to allow members to discuss and contribute their travelling experiences, as well as a photo gallery to share photos!

You don't need to go overseas to see the world, let your eyes and fingers do the travelling today!

*U Travel membership is only applicable to Union Members. Visit www.ntuc.org.sg/utrade or email utrade@ntuc.org.sg for more details.

E-Learning Makes Things Easier!



Photo Credit: NTUC This Week

Say the word "orientation" and images of being bombarded with relentless information while being shown around hurriedly are conjured in everyone's minds. How do we overcome the problem of having to remember all that was conveyed?

Well, ask HCSSU! Through a joint effort with the Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), a new e-learning system is now in place and new staff will only require one day to familiarise themselves with the hospital. To top it all, they will have the opportunity to learn more about HCSSU too.

In the past, new staff at TTSH used to spend two full days in the classroom learning about various aspects of the hospital's operations as part of their orientation.

Through this e-Learning module, the new staff will be introduced

They deserve a pat on their backs!

They are Our Model Workers...

- Mdm Sim Lee Kian
Health Care Attendant
Changi General Hospital Pte Ltd
- Mr Rodrigues Basil
Technical Assistant
Tan Tock Seng Hospital Pte Ltd
- Mdm Sumathi d/o Subramaniam
Administrative Assistant
National Heart Centre
- Mdm Chan Yoke Ying
Ward Clerk
KK Women's & Children's Hospital
- Mr Abdul Aziz B Mohamad
Patient Service Clerk
Singapore General Hospital Pte Ltd



“Attitude – the key that makes a difference in this world of competition,” said Mr Lim Swee Say, Minister, Prime Minister’s Office and Deputy Secretary-General of NTUC. He went on to stress that with the right attitude, workers will be able to keep up with rapid changes around them and excel in their jobs.

Mr Lim was speaking at the Singapore Labour Foundation Educational Tours Award Presentation 2005 held on 13 August 2005 at the NTUC Auditorium. As the Guest-of-Honour, he drew example from the National Day Theme, ‘Dynamic Economy, Resilient Workforce’ and exemplified the 100 model workers as living evidence of role models for the Singapore workforce. “You have demonstrated resilience, excellent work attitudes and ability to adapt to changing conditions.”

This year’s recipients were selected from 133 companies for the prestigious award, amongst whom were five HCSSU members. As part of the award, these model workers visited Shanghai, Hangzhou and Suzhou in China over six days in September. They were led by delegation leaders NTUC Central Committee Members Mr Thomas Thomas and Ms Diana Chia, who is also HCSSU General Secretary.

A Star Pupil, A Shining Example

Forty years old and a star pupil? Says who you can’t be one after leaving school? Ms Narinder Kaur has shown the way.

Not only did she graduate from the Ong Teng Cheong Institute of Labour Studies-Singapore Institute of Management Diploma in Employment Relations (DER) programme on 12 November 2005, Ms Kaur, a clerk with the Singapore General Hospital, emerged a double winner of the inaugural Seah Mui Kok Book Prize and the Philips Book Prize, as well as one of the five awardees of the Ong Teng Cheong Education and Training Fund (OTC ETF) Study Award.

Said the HCSSU branch official, “It’s been great fun and I had an enjoyable time with my fellow course mates.” Optimistic words spoken by someone who has braved some upheavals along the way. In between her studies, she had to balance her work, family and fulfil her responsibilities at the union. Not to mention the ankle injury she was nursing while hobbling to and fro her classes and projects.

Ms Kaur has since enrolled in a degree course in her further quest for knowledge. All the Best!



Photo Credit: NTUC This Week

Branch Officials Recognition Awards



(From left) Cher Meng and Jessica

Two of HCSSU members were accorded the honour of receiving the Branch Officials Recognition Award from Guest-of-Honour, NTUC Deputy Secretary-General Mr Lim Swee Say, at the Hotel Inter-Continental Singapore. Ms Jessica Tan and Ms Chua Cher Meng were part of the 64 unionists lauded for their efforts in impacting the union members. The presentation ceremony was held on 8 August 2005.

Branded as a pool of dedicated union leaders, Mr Lim praised, “You don’t get extra pay, there’s no career advancement in the labour movement but you do it because you believe that we can make a difference to the life of the workers.” Mr Lim also urged more branch officials to follow in their footsteps, dedicate themselves to serving the labour movement and further the interests of the workers.

The 64 awardees went on a sponsored four-day learning trip to Bangkok in September where they interacted and exchanged ideas with the Thai Unions.

to key union officials, be tested on their knowledge through a question-and-answer segment and more importantly, learn more about the benefits of union membership.

Said HCSSU General Secretary Diana Chia, “The joint collaboration highlights our close co-operation and is another example of the good relationship between the Union and the Management.”

TTSH Human Resource Director Serene Tan agreed. She commented that the e-learning system not only acts as a platform to reach out to all new employees, but that the union can now play an even more active role during the orientation programme.

Work had begun in October 2005. The Union came up with the content material and script for the voiceovers while the management facilitated the recording and editing sessions.

Besides working on an easy-to-use and interactive platform, new staff can study at their own pace, whenever they want. Said Clinical Standards and Improvement Executive Chloe Lee, “It’s quite informative. The best part is, we can use our own time and access it anywhere in our free time.”



coming events!

What: Dinner and Dance 2006

Date: 18 November 2006

Venue: Suntec City

Keep watching this space for more details!

Quiz Winner!

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Ms Angela Tan Gek Lian, IC Number SXXX5588J! She has won a \$20 NTUC voucher.

it's QUIZ TIME!

First five correct entries win prizes worth \$20 each!
Circle the correct answers:

Q1. What is the union gift that we are giving away this year?

- a) Wallet
- b) Cabin Bag
- c) Pen

Q2. When will the GIRO rebates and incentives be credited to members' accounts for those who have signed the GIRO conversion form?

- a) January 2006
- b) May 2006
- c) August 2006

Q3. What is the name of the new recruitment campaign?

- a) HCSSU 2006 Membership Blitz
- b) HCSSU Membership Extravaganza 2006
- c) HCSSU Membership Campaign

Q4. What is the incentive amount for each member recruited by a Certified Recruiter?

- a) \$5
- b) \$8
- c) \$10

Please mail your entry to: HCSSU, Union HQ, No 8 Level 1, Housemen Qrts,
3rd Hospital Avenue, Singapore General Hospital, Singapore 169608

Terms & Conditions

1. Closing date of the quiz is 15 April 2006. No entries will be admitted after closing date.
2. The first 5 correct entries to be drawn will win a \$20 voucher each.
3. This quiz is strictly open to HCSSU OB union members only. Exco members, HCSSU staff and the Editorial Committee Members of HCSSU Newsletter are not eligible to participate.
4. Only one entry per member is allowed.
5. The decision of the committee is final.

Name: _____

Contact: _____

NRIC No.: _____

Institution: _____



We want to
Hear from you...

Get Your HCSSU News Update via Email!

You can now opt to receive your HCSSU newsletter via email! Just email to newsletter@hcssu.org.sg with your full name, NRIC number and institution, with the subject heading "HCSSU Online Subscription". Once you have subscribed, you will also get quicker periodical updates on union news, events and members' only special offers. Sign up now and help in our efforts to save the earth!

Log on to www.hcssu.org.sg for details. Members who sign up for the electronic version of the newsletter will no longer receive the hardcopy version.

Have you changed your address?

Please fill in this coupon if you have changed your address.

Name: _____

NRIC No.: _____

Institution: _____

New Address: _____

Send this to:

HCSSU, Union HQ
No. 8 Level 1 Housemen Qrts
3rd Hospital Avenue
Singapore General Hospital
Singapore 169608

