

SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2004
COMMUNITY AND YOUTH SERVICES (INDIVIDUAL)

MR LEE HONG CHUANG



"I lead a balanced life-style, combining work, community service, sports and family. You can always find the time for volunteer work. Do volunteer at least once in a lifetime, and you will be surprised at the immeasurable joy you will gain."

In 1989, Mr Lee Hong Chuang signed up to be a volunteer Children's Camp Instructor at the Teck Ghee Community Club (CC) Youth Executive Committee (YEC), under the umbrella of the People's Association Youth Movement (PAYM), the largest youth organisation in Singapore. Since then, Hong Chuang has continued to expand the scope of his volunteer work while juggling with the demands of his job and family.



Hong Chuang is currently Chairman of the Teck Ghee CC YEC and the PAYM Central Youth Council (CYC). He developed training roadmaps, and initiated training workshops for YEC members, among other volunteer development initiatives. In his 14 years with PAYM, Hong Chuang has spearheaded various flagship programmes to promote community bonding and volunteerism among youths, such as the popular Make-A-Wish project. The Make-A-Wish project has involved over 20,000 YEC members and student volunteers who have helped to fulfil wishes of more than 8,000 beneficiaries since it was first organised in 1996.

Hong Chuang has been fetching a disabled colleague to and from work since he joined Hewlett Packard (HP) in 1997. He also helped to galvanise corporate volunteerism at his workplace which has co-organised and sponsored the 'Make-A-Wish' project since 2002. Nominated by his manager at HP, Hong Chuang was named Young Executive of the Year by the Rotary Club of Singapore North in 2001.



A former national gymnast and a brevet Federation International Gymnastics (FIG) judge, Hong Chuang has been a volunteer gymnastics coach since 1987. He was also Team Manager of the Singapore Gymnastics Contingent for the 2001 and 2003 South East Asian (SEA) Games. Hong Chuang was elected as President of the Singapore Amateur Gymnastics Association from 2001 to 2003. Under his leadership, the Singapore Gymnastics Contingent achieved one of its best performance to date at the 2003 SEA Games in Vietnam, winning three silvers and one bronze. Singapore last won a SEA Games bronze medal in gymnastics 10 years ago in 1993.

For his dedication to and excellence in community service, and for his efforts in inspiring and motivating others to become volunteers, Mr Lee Hong Chuang is awarded the Singapore Youth Award 2004.