

CSD holds musical drama kick-off show for "Own Your Life" campaign

To promote community education, the Correctional Services Department's (CSD) Rehabilitation Pioneer Project (RPP) and the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong organised a musical drama campaign called "Own Your Life" this year. The kick-off show was held at the Jockey Club Auditorium of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University today (October 9).

The Secretary for Education, Mr Kevin Yeung, and the President of the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong, Dr Dennis Ng, attended the show. Around 780 teachers and students from nine secondary schools, together with principals, parents, social workers, members of the District Fight Crime Committee and other partners of the CSD attended the event.

The "Own Your Life" campaign is a half-year programme conducted in three phases, namely, a kick-off show, workshops, and a gala show. The kick-off show was performed as an interactive musical drama modeled on the difficulties and temptations youngsters face in their daily lives. The show was enhanced by the inclusion of well-known pop songs in the performance for the young audience. During the performance, students and guests were invited to play a role in the story, and express their point of view toward the dilemma faced by the main character. The CSD also arranged a rehabilitated person to share his experience so that students could consider the heavy price to pay for committing crime.

The CSD has endeavoured to collaborate with schools and social service organisations to promote community education. The department aims to help students and young people by disseminating messages about the benefits of leading a law-abiding and drug-free life as well as supporting offender rehabilitation.

Starting from September 2008, the CSD launched RPP, targeting at secondary school students and youngsters. A series of activities have been organised, such as education talks, the Personal Encounter with Prisoners Scheme, the Green Haven Scheme, visits to the Hong Kong Correctional Services Museum, an extended training camp, a student forum, a drama and music performance of "Creation and Rehabilitation", the "Reflective Path" and summer camp. In 2018, the attendance of various activities under the project totalled more than 48,000 including students, teachers and social workers.