

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE

LUNCH FORUMS AND SEMINARS

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY NEW YEAR PARTY AND NETWORKING EVENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

LUNCH FORUMS AND SEMINARS

Since its official launch, the Women's Leadership Program (WLP) Cohort 8 participants have been busy engaging in a myriad of leadership skill development seminars such as gender training, sustainable development, leadership and communications. Participants have reported that they are pleased with the guest speakers and that it has been inspiring and informative.

"I am really enjoying the program and appreciate the opportunity to be a part of it. The seminars have been great and very informative so far." - Buyandelger Battumur.

Aside from the seminars, another major part of the program are the lunch forums with women leaders of Mongolia. Ms. Solongoo Bayarsaikhan, Vice Minister of Justice and Home Affairs, spoke about her leadership experience and journey with the participants over lunch. Lunch forums have proved to play a significant role in increasing the participants' understanding of leadership in Mongolia.

THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES OF THE WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



Our distinguished guests from the past few months have included:

- Dr. Oyun Sanjaasuren, Director of External Affairs, Green Climate Fund
- Mr. Walter Jenkins, President of Zorig Foundation USA

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY NEW YEAR PARTY AND NETWORKING EVENT

One of the highlights of the WLP is the networking events, in which the participants have the opportunity to interact and network with a variety of people. The Australian community New Year party and networking event took place on the 7th of December and was attended by representatives of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Mongolia-Australia Society (MOZZIES), Australia Awards-Mongolia (AAM), Zorig Foundation, Women in Executive Leadership Development Short Course 2021 graduates, Australian Chamber of Commerce Mongolia and WLP participants. Mr. David Preston, First Secretary of the Australian Embassy in Mongolia, Mrs. Enkhtuvshin Lunden, Country Program Manager of AAM and Mr. Lut-Ochir Tsegmed, CEO of Mozzies Association, officially opened the event.

All guests celebrated the New Year and networked within the Australian community whilst enjoying musical performances, stand up comedy and also participated in a fun lottery gift competition.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Another major component of the program is the Community Development Projects (CDPs) that the participants are to implement. Based on all their respective interests, Cohort 8 participants have divided into four groups, and are now preparing to commence their projects. These four projects are:

A*READ - which aims to promote literacy, language and socio-communication skills of children with disabilities (especially children who are unable to adequately express themselves verbally) in Mongolia through free, adapted, digital literature websites and video instructions to parents on how to utilize them. The project will also aim to distribute printed copies for those who are unable to access the book online.

"Autism is not a disability, it's a different ability (Stuart Duncan). We would say to get past the superficiality and you'll see that everyone has abilities. We focus on the 'ability', so we are aiming to help children with autism and other special needs." - A*READ Team Members.

Mental Health - which aims to raise awareness of mental health and reproductive knowledge for adolescents studying in the "Technical and Vocational Education and Training" (TVET). This project aims to implement mental health related seminars for the students, launch a social campaign and fully decorate a room for meditation/relaxation where students can meet the school psychologist.

"We are very delighted to be selected as participants of the Women's Leadership program. As a part of the comprehensive leadership and development program, as well as part of the #MeforMyself team, we are keen to implement a project raising mental health awareness among adolescents." - #MeforMyself Team Members

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Checkmate - which aims to build outdoor games like chess and basketball spaces as there is a lack of comfortable leisure environments for Ulaanbaatar residents. One of the major reasons for the selection of these games is that they are able to be played from young children to the elderly.

“Rather than women's leadership, this project is more about how women and men can use their uniqueness and bring positive change in their industries, organizations, and families without gender bias.” - Checkmate Team Members

Community Development - which aims to empower school girls and local women by developing a community development center. This project consists of two components including (i) providing a series of training to school girls and local vulnerable women to equip them with new skills and knowledge, as well as (ii) establishing a community development center for school teenage girls and local vulnerable women to provide them with a community space where they can access community laundry and shower service at a discounted/free price as well as provide them with a space that has free internet, desktop computer and printer for their use.

“We see WLP not only as an opportunity to improve our leadership skills, but also a chance to implement a community development project that could empower fellow women. Our team is going to implement a project that provides free laundry and shower services as well as skills building training to local women and girls in Songinokhairkhan district of Ulaanbaatar city and we are super excited about it!” -Community Development Team Members