

# 自闭症资源中心 计划展开职业培训

假如筹集到足够资金，自闭症资源中心有望在明年初建立一个职业培训中心，协助自闭症患者加入劳动力市场，估计有上千人需要培训。

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自闭症资源中心 (Autism Resource Centre) 计划建立职业培训中心，帮助患有自闭症的青少年和成年人提高受雇能力。

自闭症资源中心主席潘丽萍受访时说，本地缺乏专门为自闭症患者提供的服务，假如筹集到足够资金，自闭症资源中心有望在明年初建立一个职业培训中心，专门协助自闭症患者加入劳动力市场。她估计，目前超过18岁的自闭症患者中，需要这类培训的有上千人。

潘丽萍指出，很多自闭症患者受过教育，其实能成为劳动力市场的一部分，但他们在工作习惯、情绪控制和社交技能方面欠缺足够培训，无法进入劳力市场；本地一些雇主也愿意雇用自闭症患者，可是在应付和扶持这类



700多名新光学校的学生、家长和义工打扮成“漫画英雄”，参加一年一度的慈善义走。尚达曼（中穿红衣者）和潘丽萍（左二）都希望能为自闭症患者提供更多培训机会，提升受雇能力。（梁麒麟摄）

工上，缺乏经验。“如果能为自闭症患者提供相关培训，帮助他们就业，对劳力短缺的新加坡来说，将是很宝贵的资源。”

这个筹划中的职业培训中心将提供资讯科技、家政、烘焙、农业养殖等职业课程，也将训练自闭症患者的软技能，例如如何管理时间、如何做决定等。中心也会帮他们寻找合适雇主，并在他们受雇后提供后续支持。

职业培训中心每年预

计需要40万至50万元资金，在建立初期，由于得设计课程、培训专业辅导员，可能需要更多经费。潘丽萍希望能在明年初筹集足够资金，为第一批30名自闭症患者提供培训。

也是摩绵一加冷集选区议员的潘丽萍也表示，她已与社会发展、青年及体育部和国家福利理事会接触，希望这些机构能在提升自闭症患者和其他残障人士的受雇能力上提供

支援，她也计划在国会复会后提出这个课题。

自闭症资源中心和属下的新光学校 (Pathlight School) 昨天也举行一年一度的慈善义走活动。今年的慈善筹款已经筹集到超过50万元善款，除了用于建立职业培训中心，筹集的善款也将被用于为自闭症患者设立社交休闲协会，帮他们提高社交能力。此外，善款也会为自闭症患者的看护者设立论坛，教授他们照顾自闭症

患者的知识。

副总理兼财政部及人力部长尚达曼昨天也出席了慈善活动。他说，自闭症患者可以受雇于很多行业，提高特殊学校毕业生的受雇能力，为他们进入职场做准备，并让他们在合适的工作中获得满足感，也是社会发展、青年及体育部拟定下一个“加强残疾服务五年总蓝图”时要考量的重点。

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## **‘Vocational Training Centre for Youths and Adults with Autism’**

### *Synopsis:*

ARC and Pathlight School held their annual fundraising walk on Saturday, 16 July. This year, they raised more than \$500,000, which will go towards setting up a training centre to equip youths and adults with autism with the necessary employability skills. The funds will also support a social & leisure centre to increase their social interaction abilities, as well as forums for caregivers to impart knowledge on how to better care and understand individuals with autism.

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### *Translation of full article:*

The Autism Resource Centre (ARC) has plans to develop a vocational training centre for youths and adults with autism to assist and equip them with the necessary employability skills.

Ms Denise Phua, President of ARC, said in an interview that there is a dearth of support services locally for individuals with autism, and ARC hopes to raise enough funds to have the training centre up and running by the early part of 2012. She estimates that there are thousands of individuals with autism over the age of 18 who are in need.

Ms Phua pointed out that even though many of these individuals are educated and can be part of the local workforce, many are lacking in good work habits, emotional management and social and communication skills. This in turn, affects their ability to hold down jobs.

There are many local companies that are open to employing individuals with autism but lack the knowledge and experience on how to support them. “They will be a valuable resource to Singapore, which is currently experiencing a labour shortage. Should they get relevant training, they will be able to seek employment and join the labour force.”

(Translated from) Lianhe Zaoobao  
Sunday, 17 Jul 2011

This vocational training centre will provide professional courses in areas like IT, baking, home economics and farming and teach soft skills such as time management and decision-making. It will also assist in finding suitable jobs and provide post-employment support.

Estimates place a requirement of \$400,000 - \$500,000 in funds each year to maintain the centre and more funding is required for the initial set-up due to foundation costs and training of professional counselors. Ms Phua hopes to raise enough funds by the start of next year in order to provide training to the first batch of 30 individuals with autism.

Ms Phua, MP of Moulmein-Kallang GRC, said that she has already approached MCYS and NCSS to discuss how they can provide assistance to increase the employability of individuals with autism. She has plans to bring up the topic when parliament next resumes.

ARC and Pathlight School held their annual fundraising walk on Saturday, 16 July. This year, they raised more than \$500,000 where the proceeds will be utilised not just to set up the training centre, but also towards the setting up of a social leisure centre to increase their social interaction abilities. Forums will be also conducted for caregivers to impart knowledge on how to better care and understand individuals with autism.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance and Manpower, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam graced the fundraiser on Saturday. He said that individuals with autism can be employed in many different job sectors. Increasing the employability of special school graduates and preparing for them to enter the workforce and ensuring that they have a sense of fulfillment in a suitable job is an important point that must be considered as part of MCYS' "master blueprint for enhancing disability services."