

BREAKFAST WITH MENTORS “SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP” 23 August 2014

On 23 August 2014 - a sunny Saturday morning, close to fifty people gathered at Fierce, Publika to network and have breakfast with three inspiring mentors. Held in its third year now, *Breakfast with Mentor* is a program organised by the Youth Commission of the National Council of Women’s Organization (NCWO) in collaboration with Baha’i Office for the Advancement of Women (BOAW). Its purpose is to provide a space for young adults to gather and learn from the experiences of their peers, or individuals with experience in a particular field.

This time, the theme was “Social Entrepreneurship” and the three mentors were Low Ngai Yuen; President of Kaki Seni, Yasmin Rasyid; President of EcoKnights and Sha’in Sreeni; Special Projects Director of Vertical Progress.

The program which was constructed in a “talk-show” style started with breakfast and networking and was followed with a warm welcome by Sonia the Chairperson of the Youth Commission.



She then invited Haikal Idris a representative from the Social Enterprise Alliance (SEA) to share briefly on the social entrepreneurship scene in Malaysia. He described the current situation and understanding of social entrepreneurship in Malaysia and also shared the work that Social Enterprise Alliance (SEA) does in support of social entrepreneurs.



Yasmin Rashid (2nd from right), Sha'in Sreeni and Low Ngai Yuen

The talk-show of the program finally kicked off with the moderator and the three mentors taking the stage. It started with a quick introduction of their organisations and soon followed by questions and conversation about what it really means to be a social entrepreneur, their business strategy, building momentum, measuring success, having confidence and other pertinent concerns. Lasting close to an hour, there were many realistic, serious yet humorous advice given to the participants.





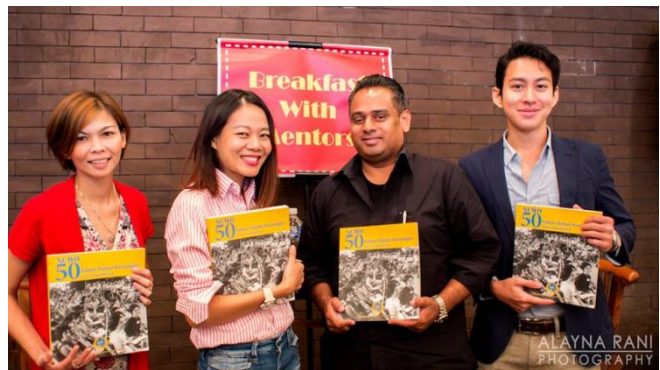
The Mentors with their Mentees

The mentors also shared many personal experiences and anecdotes that would surely encourage a future social entrepreneur.

The program ended with a Q&A session with the audience and each mentor picking two lucky members of the audience for a six month mentorship program.

These lucky participants will be given the opportunity to work closely with their mentor and experience the life of being a social entrepreneur.

Breakfast with Mentor closed with the participants, organizers and mentors excited and having a clearer vision towards building a more socially conscious business environment. Participants Sidra and Fiza from Uniten said “we really enjoyed the session today especially the setting which is more casual because it gives us opportunities to really ask questions and talk to the mentors. We hope to work closely with NCWO and BOAW soon and organise a session like this.”



The Mentors and Haikal (far right) with NCWO's 50th Anniversary Coffee Table Book