

Having been on several overseas community service projects during school days, I consider myself no stranger to such overseas volunteer work. It was however my first time going for an overseas medical mission trip and it turned out to be one of the best and memorable experiences for me.

Having no medical or nursing background, I was a bit concerned about how I could contribute to Project Light before the trip. During the trip, my concerns were unfounded as the doctor and nurses were very willing to share their medical knowledge and trained me on the job to help out with triaging patients. I was really glad that my basic proficiency in Thai language could be put into good use. It was sufficient for me to triage patients and do basic translation for my teammates. I also managed to help out with the logistics matters for the mobile clinics and food distribution.

During the mobile clinics and home visits, I realised that many of the patients have chronic issues (e.g. chronic back pain due to long hours of manual labour) that most of the time it's just not possible to treat and alleviate their pain entirely. At times when we may not be able to provide a medical solution for them, especially for the elderly, I was surprised to see that our presence still brought them much comfort. That was when I realised that sometimes, perhaps what they want is to know that there are people who still care for them and listen to them.

I was very blessed to be able to work alongside a group of passionate medical professionals who took time off their super busy schedules to volunteer. The trip would not be possible without the collaboration with Radion International, who provided an opportunity for us to provide medical services to the communities living in the fringes of society that are under-reached.

Radion's dedication to help those in need is truly admirable. It makes me want to go back again and contribute as much as I can and inspires me to continue to give back to my community back in Singapore too.

I guess at the end of the day, as long as you have the passion and the heart to give, you will be able to find ways to do so.

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted”. – Aesop

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