

Interacting through sports among the creative proposals from youth participants of CampTeen

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Playing basketball is not easy, let alone playing it in wheelchair.

Although it is difficult, playing basketball in a wheelchair can inculcate concern towards the disabled group.

By involving people from different races, it becomes a means to strengthen racial harmony and at the same time, support Singapore's efforts to host the Youth Olympics 2010.

This is a project suggested by Muhd Zarif Muhd Nazar and his team members. It was one of the five projects that were proposed by 100 youths ranging from 13 to 16 years old who participated in the CampTeen organised by Onepeople.sg at Outward Bound Singapore that ended yesterday.

These projects will be showcased in the upcoming Youth Carnival, organized by Onepeople.sg next month. The carnival is said to have been organised in conjunction with the Olympic Committee's visit to Singapore.

Onepeople.sg, launched by the Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsien Loong in May, is the official coordinating organisation that champions racial harmony

“We hope to make people more aware of special needs of the disabled group, as well as the importance of maintaining a racial harmony so that our nation can remain prosperous”, said Muhd Zarif, the 17-year old former student of Broadrick Secondary School.

Four other projects had themes such as heritage, art, sport and culture.

When asked for his reaction, Mayor of Central CDC, who is also chairman of Onepeople.sg, Mr Zainudin Nordin praised those projects.

“By going through the process of seeing their projects to fruition, the youths will become more skilled and consistent. This is important because they will become the ambassadors of racial harmony...if they can implement it, and at the same time, support the carnival and the nation’s bid to host the Youth Olympics, this is something good.” he explained.

Elaborating on Onepeople.sg future direction, Mr Zainudin’s informed that the organisation will be focusing their attention on three areas; designing programmes to train people for the Inter-Racial & Religious Confidence Circles (IRCC), pre-school children and a website as a source for racial harmony which can benefit the whole community.