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## Young Singaporeans Step-up to Help Fight Haze through Mask Distribution Efforts

Dedicated Youths Help Out in Mask Distribution Efforts

Singapore has been engulfed by smog for about three weeks now, with almost all outdoor activities coming to a halt. Last Friday (25<sup>th</sup> September), with the PSI reading hitting a hazardous level of 316, all primary and secondary schools were closed. At its peak, the haze cost Singapore approximately a hefty S\$100 million, and is expected to persist until the monsoon season in November. Community centres have been distributing free masks, but it seems like more could be done to help fight the haze. More than 60 youth volunteers have stepped forward to distribute masks to fellow Singaporeans from residential estates MacPherson to Toa Payoh, amidst the haze.



• A Singaporean teenager distributing N95 masks to the elderly living on an HDB estate.

This initiative was started by a group of Youth Corps Singapore volunteers, including Owen Tan:

"We were concerned that some people may not know how to wear the mask properly. That is why we put things together quickly, from logistics to volunteers to handing out masks and educating the public, especially the elderly residents." Mr. Tan took the opportunity to make door stops at residents' houses, giving out masks and explaining the importance of wearing a mask to protect against the haze.

The GCE A' level might be approaching, but first-time youth volunteer Kway Wei Tong is

determined to play her part for the community, saying:

"I think this is a very meaningful cause and I took some time off from my A' Level  $\,$ 

revisions to help fellow citizens out there."

The youth even persuaded her mother to join her in the distribution efforts:

"I have always been interested in making a positive difference to the community,

and am very encouraged by my mother who is here to join me today to show her

support."

Proving they are no strawberry generation, these youths are willing to step out of their

protected greenhouses, going the extra mile to distribute masks and educate residents to

ensure that the masks can help protect them.

Melissa Yeo, 28th September 2015

https://mustsharenews.com/youth-volunteers-mask/

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