



MC Myoung Ryeon Kim
Representative,
Professional Gender Workers Group in Korea

Ka Young Jo

Hye Eun Lee



BAN KI-MOON CENTRE
for Global Citizens

RISING BEYOND THE STIGMA – EMPOWERING UNWED MOTHERS IN KOREA

Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens

EMPOWERING UNWED MOTHERS IN KOREA

PROJECT OVERVIEW

BACKGROUND

Unwed mothers in South Korea are often isolated from society and often mistreated as prostitutes. Due to the misconceptions about them, Korean unwed mothers tend to be more exposed to violence, sexual assault, and unfair treatment not only at their schools and places of work, but also within their own families and communities.

OBJECTIVE

- To raise awareness of the underprivileged living standards of unwed mothers and their children in Korea
- To contribute to changing the misguided cultural and social recognition inside Korean society
- To introduce best-practices from overseas, both in cases and policies and to propose policy changes
- To empower unwed mothers not only as mothers but also as women by regaining self-confidence and independence

PROJECT DETAILS

- Hosting and co-organizing a forum on "Empowering Unwed Mothers in Korea" at the JCI Asia-Pacific Conference 2019
- Providing cultural and educational programs for the children of the unwed mothers
- Supporting existing initiatives of the unwed mothers to broaden their opportunities for education and work

PILLARS OF WORK



Education



Advocacy

PARTNERS

Intree
Seoul Young Leaders Club
Junior Chamber International

PREVIOUS DONOR

Korea Foundation



"EMPOWERING UNWED MOTHERS IN KOREA: COMBATING SOCIAL STIGMA AND IMPROVING POLICIES"

This Session took place on 19 June 2019 at the JCI Asia-Pacific Conference held in Jeju, South Korea.

OPENING

Opening Address

HyungSuk Choi
President
Intree

Welcome Address

Arrey Obenson
Secretary-General
Junior Chamber International

Monika Froehler
CEO

Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens

Congratulatory Address

Hyekyung Lee
Chairperson
Korea Foundation for Women

HUMAN LIBRARY

MC

Myoung Ryoan Kim
Representative
Professional Gender Trainers Group

Unwed Mother Representatives

Ka Young Jo & Hye Eun Lee



PRESENTATION

Jung Hyeun Sung
Professor, Social Welfare
Hypsung University

Heekyung Jo Min
Executive Vice President
CJ Cheiljedang

Hye-yeong Kim
CEO
Korean Institute for Healthy Family

Simone Eun Mi
Activist
Adoption Human Rights

Lisa Kuzunishi
Special Researcher
Rikkyo University

In Gyun Baek
Executive Director
Business Administration Division
KDB Bank

PERFORMANCE

Tennille Amor
Singer-Songwriter, UN Youth Champion, Equality Advocate



PRESENTATION



“Unwed mothers feel very nervous and unprepared during pregnancy which is why psychological counselling is very important for empowerment.”

Jung Hyeun Sung

“KIHf will establish a general support system that guarantees the social status of single parents as child-rearers.”

Hyeyoung Kim



“I was a victim of child trafficking ... In the Netherlands, a single mother in need can get up to 2,000 dollars a month. In the case of teenage mothers, they receive help enabling them to finish school.”

Simone Eun Mi

“Hello Dream Project supports young single parents to find their dreams that they had to give up by offering psychological and emotional supports, activities and learning opportunities.”

Heekyung Jo Min



“Housing is the most essential thing for single mothers. A share house could serve as an all-in-one space for work, residence and childcare for them.”

Lisa Kuzunishi

“KDB Triangle Project aims to create social values through supporting single-parent families. It provides tailor-made supports for each life cycle stage, supports single mothers with their strength, and connects them with the local community.”

In Gyun Baek



“It is delightful that the Ban Ki-moon Centre has selected the topic of the issues of unwed mothers. The Centre’s engagement with JCI, Intree and SYLC makes a huge impact.”

Hyekyung Lee

INTERVIEWS WITH UNWED MOTHERS



“This experience will be a long-lasting memory for me as many people offered us words of encouragement, and we could contribute at least a bit to changing social perception.”

Hye Eun Lee



“I was happy to learn today that many people are making efforts for us unwed mothers and that they are also planning to make a number of policies. I sincerely hope that what I heard and saw today could be carried out as policies.”

Ah Young Choi



“I had a good time as many others could hear from us about the hardships we go through. Thank you to those who gave us this amazing opportunity.”

Ka Young Jo



“I’ve always thought that we should deal with the issues on our own, but through this opportunity, I got to know that there are many who are interested in our problems and willing to listen to us and who could sympathize with us by heart. I feel supported and confident as I will not be alone but with many others if I happen to face any problem.”

Young Ah Kim

PROVIDING CHILDREN WITH NEW OPPORTUNITIES

CULTURAL TRIP TO JEJU ISLAND

BKMC sponsored a 4-day cultural program for 27 unwed mothers and 24 of their children while visiting Jeju Island in South Korea from 17 June to 20 June 2019 to help the mothers spend some quality time with their children and to let the children be exposed to new opportunities and experiences. The group enjoyed dynamic activities, educational programs, special performances and exhibits.



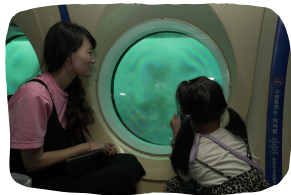
“For the first time ever, I visited Jeju Island with my child. Her getting excited from the moment we got on the plane is still lingering in my eyes.

I was so proud to see her joyfully running around the extensive meadow and telling me that she would like to touch fish when riding in a submarine. I had such a great time feeling my heart swell with happiness by just being with her.”

Ka Young Jo
Mother

“I flew to Jeju Island on a plane. I had some good food, visited various museums, and rode in a submarine under the sea. I had so much fun. I want to visit Jeju again. I was happy. Thank you.”

Ah Rim Kim
Child



“It was such a great experience to sleep in a hotel, to enjoy delicious dishes for every meal, and to see lots of things. The conference in Jeju was so amazing, and I was proud to attend it. I was happy to travel with both of my daughters. Thank you so much. I will continue to find ways to live with confidence and in good health together with my children!”

Ji Yeon Kim
Mother



“My heart was filled with pride to attend the JCI international conference with my twins who said that they would love to come back next year. I am grateful for the Ban Ki-moon Centre once again for putting efforts to make it possible for me to make happy memories with my children. I will forever keep this memory in my heart.”

Jae Sim Cha
Mother

“Getting on a plane was the best memory for me.

I also liked riding in a submarine for the first time and seeing the performances of a taekwondo demonstration team.”

Si Woo Kang
Child



“I got on a plane with my mom and flew to Jeju Island. I saw blue ocean, and I liked the delicious cuisines in Jeju. I wish to travel with my mom again. Can she find some time again for me?”

Yohan Lim
Child

SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE IDEAS AND INITIATIVES

SUPPORTING INNOVATIVE IDEAS AND INITIATIVES

BKMC plans to continue supporting unwed mothers who are marginalized in their society by providing a platform where they can share and implement their innovative ideas to make social changes and/or further develop existing initiatives. We would like to see the unwed mothers become not only independent and confident but also active global citizens who contribute to the betterment of our shared society.

AWARENESS-RAISING CAMPAIGN

Potential Project Idea

Video Campaigns and Social Media Promotion

Prospective Outcomes

- Reaching out to those that are outside the community
- Encouraging individuals and relevant entities to take actions

ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT

Potential Project Idea

"Human Library"

Prospective Outcomes

- Interactive lectures at universities with the next generation of parents
- Interactive discussions at relevant events and widening the range of support
- Sharing innovative ideas and finding practical solutions

CREATING SYNERGY

Potential Project Idea

Collaborating with other Marginalized Communities

Prospective Outcomes

- Sharing support and strategic planning
- Integrating the marginalized communities into global society

WATCH THE VIDEOS OF THE PAST PROJECTS





UNWED MOTHER SESSION SESSION INTERVIEWS CHILDREN PROGRAM





BAN KI-MOON CENTRE FOR GLOBAL CITIZENS

P.O.B. 0018 1030 Vienna, Austria
T +43 664 916 32 83
program@bankimooncentre.org
www.bankimooncentre.org
blog.naver.com/bankimooncentre

-  Bankimooncentre
-  BanKimoonCentre
-  Bankimooncentre
-  Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens

KOREA **KF**
FOUNDATION

한국국제교류재단