

ADVERTORIAL

What's in Francine's bag?

Take a look at what this Anti-Drug Advocate carries with her when she heads out

Francine Tan, 19, is an Anti-Drug Advocate (ADA) with the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB). She has been an ADA since 2018, working to raise anti-drug awareness through ground-up advocacy projects led by the ADAs and supporting CNB in its public outreach events. She looks forward to representing Singapore at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Youth Forum 2022, where she will be meeting youths from around the world to share views on the war against drugs.

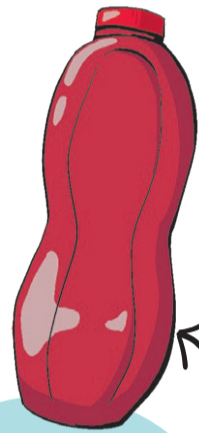


This **small backpack** was given to me by my grandmother for my 19th birthday.

Sweets help me to stay awake especially during lessons and I have a sweet tooth.



Bringing a **small bottle** around with me will ensure that I have water whenever I need to hydrate myself.



I bring a **cardholder** with some cash instead of my wallet because it is more convenient.



This **hand sanitiser**

is conceptualised by another ADA, Javier, in 2019! The holder is in the colour of the anti-drug ribbon and the original bottle carried a message to invite youths to take a stand and say no to drugs.



I mark down important dates in my **planner** such as my loved ones' birthdays, assignment submission dates, and ADA events!



Why did Francine join the Anti-Drug Advocate programme?

Scrolling through social media apps can expose one to a plethora of information, both good and bad. Misconceptions on topics like drugs, if left uncorrected, can lead to deadly addiction.

This is what motivated Francine to join the ADA programme: "I hope to raise anti-drug awareness to the community, especially the youths who may have misconceptions on drug abuse. I have always wanted to be an agent of good change, and I hope to contribute to the drug-free cause because drug abuse is not a victimless crime as it can affect both the abuser and their loved ones."

Joining the ADA programme provides a space for her to meet other like-minded individuals who are passionate about the anti-drug cause. "We get the opportunity to conceptualise and organise our own anti-drug projects, which will be a fruitful journey," Francine says.

In 2019, Francine joined her fellow ADAs in a project to rally public support for the DrugFreeSG cause along Orchard Road. The project #YourLifelsInYourHands saw a group of youth volunteers distributing hand sanitisers branded with the DrugFreeSG message at youth-centric areas, to remind youths to stay away from drug abuse.

Francine also appeared in CNB's DrugFreeSG Light-Up video in 2019 and 2021, and most recently in the end credits of the Mediacorp Channel 8 drama "The Takedown" advocating the drug-free cause.



Interested in becoming an Anti-Drug Advocate like Francine? Visit <https://www.cnb.gov.sg/educational-resources/for-youths/anti-drug-advocate-programme> for more information.

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