



成長希望基金會
CHANGING
YOUNG LIVES
FOUNDATION

Changing Young Lives Foundation

Executive Director's Report for the Fiscal Year Ended 31 March 2009

Many small charities ceased operations because they were not able to generate enough funds to support their programmes after the Sichuan earthquake and during the recent global financial tsunami. Although our Foundation is small, our fundraising committee worked extremely hard to raise much needed funds to ensure that our Foundation's underprivileged children and youths continued to enjoy and learn uninterrupted from our programmes. Our Council also made the generous decision to use part of the Foundation's reserves to rebuild three schools on the Mainland. Despite the difficult times, we are committed to helping our underprivileged youths, both in Hong Kong and the Mainland.

WiseGiving Office, from the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, published 9 inspiring stories in May 2009 to celebrate its first anniversary. One of our Slum Dunk youths, 17-year-old Frankie, was interviewed by WiseGiving and his story was featured. Frankie is one of our many underprivileged youths who have been given the opportunity to succeed. He graduated high school with poor results and wanted to join the hotel industry. Under our internship programme, we matched him with Kowloon Hotel where he worked for two months as a bus boy. The exposure that he obtained during his short time made him realize that he wanted to continue with his schooling and now he is working towards a university education.

Changing Young Lives Foundation

Units 1-14, G/F, Block 10,
Pak Tin Estate, Kowloon
Telephone : (852) 2511 0505
Fax : (852) 2519 3869
E-mail : enquiries@changingyounglives.org.hk
Homepage : www.changingyounglives.org.hk

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Chief Executive, HKSAR

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贊助人

香港特別行政區
行政長官曾蔭權先生

本會為稅務條例
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In addition to the 10th anniversary of our Slam Dunk Challenge, our Hong Kong Programme committee continued with the 2nd successful year of Brain Box, which is a programme designed to help children with learning difficulties. The children in our Brain Box programme developed better learning skills and their school reports have shown great improvement. Pay It Forward also continued, although most of the fun programmes had to cease due to lack of funding.

Four years ago, we had a vision of creating a home away from home for our children and youths. We dreamt of having a learning centre for them. The vision and dream is finally becoming a reality. Our Centre Committee identified the premises for the centre and plans for renovation began in May. We finished the renovation in July of 2009.

I am once again grateful to Jim and Sally Thompson who not only chaired our signature Festival of Trees fundraising event, but also kindly allowed us to use Crown Cellar to host that event. This year, we decided not to organize a gala dinner but instead we hosted a wine auction. It was intimate and different.

One of our generous donors told me a story, and I would like to take this opportunity to share it with you. Nick and Chris were taking a slow walk on the beach. Scattered on the sand before them were hundreds of starfish. Nick started picking up the stranded starfish and throwing them back into the sea. Chris was baffled by his friend's action, "Nick there are hundreds, how can you save them?" Nick picked up another one and said, "But I can change this one's destiny by returning it to the sea". There are 380,000 underprivileged children living in Hong Kong. Changing Young Lives is obviously not able to change everyone's life, but

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we can definitely try to change as many as we can. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Chairman, our Deputy Chairman, and all our Council Members, for providing us with the opportunity to make a difference. On behalf of the children I would like to thank our donors for their generous donations, thank our volunteers for their dedication, and last but not least, I thank our staff for standing firm through the tough times.

Marcia Aw
Executive Director

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