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## The 25th Annual Best Buddies Leadership Conference



In late July, 2014, Fu Hong Society sent three representatives to attend the 25th Annual Best Buddies Leadership Conference held in Indianapolis, the United States. The three representatives were Ms Elaine Tsang, Project Manager of Best Buddies Hong Kong, Ms Charlotte Yeung, Student Buddy of Hong Kong Shue Yan University Department of Social Work Chapter, and Mr Quinton Wong, Student Buddy of Chinese University of Hong Kong Shaw College Chapter. Apart from best buddies from all over the United States, around 90 staff members, students and Buddy Ambassadors from over 20 countries and places also joint the event. The total number of participants reached 2,000. They shared and exchanged ideas and experiences regarding the promotion of the Best Buddies Movement during the conference. At the opening ceremony of the conference, Mr Kennedy Anthony Shriver, founder of "Best Buddies International", picked Hong Kong among all the participating countries and places, and skyped and communicated directly with the student buddies in Hong Kong on the stage. It was anticipated that the other participating countries could obtain a deeper understanding of the "Best Buddies Hong Kong" Movement.

Ms. Charlotte Yeung, Student Buddies of Hong Kong Shue Yan University Department of Social Work Chapter



Mr. Quinton Wong, Student Buddy of Chinese University of Hong Kong Shaw College Chapter

By participating this Global Leadership Conference, I have a valuable opportunity to recognize the development trend of social inclusion and to appreciate the cultural differences of various countries around the world. Meanwhile I realized the advantages and difficulties of different countries faced when promoting social inclusion. Many workshops were provided by the organizer to the participants, I learn a lot from the speakers, eg. the public relation work of non-profit organizations, the keys to organize a success fund raising event, the rights of mentally and physically disables should have. What I impressed most was The Friendship Walk led by Anthony K. Shriver, the founder of Best Buddies, aiming to increase the public awareness on social inclusion. The local Police Force supported The Walk by offering crowd control during the event. Lastly, I wish the society could offer more opportunities for the people with intellectual disability to develop and demonstrate their potential: They treasure your support and recognition.



"Everyone deserves to enjoy an one-to-one friendship, no one should be left out." This seems to be a normal statement. What is happening in Hong Kong is a different picture. What I've experienced the most in this journey is the discrepancy of culture in different countries. My newly met friends from Peru and Mexico in this journey shared to me that they will keep regular telephone contacts with their buddies, they go to the park for a walk and visit their buddies' home. I couldn't describe how astonished I was when I heard all these, and I gradually realized that, after all, the gist of this movement is how people perceive our buddies with Intellectual Disabilities, and whether this movement can have a further big stride actually lies in people's attitude.

I believe that before planning what do we have to do to promote one-to-one friendship, we should always start from small -- to learn how to genuinely appreciate and respect our buddy friends, and with the aid of our concerted efforts to hammer out different promotion strategies, I believe that things will be much more effective. Share with you a well-known remark from John Lennon ~

John Lennon

## The 2014 Best Buddies Hong Kong Annual Gala cum Corporate Partnership Recognition Ceremony

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, Best Buddies Hong Kong hosted a banquet with 35 tables and held the Best Buddies Hong Kong Annual Gala cum Corporate Partnership Recognition Ceremony at Palace Wedding Banquet, Victoria Mall, Tsim Sha Tsui on 5 July, 2014 (Saturday). The officiating guests include: Mr Fong Kai-Leung, Assistant Director of Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services of Social Work Department; Ms Bonnie Ka, Assistant District Officer of Sham Shui Po District Office; and Ms Tong Wing-On, Charities Manager of The Hong Kong Jockey Club.



Awards of the Logo Design Competition for "10th Anniversary of Best Buddies Hong Kong" and those given to Chapters that have been established for five to seven years were presented at the Annual Gala. This year, a new award was also added to recognize the six new Chapters that were set up within the past three years. Following is the winner list:

### "Best Buddies Hong Kong" 10th anniversary memorial design competition

#### The "Fu Hong" Group

Mr Ho Tai Hei (Ngai Shing Workshop)

#### The "Enabled" Group

Ms Li Wai Ching (Lok Wah Training Centre)

#### The "Chapter" Group

Ms Ivy Leung Hui Lam (Chiaphua Industries Limited Chapter)

### The most "long lasting" chapter prize (7 years or above)

1. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Chapter (10 years)
2. Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tuen Mun) Chapter (10 years)
3. Pui Kiu Middle School Chapter (9 years)
4. Hong Kong Shue Yan University Department of Social Work Chapter (9 years)
5. Sik Sik Yuen Ho Dao College Chapter (9 years)
6. Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong Chapter (9 years)
7. The Hong Kong Institute of Education Centre for Special Educational Needs and Inclusive Education Chapter (9 years)
8. Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi) Chapter (7 years)
9. Lingnan University Chapter (7 years)

### The "long lasting" Chapter prize (between 5-7 years)

1. Hong Kong Baptist University Centre for Holistic Teaching & Learning Chapter (6 years)
2. Po Kok Secondary School Chapter (6 years)

### The "new force" prize (below 3 years)

1. The Hong Kong Institute of Education Higher Diploma in Social Work Programme Chapter (2 years)
2. Chiaphua Industries Limited Chapter (2 years)
3. Hong Kong Chamber of Insurance Intermediaries Chapter (1 year)
4. The Chinese University of Hong Kong Shaw College Chapter (1 year)
5. Hong Kong Shue Yan University Department of Social Work Chapter (1 year)
6. Tung Wah College Community Service Team Chapter (1 year)

## Guangzhou Exchange Tour

A Guangzhou exchange tour was organized by Best Buddies Hong Kong from 20 to 21 June, 2014. Led by Mrs Cecilia S L Lam Wong, MH, Vice Chairman of our Society, Father Giosuè G Bonzi PIME, Spiritual Advisor, Mr John C L Lee, Council Member, Ms Luk Wai Yin, Becky, Executive Director, and Ms Mak Yun Wan, Silvia, Regional Manager, 16 Best Buddies Pairs and 5 staff members paid a visit to Guangzhou. The purpose of such a visit was to organize a seminar together with Guangzhou Disabled Persons' Federation and Guangdong Love Express Family Resources Center, and invite a number of Mainland rehabilitation institutions to share their "experiences on the promotion of social inclusion for persons with disabilities". Organizations that participated and made a sharing included: KangZhiLeWu Social Service; Guangzhou Huiling Institute's Platform for Promoting the Independence of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities - China Snails;

Shunde Xingyu Social Service Centre; the Department of Social Work, South China Agricultural University; Beidouxing Social Service; and Guangzhou Yan Ai Special Children Parent Club.

In order to allow members of the tour to obtain a more thorough understanding of the services provided for persons with intellectual disabilities in the Mainland, a special arrangement was made for them to visit Guangzhou Huiling Institute. With a rich schedule and a range of diversified activities, everyone enjoyed the tour and had a great time.



## Video Recording Activity for Best Buddies Pairs

On 28 June, 2014, the Best Buddies Pairs of 2014 visited Madam Hong Café, a café located at the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, a café located at the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence and set up by a social enterprise subsidiary to our Society. TERRY FOCUS PRODUCTION, a company that provides professional video service, sponsored the videography of the event and captured the precious moments that each pair of Best Buddies spent together. The spirits of social inclusion and equality of friendship, as advocated by the "Hong Kong Best Buddies" Movement, were thus able to reach the general public. The video clips were later premiered at the Best Buddies Hong Kong Annual Gala cum Corporate Partnership Recognition Ceremony that was held on 5 July, 2014, and were also released on the Facebook page of Best Buddies Hong Kong. Interested parties can now check out the videos on <http://www.facebook.com/fuhongbbhk>.



## Tung Wah College Community Service Chapter Formation Ceremony



The 18th Service Chapter of Best Buddies Hong Kong is now opened! The Service Chapter Formation Ceremony, jointly held by Cheung Sha Wan Adult Training Centre of Fu Hong Society and Tung Wah College Community Service Team, took place on 8 May,

2014. It was our honor to have Dr Joseph Kwok, JP, Hon Secretary of Fu Hong Society and Member of BBHK Council, Mr John Lee, Council Member of Fu Hong Society and Member of BBHK Council, and Mr Dennis Cheng, Associate Vice-President (Management) of Tung Wah College at the Ceremony, where students and buddies from Cheung Sha Wan Adult Training Centre collaborated to put on an amazing magic show, thus displaying the spirit of social inclusion and demonstrating how well each member of Best Buddies Hong Kong got along. The buddy pairs treasured their friendship so much that they exchanged souvenirs and photos that were imprinted with the bits and pieces since they first met.

## Kick Off Ceremony of "A Trip with Dream, Friendship & Hot Air Balloon" - Metro Harbour Plaza



Ms Becky W Y Luk, Executive Director of Fu Hong Society, and three pairs of "Best Buddies Hong Kong" attended the Kick Off Ceremony of "A Trip with Dream, Friendship & Hot Air Balloon" at Metro Harbour Plaza, Tai Kok Tsui in the afternoon of 3 August, 2014. At the ceremony, "Best Buddies Hong Kong" Movement was introduced. The participants talked about their dreams and the remarkable memories they had with their Best Buddies. They also joined hands with Peter, the hot air balloon artist from Taiwan, in decorating the Inclusive Hot Air Balloons with sparkling pebbles. The glittering balloons symbolize a bright path ahead in creating an inclusive society.

## Get Together (SSP Region)



On 30 May, 2014, Mr Raymond Chow Wai Kam JP, Voting Member of Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, and Dr Daniel Lee Tin Chak, were accompanied by Ms Imelda Chan, Executive Manager, Charities, Ms

Winnie Ying, Executive Manager, Charities, and Ms Freda Tong, Charities Manager, to visit Best Buddies Hong Kong at Cheung Sha Wan Adult Training Centre and to join the Get Together event. Other participants include: Mr Kevin Yuen, Chariman; Mrs Cecilia Lam Wong, MH; Dr Joseph Kwok BBS, JP; Ms Becky Luk, Executive Director; Ms Silvia Mak, Regional Manager; and buddies from Cheung Sha Wan Adult Training Centre, Tung Wah College Community Service Chapter, Chak On Adult Training Centre, Sheung Li Uk Adult Training Centre and Hong Kong Shue Yan University Department of Social Work Chapter.

The two Voting Members of Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust were kind and friendly. Not only did they write Chinese calligraphy and make rolled-paper art with the buddies, they also listened attentively to the sharing made by the buddies and their parents. It was a warm, joyous and harmonious afternoon.

## Sham Shui Po District "Best Buddies - Fun with Disability" Community Inclusion Project

Fu Hong Society received a \$84,000 sponsor from Sham Shui Po District Council to launch the "Best Buddies - Fun with Disability" Community Inclusion Project in Sham Shui Po between July and December 2014. The project is organized by Fu Hong Society, sponsored by Working Group on Elderly and Rehabilitation Service of Sham Shui Po District Council, and co-organized by Chak On Adult Training Centre, Cheung Sha Wan Adult Training Centre, Sheung Li Uk Adult Training Centre, Caritas Cheng Shing Fung District Elderly Centre (Sham Shui Po), The Hong Kong Association of Senior Citizens, Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service Adolescent Early Intervention Service, and New Home Association HOME Centre (SSP). Through providing inclusive talent trainings, organizing volunteer visits and holding the "Friendship and People in SSP" Photo Competition, this Project aims to bring together persons with intellectual disabilities, elderly, ethnic minorities and students in Sham Shui Po to foster inclusion of persons with disabilities and the able-bodied, and also to promote an equal friendship between people with and without intellectual disabilities.

