



From the Editor

Of the many responses we received after publishing our last issue, one stands out in particular, which is signed by 'Shui-tang Po Po' (Grandma Reservoir). Her letter so touched the hearts of members of the editorial board, and her sincerity carries a lot of meaning and encouragement for all of us. Here we express deep appreciation on behalf of Shao Shuai and his family for the help they received from the benefactors.

We will share with you results of several programmes in this issue, and call for your attention and help for the needs of a clinic in Shaanxi Province.



DISTANT BLESSING BRINGS HAPPINESS TO AN ORPHAN IN SHANXI

It was a cold wintry day in 2011 when the good sisters found Tina outside the door of Bethany Home. She wasn't even six months old. Subsequent medical examination in the hospital found defects in her vertebrate, which the doctors later diagnosed as 'tethered cord syndrome'. The prognosis was that if timely treatment was not administered, she would not be able to walk like a regular person, and she would also have problems breathing, which could eventually become life threatening.

With this information from the doctors, the sisters at Bethany Home started to look for donations to help pay for Tina's surgery. It wasn't until 2013, when Tina was two and a half years old, a visitor from Caritas-HK noted that some sets of the rib bones on her right side had started to grow together and an operation had to be done quickly. At just about that time a Belgian lady, who had always cared about the needy in China, passed away. She had willed that her estate should be used to help needy children in China. Mainland Service Desk of Caritas-HK played a role to liaise the parties, resulting in Tina getting successful surgery.



Tina can barely stand up properly before surgery



Hello, I'm fine. Thank you so much!

Furthermore, with help from others, and a philanthropic organization in China focusing in medical assistance to the needy, Tina was able to get the required additional surgery free of charge.

Tina is now attending kindergarten. With her ready smile, she is a delight for all whom she encounters. She is a living testimonial for so many who had bestowed so much love on her.

IMPLEMENTS FOR AN OLD-FOLKS HOME IN HEBEI PROVINCE

The Lourdes Villa Old-Folks Home in Xianxian county, Hebei was founded by the sisters of Holy Hope Congregation in 1997. Twenty-two of the 44 old folks now living in the home are incapable of caring for themselves. They subsist on government subsidies of between 20 to 100 yuan a month, and manage to get by because of the selfless care provided by the sisters.

As early as 10 years ago Caritas-HK provided a few training courses for the home's staff. Then in 2013, we received a letter from the sisters seeking help to provide equipment for disabled elderly in the home. With donations from benefactors, we were able to meet their needs. Below is a thank you letter from the sisters:



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Caritas Hong Kong,

With your assistance, we were able to purchase the following items: 5 wheelchairs; 5 walkers; 2 toilet seats; 12 nursing beds, and 12 long stem bathing brushes. These additions make a significant difference to the quality of their lives: it is now safer for them to move about; preventing them from falling off their beds; the wheelchairs and walkers enable them to exercise outdoors and to take part in group activities.

We want to show our sincere gratitude for your generosity. May God bless you and your work!

*Sister Li,
31 Oct 2013*



Gathered together for activities



Newly installed facilities for use by the elderly



A DISABLED ORPHAN IN HEBEI REALIZED HER DREAM TO STUDY

Uncles and Aunties of Caritas-HK,

Greetings!



I am Ye Dan-ying. I attended accounting classes last year. Every day a sister accompanied me in my studies. She and the principle carried me, in my wheelchair, up and down three flights of stairs to my classroom. Students passing by would sometimes also lend a hand.

I often encountered problems during the course of my study, but teachers and classmates always offered to help. Because of that I was able to complete my accounting course.

Through the course of my study, I not only learned about accounting, I also learned to interact with classmates, teachers, and through their care and help, I can still feel the warmth and love.

I truly want to thank everyone who helped me along during my studies. Because of your help, I was given the opportunity to study. I am truly happy with my having completed the course and passing the examination. I now have a diploma in accounting.

I want to dearly thank you all for helping me to realize my dream of studying for accounting!

May God bless you all!



Ye Dan-ying,
Daming Orphanage, Hebei
1 Oct 2015



Voice from Afar ...



Item no : 4701

Responsible person of Caritas Hong Kong, greetings!

The clinic we operate in Daying parish in Fufeng, Shaanxi province has a history of more than 30 years. With 7 sisters working at the clinic, we treat 50-60 patients daily. Because of the competent and caring service we provide, it is well recognized by the villagers, and is fully licensed by the local authority.

As a result of long neglected maintenance work, the floor is uneven; paints have fallen off walls and the ceiling. Drainage pipes sometimes clog up, or leak. This is not only dangerous; it is also a hygienic concern. We have been warned several times by the government health bureau, who has demanded that we ought to make improvements.



The Daying clinic



The old walls need repair and the old pipes need replacement



We are not lacking in patients, but our fees are low, and we charge even less or provide services free of charge for poor elderly and the disabled. After payments for rent and utilities, there is very little left from our meagre source of income. But a safe and hygienic environment for the patients must not be ignored. With much effort we managed to raise RMB 24,000, which is still a long way from the RMB 99,341 (approximately HK\$121,148) needed for the job. Our parish priest suggested that we write to you for help. Attached is an estimate for the refurbishment project which we pray will get your support.

Sister Tong,
1 Nov 2015

Materials		Budget (¥)
1	Plastering materials	5,700
2	Sand paper	150
3	Tiles for walls	17,160
4	Tiles for floor	24,000
5	Tiles for toilet	3,180
6	Sand	9,000
7	Cement	8,046
8	Electrical materials	9,600
9	Labor	46,505
Total		123,341

We look forward
to your response

For enquiry, please call on 35892259 or 35892500, or leave your message at mainland@caritas.org.hk. To show your care, you may write a crossed cheque payable to "Caritas-Hong Kong" and send it to: Mainland Service Desk, Room 505, Caritas House, 2, Caine Road, Central, Hong Kong. Please write down the item no. / purpose of the cheque and your contact information on the back.