



Noah's Ark Hong Kong organizes summer camps for 300 disadvantaged children SHKP's Thomas Kwok encourages young people at graduation ceremony

Hong Kong, 27 August 2013: Noah's Ark Hong Kong offers visitors a fun new experience, promotes love and harmony in the community and cares about the disadvantaged and ordinary people. It organized four inspiring summer camps for over 300 disadvantaged children aged between nine and 14 so they could have a colourful, multi-faceted learning experience and appreciate life. SHKP Chairman and Managing Director Thomas Kwok presented the participants with certificates at the Rainbow Summer Camp graduation ceremony at Noah's Ark.

The Rainbow Summer Camp for disadvantaged families was organized by Noah's Ark Hong Kong and J Life Foundation. Mr Kwok praised J Life Foundation's objectives and was pleased with participants' courage to achieve breakthroughs and generously give back to society. He encouraged participants to have faith and persevere in the face of setbacks.

Thomas Kwok deeply moved by young people who braved tough times

A young summer camp instructor Ah Wai (pseudonym) is from a single-parent family in Sham Shui Po. Her father passed away last year and her mother became the sole breadwinner for the family as her siblings were still in school. Her youngest brother Ah Sai (pseudonym) was bullied at school and has been afraid of people since primary six. He refused to leave home or talk to anyone. Volunteers made many visits to his home and helped Ah Sai to talk with people again. He later joined his three sisters to volunteer and help people overcome adversity.

Another participant Ah Chi (pseudonym) is also from a single-parent family in Sham Shui Po. His mother took her children away from their father due to his long-time gambling problem. Ah Chi was born with [hip deformity??] and needed surgery to relieve pressure on the bladder. He developed post-operative incontinence and needed to use diapers everyday, and was emotionally unstable. His mother quit her job to take care of him. She applied for comprehensive social security assistance and collected cardboard for a living. Volunteers visited them at home, gave them food and helped Ah Chi with his homework. He learned to express himself and manage his emotions. He, his mother and younger sister later became volunteers responsible for cooking, food delivery and cleaning. Mr Kwok was deeply moved by the stories of the two determined young people of different backgrounds overcoming hurdles.

The Rainbow Summer Camp was held in August with 20 university and high school students as instructors. There were 50 children from single-parent families or those relying on comprehensive social security assistance. They learned to be team players, how to build self-confidence, care for the community and develop a vision for the future. The young instructors were able to enhance their leadership skills and awareness about social responsibility and the purpose of social service. Participants left the five-day programme with happy memories.



About Noah's Ark Hong Kong

Noah's Ark Hong Kong is the world's first replica built to Biblical specifications. It is on Ma Wan Island with beautiful views of the Tsing Ma Bridge and Rambler Channel. It is a destination for entertainment, education and conservation with a wide range of facilities and activities such as the Ark Garden, Ark Expo, Treasure House, Ark Life Education House and the new Solar Tower. It promotes love, harmony and positive values in the community and offers visitors a whole new experience.

About J Life Foundation

The charity foundation was set up in 2013 for the benefit of low-income individuals, single-parent families, new immigrants and comprehensive social security assistance recipients. Lack of suitable education, accommodation, healthy diet and recreational activities in the long term can have a negative impact on the physical and mental development of disadvantaged children and teenagers in West Kowloon. The J Life Foundation organizes a range of activities such as learning, recreational and personal development programmes for less fortunate youth and women. It also arranges donations of food and other supplies for needy families with the support of private organizations. It promotes self-reliance to help people build confidence and positive values.