



For Immediate Release

**Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital Organised the 5th Walk for Vision
Reaching Out to the Community
Caring for Dementia Patients & Caregivers**

(19 March 2013 – Hong Kong) The Walk for Vision 2013 organised for the fifth year by Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital (“HKSH”), has successfully raised a total of HK\$850,000 to support services for St. James’ Settlement Kin Chi Dementia Care Support Service Centre (“St. James’ Settlement”). The fund will be used for the purchase and modification of a rehabilitation van to transport dementia patients and their caregivers. The donation includes money raised by walkathon participants and a matching fund from HKSH.

The walkathon, held on 17 March, was supported by over 200 hospital staff, relatives and friends including the Medical Superintendent of HKSH, Dr. Walton Li, and the Deputy Medical Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Chan.

“Since its establishment, HKSH has not only served the community via its state-of-the-art medical technologies and professional services, but also expressed our care for the society in a variety of ways, with particular emphasis on medicine-related charitable and non-profit organisations. In collaboration with St. James’ Settlement, HKSH hopes that the purchase of a rehabilitation van can provide transportation services for dementia patients and their caregivers residing in remote areas, thereby offering comprehensive care for families in need,” Dr. Walton Li said.

As a member of the Wan Chai community, HKSH is delighted to support services provided by our neighbour, St. James’ Settlement, which is a renowned non-profit agency that provides quality comprehensive social service enabling individuals to help themselves and others.

Kin Chi Dementia Care Support Service Centre was established in 1999 to serve dementia patients and their caregivers, and also to raise awareness of dementia in the society. Mrs. Cynthia Luk, Chief Executive Officer of St. James’ Settlement, said



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“With the kind support from HKSH, we are delighted to be able to further enhance our services and support for those we serve.”

Dementia is a degenerative brain disorder which causes the decline of brain functions, with serious effects on memory, emotions and behaviour. According to a report published by the World Health Organisation in 2012, about 35.6 million people have been diagnosed with dementia in the year 2010, with 7.7 million new cases per year. In other words, one person is diagnosed with dementia every four seconds, which demonstrates that dementia is a key challenge facing the global community.

As part of its recent developments, HKSH has been working towards the enhancement of its community ties and services. Dr. Joseph Chan added “While the event marks the first collaboration between HKSH and St. James’ Settlement, we will be exploring further cooperation opportunities between the two as our Village Volunteers are ready to serve and we look forward to joining hands in deploying our professional knowledge and skills for the benefit of society, and serving the community in the spirit of mutual aid and compassion.”

Walk for Vision is an annual charity walk organised by Village Volunteers of HKSH. The 11-km route starts from HKSH, which passes through Sing Woo Road, Tai Hang Road, Wong Nai Chung Gap Road and Violet Hill, routing back to HKSH. A 4-member team can take part in the Circle Rally of about 3.5 km at the Violet Hill Trail timed section. All walkers can enjoy fresh air and magnificent natural scenery while exercising for a good cause.

- End -





Photos

1. The Walk for Vision organised by Village Volunteers of HKSH this year raised funds for St. James' Settlement. The kick-off ceremony was held at the Lobby of Li Shu Fan Block by Dr. Walton Li (8th from right, first row), Medical Superintendent of HKSH, Dr. Joseph Chan (10th from right, first row), Deputy Medical Superintendent of HKSH cum Chairman of the Village Club, and Mrs. Cynthia Luk Ho (9th from right, first row), Chief Executive Officer of St. James' Settlement.





- Over 30 staff, volunteers, patients and caregivers from St. James' Settlement Kin Chi Dementia Care Support Service Centre attended and participated in the walk for the good cause.



- Dr. Walton Li (left), Medical Superintendent of HKSH and Dr. Joseph Chan (right), Deputy Medical Superintendent of HKSH cum Chairman of the Village Club, presented the cheque of pledged donation of HK\$850,000 to Mrs. Cynthia Luk Ho (middle), Chief Executive Officer of St. James' Settlement.



- Ms. Olive Sin (left), Project Officer, Kin Chi Dementia Care Support Service Centre and Mr. Yam (right), caregiver of a dementia patient, introduced the centre service and shared about the challenges of taking care of dementia patients.



- Charity Snack team energised the walkers with delicious snacks





6. Village Volunteers at the Violet Hill to shout cheers for the participants of Circle Rally!



7. The winners of Circle Rally





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About Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital

Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital is one of the leading private hospitals in Hong Kong. With the motto “Quality in Service Excellence in Care”, the Hospital is committed to serving the public as well as promoting medical education and research.

About Village Volunteers

Established in 2009, the Village Volunteers, which consists of HKSH staff members, doctors with HKSH privilege, nursing students and alumni of the School of Nursing has taken part in various community activities, such as visiting the home of the elderly and institutions for the mentally handicapped and the physically disabled, and other fund-raising activities, e.g. the annual Walkathon “Walk for Vision”.

About St. James’ Settlement

Founded by the Rt. Rev. Bishop R.O. Hall of the Anglican Church in 1949, St. James’ Settlement is a non-profit agency which started out in Wan Chai, providing quality comprehensive social service to enable individuals to help themselves and others. With strong support from community partners, it has always upheld the principle of serving “the Poor and the Weak” by providing innovative services comprising Hong Kong’s first “People’s Food Bank”, Dementia Care Support Service, Philanthropic Community Pharmacy, Social Enterprise, etc. through 53 service centres on Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and New Territories, for over 10,000 service recipients daily, including children, youngsters, families, streetsleepers, persons with disabilities and the elderly.

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