

Summer 2009  
Volume XIV

智行  
Foundation  
Joint Efforts to Help  
AIDS-Impacted Children

Upcoming Events ▼

## 2010 Desktop Calendar Charity Sale

This desktop calendar is made with a collection of drawings by the AIDS orphans supported by Chi Heng. Bulk orders should be placed before Aug 15. To order, visit [www.chfaidsorphans.com](http://www.chfaidsorphans.com) or email [info@chihengfoundation.com](mailto:info@chihengfoundation.com).

## “Arts for Chalk” in Hangzhou

Chi Heng's first fundraising art camp will be held in Hangzhou from July 29 to Aug 2. Students from Hong Kong and students supported by Chi Heng in China will create art work together.

## Chi Heng Summer Camp 2009


Chi Heng will hold summer camps in Beijing (July 7 – 13), Shanghai (July 22 – 28) and Guangzhou (mid – late Aug) in 2009. Students supported by Chi Heng will join the camps to visit famous universities, corporations and historical sites, to paint with experienced art teachers, and to play and share with volunteers and university students. The activities promise to be very rewarding to all participants.

## Education Sponsorship and Scholarship Disbursement in Henan

Chung To, Chairperson of Chi Heng Foundation, visited a primary school in Henan on May 29 to award scholarships to sixty students. Students took the opportunity to express their appreciation to Chung and to Chi Heng for the support and encouragement. Chung shared his high hopes for the students with them. The local charity association also thanked Chi Heng for its work through the years.

Chung and the Chi Heng team also disbursed education sponsorship to over 100 Senior High third year students in the afternoon, together with award of scholarships to 18 outstanding Senior High first and second year students. Each student also received stationary and biographies of eminent persons. The students expressed their gratitude to Chi Heng and vowed to study hard to

contribute to the society, and carry forward Chi Heng's spirit of generosity and altruism.

Students, parents and the Chi Heng team enjoyed a nice dinner together, during which bouquets and recognition banners were presented to Chi Heng Foundation by representatives from the student, parent, school and village groups. 

▼ Chung To made opening remarks



Drawing from Our Student



▲ Title: My Dream By Xiao Qi (Student sponsored by CHF)



## Bag for Better - a charity fund raising event in support of Chi Heng Foundation



△ Event widely attended

Over 100 artists, designers and celebrities came together to participate in a special charity event named "Bag For Better", which was organized by a volunteer group of local designers in support of the Chi Heng Foundation.

A plain canvas bag was given to the participants, who then added their own individual designs to the bag using their creativity and imagination.

The 117 bags, each with a unique design, were exhibited at the YY9 Gallery and sold by way of silent auction during the period May 8 – 30. The exhibition cum auction was planned and scheduled in May with the reception being held on the "World AIDS Orphans Day" on 7th May to give additional meaning to this event.

The silent auction was very successful, and the full amount raised was donated to Chi Heng to benefit the AIDS impacted children in China, giving them the chance of education for a better life in the future. 福

## Opening of Reading Room



△Ms. Peggy Teo of Business Traveller and Chung To

The reading room located in the Jiesshou Duanzhai Secondary School, donated and constructed by the Business Traveller Magazine and Chi Heng, officially opened on May 19. Representatives from the Business Traveller Magazine, Fuyang city government, Fuyang Women Association, Chi Heng volunteers from Canada and Hong Kong, Chi Heng staff in the Anhui office together with Chung To attended the opening ceremony.

During the ceremony, Chung reiterated Chi Heng's philosophy of "Putting wisdom into action - Knowledge will change one's destiny". The reading room realizes Chi Heng's commitment to improving infrastructure in schools and to providing a conducive study environment for students.

This reading room is the first to open among a total of 9 reading rooms by Chi Heng in Henan and Anhui. The other 8 reading rooms were opened to students around June 1 this year. 福

The "Leader of the Year 2008 Awards" was presented at the Hong Kong Sing Tao Daily 70th Anniversary Gala Dinner on March 29 in the Grand Hyatt Hong Kong. In the Community/Public Affairs category, the winner was To Chung, founder of the Chi Heng Foundation. Chung received the award from Dr. Leong Che-hung, Chairman of the Hong Kong AIDS Foundation.

"To quit his banking career at the peak of the stock market boom and dedicate his life to improving the lot of AIDS-affected children in the mainland sets an admirable example for youngsters," said Dr. Raymond Ch'ien, Chairman of the Hong Kong MTR Corporation and a panel judge. He believes Chung's demonstration of "money isn't everything" and courage to do the right thing in the face of hostility and adversity can act as a beacon for young people who have lost their bearings in the current economic crisis.

Mr. Andrew Leung, Chairman of the Hong Kong Productivity Council and a panel judge, also commended Chung's advocacy of education and prevention of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in China, especially for orphans who have lost their parents to the disease.

Mr. Leung urged youngsters not to crave material items.

Mirroring Chung, they should spare some time to contribute to society and strive to achieve their aspirations. 福

## Leader of the Year 2008 Awards



△ Chung receiving award from Dr. C.H. Leung

## The First Zhoukou Charity Conference

The first Zhoukou Charity Conference was held on March 31. Leadership and members from the China Charity Association, Henan Charity Association and the city of Zhoukou attended the event.

Charitable individuals and groups who contributed to Zhoukou were recognized at the conference to encourage philanthropy in Zhoukou. Chi Heng was awarded the "Zhoukou Charity Award" to recognize its work on education sponsorship to AIDS impacted children throughout Zhoukou. 福



△Chi Heng was awarded the "Zhoukou Charity Award"

## Chi Heng Initiatives in Southwest China

Chi Heng has been helping AIDS impacted children in Yunnan and Guangxi since 2006, mainly through cooperation with local entities. In March, Chi Heng's office in Kunming went into operation, marking a milestone in its work in the Southwest. The office was sponsored by the Kunming Fulin Tang Pharmaceutical Company Limited, Member of New World Group. The office has two main objectives. First, offer help to the AIDS impacted children. Up to Spring 2009, Chi Heng has helped over 200 children in this area. Second, work on earthquake relief in Sichuan. In the summer of 2008, the villagers welcomed the help offered by over 20 university students supported by Chi Heng. A number of university students visited the earthquake impacted area again right before the Chinese New Year in 2009 to disburse additional relief supplies. Chi Heng is planning another visit this summer to convey care and support to the villagers. 福

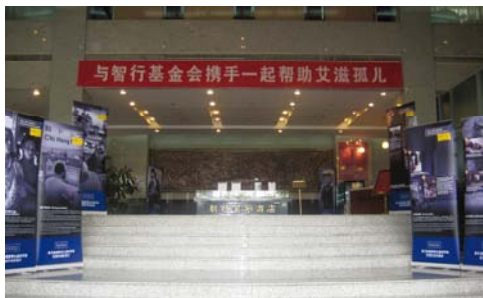
## Care for AIDS Orphans, Celebrate Children's Day

"Care for AIDS Orphans, Celebrate Children's Day" was the theme for the awareness raising activities organized by Chi Heng in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou around the World AIDS Orphans Day on May 7 and the Children's Day on June 1. Exhibition of drawings by AIDS orphans, talks and debates were held in participating corporations and high schools. The events were supported by Beidu Charity and Sohu Charity.

In Beijing, exhibition of drawings and talks were held at the Zhaolin Group and the KFC store in Wanwei, as well as the Communication University of China (CUC), Renmin University of China (RUC) and Peking University Health Science Center (PUHSC). In conjunction with the exhibition, a book donation drive took place in the CUC and the RUC to benefit the AIDS orphans in the rural area. Chung To gave talks in RUC and PUHSC on the current status of AIDS orphans.

A debate competition was the main activity in Shanghai. Students from the Shanghai International Studies University (SISU) and Fudan University had a vigorous debate on "the privacy right of AIDS patients vs. the public's right to know", during which Chung served as a judge. SISU was declared the winner.

In Guangzhou, "Care for AIDS Orphans" was the theme for the activities held at the Sun Yat-Sen University. Original drawings by AIDS orphans supported by Chi Heng went on exhibition. The lively paintings attracted many student visitors, many of whom used paper provided to make stars, cranes and red ribbons. They also posted



△ Exhibition held at Zhaolin Group

their creation on the "Wall of Care" to convey their well wishes for the AIDS orphans. Many others wrote words of encouragement to the AIDS orphans on the "Wall of Care".

## Chi Heng at ART HK 09

The Chi Heng Foundation was chosen as Benefiting Charity of the ART HK 09 Art Fair in May. The objective was to raise funds for a summer program organized by university students sponsored by Chi Heng for children affected by the Sichuan earthquake to commemorate its first anniversary on May 12, 2009. This leading Art Fair in Asia, featuring contemporary art from 110 major galleries from around the world, was held in the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Center.

The Fair welcomed over 27,000 visitors from the opening night on May 13 to the final day on May 17. Through ART HK's sponsorship, Chi Heng invited donors and supporters to visit the Fair and to join a reception on the Late View evening on May 14 dedicated to Chi Heng. The Chi Heng stand at the Fair exhibited drawings created during art therapy sessions attended by children impacted by AIDS which attracted



△ Chi Heng's Booth at Art HK09

a large number of visitors. Bags from the "Bag For Better" project were also displayed arousing the interest of many ladies. Chi Heng is grateful for the time and efforts of many volunteers who helped to organize its participation at the Fair, providing opportunities for visitors to be introduced to the cause and programs of Chi Heng.

## "Children of China" Photo Exhibition

A public exhibition of photographs from the book "Children of China" was presented by the Australian Consulate-General Hong Kong at the Pacific Place Mall from June 12 to 16. The book and photographs were offered for sale with all net proceeds



△ Author Alethea Gold (right) with supporter

benefiting Chi Heng. An estimated 4,000 people visited the exhibition during the 5 day event, some purchased the book, ordered photographs as gifts or to take home a beautiful piece of work while supporting a worthy cause.

Comprised of more than 100 images, "Children of China" is a photographic journey that captures the allure and beauty of China through the eyes and faces of its children. The author Alethea Gold, a renowned Australian children's stylist, had a dream of being in China which she coincidentally shared with a friend and fashion photographer Luca Zordan, and the vision turned into an unexpected life-changing reality. "I hadn't even been to China," says Gold, "and nor had Luca. That we both dreamt of being among children there seemed more than pure happenstance – it was as if it was our destiny."

"Soon after I heard of the Oscar©-nominated documentary "Blood of Yingzhou District" about peasants in central China who sold their blood for food money. Many of them became infected with HIV. As a result, many children became orphans and I suddenly realised that our true destiny was to help these children," said Alethea.

Limited edition of the 28 photographs exhibited and the book is still available, with all net proceeds benefiting Chi Heng. For more details please visit [www.chifaidsorphans.com](http://www.chifaidsorphans.com),

email [info@chihengfoundation.com](mailto:info@chihengfoundation.com) or call Chi Heng at (852) 2517 0564.

## "Paint a Tie for Dad"

To celebrate Father's Day this year, City Garden Hotel in North Point, Hong Kong devoted the entire month of June in appreciation of father and organized the "Paint a Tie for Dad" charity drawing competition from June 1 to 29. The Garden Café donated 5 percent of its total income from lunch and dinner in June to Chi Heng to help the AIDS



△ The participants enjoyed the event

orphans. Patrons were presented with a tie and paint, where children of all ages and wives expressed their affection towards their father or spouse through their creative painting on a tie.

Celebrated designer Dennis Chan and ballerina Lily Tsang attended in support of the event. Food writer Choi Lan, who is also famous for painting ties, hosted the award ceremony which was also attended by renowned writer Ni Kuang and actor Yueh Hua. Overall, the event was well received.

## Katheleen's 5 Commemorates the 26th World AIDS Candlelight Memorial

Katheleen's 5 Rooftop Restaurant in Shanghai hosted a gala dinner and a celebration party to commemorate the 26th World AIDS Candlelight Memorial on May 16. Chi Heng was selected as the beneficiary of this gala dinner again for the fourth year in a row. A total of 130 distinguished guests attended the event and conveyed their condolence to the deceased.

Nine students supported by Chi Heng, who are now in the Shanghai Young Bakers apprenticeship program supported by JCEF, made their professional debut. They served the guests with bread they made fresh from the oven, complimenting the authentic French food served at Kathleen's 5. 大



Chung and the young bakers sponsored by CHF >

## "Celebrate your Happiness, Find your Blessings" Charity Dinner



△ Chung presents souvenir to Mr. Stanly Ho (3rd from left), CEO of Super Star Group

"Celebrate your Happiness, Find your Blessings" is a charity dinner series organized by food critic Ms. Doreen Leung who is a Chi Heng volunteer. Comedians entertained dinner guests while they enjoy the special menu with almond as the main ingredient for the six course meal from appetizer to desert. The menu was designed by chef Chow Kuen Chung, who won the Japan Iron Chef competition, and Doreen Leung.

The dinner was held at the Super Star seafood restaurant in Wan Chai, Hong Kong, with sponsorship from the restaurant and Health Smart Limited. Five dinner gatherings had been held from February to July this year, with the next one planned for August 14. Seats are limited as the menu requires much work in the kitchen.

Performances and sharing from Dr. Maria Lee, Ms. Maria Chung, Mr. Lam Chiu Wing, Mr. Lai Man Cheuk and Mr. Choy Tsz Kin ensured that laughter, inspiration and good food were enjoyed by everyone. A joyful evening became the best reward to the kind supporters of Chi Heng.

While it takes a lot of work to organize each gathering, dinner organizer Doreen Leung welcomes the opportunity for additional events, as many people have come to know Chi Heng through this event. Interested parties may call Ms Lee at (852) 2891 0874 or email leungdoreen@gmail.com. 大

## "Student can Help 2009" Charity Concert

The "Student can Help 2009" charity concert was held in the Hong Kong City University on March 14. Attended by over 200 students, the theme for the event was "First AIDS", intending to convey hope and support to the AIDS orphans through music. Three bands formed by students from various universities in HK together with the guest band "Mister" performed singing and music to express love and care.

A video clip on AIDS impacted children in China was also shown to raise the awareness of the social impact of AIDS in China, and to encourage the students to show compassion for those impacted by the disease. Chi Heng's work in China was also introduced through display panels at the concert.

The concert was jointly organized by the Community College of City University, City University of Hong Kong and Chi Heng, with sponsorship from the Sedan Chair Charities Fund. All ticket sales proceeds benefited Chi Heng.

"Student Can Help" is a Chi Heng annual educational event, mobilizing secondary school and university students to design and organize activities in the communities, with the goals of raising awareness of AIDS disease and showing compassion for the impacted. 大



△ Performing band "Mister"

## Falling in Love with Fuyang

Shortly after arriving at the Chi Heng office in Fuyang, China, volunteers from Hong Kong and Canada met two young staff there. They were Ping and Xiaodai. Both of their parents were infected with AIDS in selling blood. They were sponsored by Chi Heng for their education and both of them have already graduated from university. Xiaodai now has his own family with a lovely baby boy. Both of them have a wonderful change in their lives after receiving the support from Chi Heng.

Being thankful and grateful to Chi Heng, Ping and Xiaodai decided to work in Chi Heng. With their personal experience, they know that they can help and understand those children impacted by AIDS. Fuyang office currently has 4 full-time staff and is helping over 1500 children in the Fuyang area.

During one of the home visits, we met a teenage girl call Wai. Both of her parents have contracted AIDS, and unfortunately she has also been infected with AIDS at birth. A beautiful girl dressed in pink, she spoke softly and with tears in her eyes. We learned that she and her mother were discriminated by students at school, and even by her grand-mother and uncles and aunties at home. Ping and the volunteers from Canada tried to encourage her and to cheer her up, however she could not stop her tears. Every drop of her tears told us that we (volunteers) need to work harder and further, to give our love and to support more kids like her in China, so that all of them can live joyfully and with self esteem.

With the support from Chi Heng, the children receive not just education, but also unconditional love and care from Chung To, from the staff and the volunteers. Being loved, the children also learn to love and help others in a similar situation. We are pleased to see that love has been passed on to the children, like Ping and Xiaodai, and they decided to come back to help other children. Together we build a better future with love and care for these 8000+ children and families impacted by AIDS across China.

Thank you Chi Heng and Chung To for the amazing works and unconditional love to families impacted by AIDS. 大

Simon Wing-Yip Chow Toronto, Canada



News in brief

### Chi Heng Zhoukou Office Now In Service

With the support of the Zhoukou Civil Affairs Bureau and Zhoukou Charity Association, Chi Heng's office in Zhoukou went into service on March 16, offering service to northern Hubei and southern Henan.

### Chi Heng Team Raised Funds for Leukemia Patient

Xiaolai, one of the students supported by Chi Heng, was diagnosed with Leukemia in March 09 and in need of bone marrow transplant. Despite both of his parents being impacted by AIDS, Xiaolai is doing well in his first year of secondary school studies. The Chi Heng team and university students supported by Chi Heng worked closely together after hearing the news and raised over RMB 18,000 for Xiaolai.

### Hilary Clinton met with Chung To

During Hillary Clinton's first official state visit to China in February as the U.S. Secretary of State, Chung To was invited to meet with her in Beijing despite her tight schedule.



### Chung To won the title of "Top 10 Elite Men in 2008"

On April 26, Chung To was selected as one of the "Top 10 Elite Men in 2008" by Brand Magazine, the leading man magazine within the Nangang Daily Group, in recognition of his continuous effort in helping AIDS impacted children in China. Chung also participated in the panel discussion of "Pursuit of Wealth vs. Cherish of Nation".

### Charity Rice Dumplings Sale 2009

Senior Wellness Paradise Association in Canada organized a charity rice dumpling sale in May, with Chi Heng Canada

selected as the beneficiary. The event was widely supported by individuals and corporate sponsors.

### Clé de Peau Beauté La Crème u Party

Clé de Peau Beauté La Crème u product launching party was held on January 8 at the Audi Hong Kong Showroom. Mrs Cathy Lee, Goodwill Ambassador of Chi Heng, Mr. Yoshiaki Okabe of Shiseido and Mr. Chong Got of Premium Motors Ltd were among the attendees. Clé de Peau Beauté donated all proceeds from sales of the La Crème u charity gift set to Chi Heng.

### The 2009 Canadian Chamber Annual Ball

Chi Heng was selected the beneficiary of the raffle ticket sales in the 2009 Canadian Chamber Annual Ball held jointly by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in HK and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Macau. The event was held on May 16 at the Grand Hyatt Hong Kong.

### Children's Charity Carnival

Chi Heng participated in the "Children's Charity Carnival" on May 3 in Hong Kong, meeting many children who wrote greeting messages on paper planes for CHF sponsored children in China. The event was presented jointly by Peegaboo Group and Prestique Marketing & Management Consultants.

### "How to Teach Your Baby to Read Chinese" Book Launch

Parents, students and supporters attended the "How to teach your baby to read Chinese" book launch reception at the Hong Kong Lusitano Club on May 27. Author Thomas Ho donated all book sales proceeds at the event to Chi Heng.

### Albert Au in Concert 2009

Albert Au held two performances on April 10 and 11 at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre and supported Chi Heng by offering charity tickets. Many supporters purchased charity tickets through Chi Heng, enjoyed premier location seats while making a donation as all net sales proceeds went to Chi Heng.



Voice from our staff

## Me and Chi Heng



△ Wu Huawei

Chi Heng has financed me throughout my secondary school and university studies. Even to this day, Chi Heng still plays a large part in my life, as I am now one of their employees. I decided to work for Chi Heng not just because I have been deeply moved by their mission, but also because I felt compelled to assist because of my conscience.

Both of my parents were victims of AIDS. During the winter of 2002, my father passed away. My world collapsed around me and I was utterly devastated and helpless. I decided to leave school and start work to ease the burden on my family, but I was eventually persuaded to go back home by my mother.

One day by chance, I came into contact with the Chi Heng Foundation. At that time, I did not believe that any organization would pay for school fees without asking for anything in return (perhaps I had just never come across any charitable organizations before). In the end, I decided to believe in this faint glimmer of hope and I gave it a try. In 2004, when I was still unable to pay any school fees, Chi Heng transferred one year's worth of school fees to my bank account. My tuition fees were

transferred promptly to me during each of my three years at university. Only then did I finally realize that Chi Heng was there to help us. It felt like someone was making my wishes come true, and this person was Mr Chung To.

I have decided to become a part of Chi Heng because I know that there are many more children out there with a similar background and are unable to go to school. I want to help them; I do not want to see the helplessness in their eyes and I cannot stand knowing that these children, due to the lack of education opportunities, are being exploited by the others. I am there to encourage and help these children who suffered the pain of having their family member(s) die of AIDS. I want to tell them that even though those times bring us unbearable suffering, we do not need to be afraid - we still have Chi Heng, there still are people who care about us like Mr Chung To. He will encourage and support us until we are able to enjoy our own successes.

My role in Chi Heng not only involves the distribution of school fees, but also includes connecting with the children. I hope I could be involved in running social enterprises to benefit these children and provide financial support to their studies. My workload is often heavy and my business trips can take up to 20 days each month. My salary is not high but at the end of the day, I am a happy person because I know that I am doing something extremely worthwhile. I want to help those children with their school fees as quickly as possible, so that their lives are not squandered because of our delay. I do not want these children to suffer any more.

Finally, I would like to say:

Life does not believe in tears, fate does not tolerate the weak!

I struggle yet I am happy!





## Thoughts on my trip to Hong Kong

I have heard much about Hong Kong, but the place itself has always seemed like a dream to me. Even though I have watched many television reports about it, I have not been able to experience its delights in person. With the help of Uncle To and other uncles and aunts at Chi Heng, I was fortunate enough to visit Hong Kong this time. I was able to experience the beauty of the place and have a taste for the optimistic attitude of the Hong Kong people.

During my few days there, I had the opportunity to see how people in Hong Kong organize their daily lives. They have a keen sense of timing and every minute of their time is put to good use. Many students on the Mainland do not make good use of their time. During their free time, some students will go shopping or go to sleep, and others will play computer games until the middle of the night, waking up only at noon the next day for lunch...in this type of environment, even hard-working people will easily become lazy.

People in Hong Kong are very civilized and polite. I didn't see seen any rubbish on the streets, nor do people smoke whilst walking. They say "hello" and "thank you" all the time, and always make me feel at ease. When I asked for directions, they showed me the way enthusiastically - some of them even offered to take me there, for which I was extremely grateful!

Auntie Lee was with us throughout our time in Hong Kong and she also organized our daily schedule. She took us to the venue of all the activities and we went sightseeing together. She also gave us many insights on her philosophies of life. Here I would like to

share a few of the things she taught us:

1. Communicate more with other people. Do not be prejudiced in your views because of the person's background. Look for opportunities to communicate and learn from people from all walks of life.

2. Everyone has a place in the circle of life. This means everyone has his/her own place/position in life, but the ideal place in life cannot be attained without any effort. Your own success can only be obtained through your own efforts.

3. Be strict with yourself and be courteous –it is more important to set high standards for yourself than for the others.

4. Be considerate and do not just think about yourself.

5. Think before you act, do not follow the others blindly.

I will always keep the above words in my heart.

Amongst all of the activities that I took part in during my time in Hong Kong, the most unforgettable one was the marathon. It was the first time I have ever run with so many people. As I was not used to running such a long distance, I felt a little nervous before the game, though my results proved that it was unnecessary. When I saw the runners taking over one another or being taken over by the others, I stopped worrying - I realized that it was not the end result that was important. The key to this event was participation and the spirit. Then I felt much relaxed and when I finished the 10km run, I was extremely excited and had a huge sense of accomplishment.

At this moment, I keep recalling the kindness, gentleness and intelligence on Uncle To's face! I would like to thank our most loved and respected Uncle To once again. It is because of him, that 8,000 of us - children in the Mainland have found happiness and that so many unfortunate families have found hope. His persistency, hard work and untiring efforts have given hope to many people. We love you, Uncle To! I will work hard to repay your kindness and to contribute to the society. Thank you!

By Xiao Dong



## The Story Between Me and Chi Heng

The beginning of the 21st century marked my entry into a new career - an official retiree. I searched for meaningful voluntary work for five long years but failed because of my insistence on one thing – to be rewarded. Is this improper? A volunteer is only to give and never to take. Well, not so, since volunteer work without reward is boring or even non-productive. Here, of course I don't mean monetary but spiritual reward (or self satisfaction). I can share with you my views on this if my editor still allows me some space in the next newsletter.

Then, miraculously, I found Chi Heng Foundation and have since experienced a truly unique, enlightening journey with juicy rewards.

In early 2005, my friend in Canada forwarded me an article written by Chung TO, founder of Chi Heng and a Harvard MBA who left a highly paid investment banking career to devote his time to AIDS impacted orphans in China. The story was extremely touching and gave us a couple of sleepless nights. My wife Dora and I called Chung up and invited him for a meeting to find out how true his story was. In the meeting, we heard more amazing stories from him. Yet we were somehow half hearted because those narrations were simply too sad to be real.

We laid dormant until August 2005 when our inner voice guided us to call Chung again and asked if we could follow him on one of his field visits to the affected villages. He replied with a kind and welcome tone that his next trip was scheduled for the following week. Excitedly, we purchased two air tickets at the spur of the moment and off we went – to Henan for the first time.

The journey totally captivated us and changed our impression of Chung and the under-privileged AIDS-impacted orphans.

Firstly, we responded awkwardly during our maiden acquaintance with the AIDS impacted children. We are still embarrassed about our ignorance whenever we look back. On the other hand, these young kids jumped at the sight of Chung, hugged him and fondly chanted 'TO Su Su (Uncle)'. This particular scene led us to understand that Chung did devote lots and lots of his time,



△ Patrick with students at Chi Heng event in China

effort, love, passion, care, and so on with these children.

Secondly, we stayed in one star hotel with cockroaches loitering around. It was clear evidence that Chi Heng is an NGO with its expenditure strictly controlled.

Thirdly, end of August was just a few days before new school term commenced. One of Chung's routines was to personally interview each and every first year university student applying for scholarship from Chi Heng. He used a fairly detailed marking system. Only qualified applications were approved. This showed his

dedication and sophistication in managing the NGO's funds.

Fourthly, even when an applicant passed all criteria, Chung would not hand out 100% of the required fees. Usually he endorsed around 60-70% and requested him/her to make up the balance from other means, e.g. bank/school loans, tutoring services, part time jobs, etc. This demonstrated Chung's way of treating and respecting the student that he/she was a grown-up and capable of independently looking after him/herself. Clearly this helped to build the student's self esteem and confidence.

Fifthly, each approved sum was remitted directly into the bank account of the applicant and subsequently verified against the receipt issued by the university. This certainly relieved our biggest worry that part of the raised fund is being pocketed by middle persons.

In short, Chi Heng is more than a charity organization. It is home to many orphans who have unfortunately lost their parents; its parental loving and caring style let many under-privileged feel a sense of belonging and most importantly 'hope for the future'.

As a result of our revised comprehension of Chung and Chi Heng, Dora and I started lending our hands as volunteers and up till now have not regretted our decision because we have been rewarded – with tremendous satisfaction and pride.

Finally, we take this corner to appeal to our readers that if you have faith in what I said above and believe you are interested, committed, ambitious and loyal, you are always welcome to join our small yet joyous volunteer team, and I would like to hear from you through Chi Heng.

Patrick Poon Hong Kong

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### About Us

The Chi Heng Foundation is a charity registered and based in Hong Kong. Since 2002, CHF's AIDS Orphan Project has provided education and care to 8,000 AIDS-impacted children across central China. A mere HK\$ 250 can pay for one child's primary schooling for an entire year