

Client Care
Client Empowerment
Social Reform



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2021 ANNUAL REPORT



TO RESTORE DIGNITY, JUSTICE, AND HOPE TO THE VULNERABLE AND MARGINALISED IN HONG KONG.



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LETTER FROM DIRECTOR



There are an estimated over 13,000 refugees and asylum seekers in Hong Kong, and about 10,000 persons caught in the dark webs of human trafficking and slavery. Despite measures to control the inflow of refugees and asylum seekers, unstable geopolitical environments around the world will result

in a continuing flow of refugees through our city. Human greed and avarice prey on the weak and vulnerable, resulting in the proliferation of human trafficking and modern slavery in various forms.

A highly developed and humane society like Hong Kong cannot stand by as desperate people in need seek refuge and asylum in our city. Tragically less than one in a hundred of these asylum seekers are recognised as having a legitimate case. We cannot turn a blind eye to the dark recesses of our city where people are actively trafficked in and through our city, where current laws and regulations do not recognise the criminality of this activity, much less provide guidance for prosecution, deterrence and rescue.

These two specific people groups—refugees and asylum seekers and those caught in human trafficking—are the core focus of our mission at Branches of Hope. This year our team has put a tremendous effort into shaping a new three-year strategic plan with three key goals:

- **Client Care.** We will develop more effective programmes to provide holistic care for some of Hong Kong's most vulnerable persons.

- **Client Empowerment.** We will build programmes that equip our clients to be leaders and coaches who help other refugees, asylum seekers and victims of human trafficking to realise their dreams and aspirations.
- **Social Reform.** Branches of Hope will tirelessly advocate for the most vulnerable and marginalised in our city by raising awareness among the public and by helping our government find constructive responses to desperate needs.

We will continue to partner with other NGOs, churches and other organisations to raise awareness, give support, and advocate publicly for these causes. There remains an immense amount of work to be done. Biblically speaking, the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

We are proud of our Branches of Hope staff and volunteers for their heroic efforts during this second pandemic year, a constantly changing and challenging environment. They have worked vigorously and creatively to see lives changed and the futures of families transformed.

We look forward to 2022 where our vision is to reach out more widely to the Hong Kong community as we increase awareness of the needs of the most vulnerable, and as we partner with you to prevent trafficking in and through Hong Kong and give refugees and asylum seekers new hope and a future. We cannot do this alone. On behalf of the Board of Directors of Branches of Hope, I thank all who have partnered with us, and all of you who will walk with us in the year to come in this journey of transformation!

"A HIGHLY DEVELOPED AND HUMANE SOCIETY LIKE HONG KONG CANNOT STAND BY AS DESPERATE PEOPLE IN NEED SEEK REFUGE AND ASYLUM IN OUR CITY. WE ALSO CANNOT TURN A BLIND EYE TO THE DARK RECESSES OF OUR CITY WHERE PEOPLE ARE ACTIVELY TRAFFICKED IN AND THROUGH OUR CITY."
— CLIFF MA

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



At the turn of this new year, we are committed to shake off the dust from what the pandemic and external environment have left us with. As we adapt to the culture of a 'new normal,' we continue to come up with an array of relief measures to support those in need. We are exploring

sustainable ways to empower refugees, asylum seekers and human trafficking survivors to be leaders amongst themselves, and to join us in creating a better environment for our clients and other marginalised groups in Hong Kong. In this report, apart from sharing the programme impacts from last year, we would also like to share our vision with new strategies which lead us to more holistic care and support to the most marginalised communities in our city.

In the year to come we will strengthen our **Client Care** programmes by building social capital as we cultivate the practice of mutual support and sharing among these communities. In spite of COVID restrictions, our team proactively reaches out to the most marginalised by doing regular home visits, making trips to the Immigration Tower and approaching migrant domestic workers who are vulnerable to exploitation. We also care for other vulnerable groups by distributing lunchboxes and personal protection items.

In 2022 we continue a shift of focus from relief to development through **Client Empowerment**. We have raised up leaders on multiple fronts:

- Youths being equipped to be leaders and coaches in various sports classes for younger children
- Trafficking survivors and beneficiaries of the Post-Secondary Education Assistance (PSEA) programme paying back to the community by sharing their skillsets
- South Asian members becoming ambassadors to reach out and care for street cleaners and homeless people

We believe the transformation and resilience demonstrated by our community members is the most powerful way to empower them to impact their communities and our city.

With the evolving social and political environment in Hong Kong, a bottom-up

approach is key to **Social Reform**. We will give more effort and resources in public education to raise awareness on social justice issues and to equip the general public with tools for creative action. Generating compassion and mobilising behavioral change and action will help shape a socially integrated environment across the city. It is also important for us to continue to deepen our engagement, ensure accountability and broaden partnerships with different stakeholders in the society.

More than ever before our city needs both compassion and action to stand with the vulnerable and marginalised. With these new strategic priorities, we invite you to journey with us as we march boldly into this new season.

"GENERATING COMPASSION AND MOBILISING BEHAVIORAL CHANGE AND ACTION WILL HELP SHAPE A SOCIALLY INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENT ACROSS THE CITY." — AMAN YEE

ACHIEVEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

Over the past nine years, Branches of Hope has worked diligently to restore dignity, justice, and hope to the vulnerable and marginalised in Hong Kong. In 2021 we provided assistance and care to over **2,300 refugees, asylum seekers and human trafficking survivors**, including more than **120 new cases**.



CLIENT CARE

To enhance health and well-being among community members by providing social services and financial assistance, such as housing, food, medical care, counselling, legal referral and repatriation.

\$2.35 MILLION

was allocated to financial assistance

391

refugees and asylum seekers benefitted from financial assistance

10

human trafficking survivors benefitted from financial assistance

19

refugees were resettled

380+

donors and sponsors

54

home visits were done



CLIENT EMPOWERMENT

To empower and build resilience of our community members in a sustainable way through education and training, including but not limited to English classes, jewelry making, car mechanics training, reading clubs, etc.

\$1 MILLION

funding allocated to refugee and asylum seeker education

74

students were supported financially

35

types of classes and trainings were held

6

self-care workshops were held for human trafficking survivors

116

adults and children attended classes regularly

66

hours of outreach visits were conducted



SOCIAL REFORM

A person-centric approach in tackling issues faced by the vulnerable and marginalised in Hong Kong, including public education and engagement, research, advocacy and fundraising.

2,770

members of the public benefitted from trainings, workshops and educational talks both physically and virtually

32

trainings, workshops and educational talks were conducted physically and virtually

2

fundraising events were organised

2

human trafficking issue-related researches are ongoing

22,200+

reaches through social media

1,000+

sex workers and migrant domestic workers were approached



REFUGEE OPPORTUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT

This has been a challenging year as we continue to navigate a pandemic that never seems to end. Even more than most Hong Kong people, refugees struggle under COVID-19 restrictions. On the bright side, some of our refugee and asylum-seeker (RAS) members are either resettled or closer to getting resettled or employed. In response to the overwhelming needs of this diverse community, Refugee Opportunity and Development (ROAD) continues to serve our community in many ways, while launching new initiatives made possible by existing and new partnerships with corporates, schools and other organisations.

CLIENT CARE

Since refugees and asylum seekers are not allowed to work, they are forced to rely on the Hong Kong social welfare system. However, social welfare does not cover the basic needs of the refugees we serve. Branches of Hope works to fill this gap as much as possible as we attend to the day-to-day struggles of our community members. Along with attending to immediate needs, ROAD also helps refugees work toward finding sustainable budget solutions to their financial challenges, and build a buffer against the threat of destitution.



HOME VISITS

We have been visiting community members on a bi-weekly basis since early 2021 with the purpose to get to know our community members better. Spending time with them outside an office setting allows more room for casual conversation, as well as the opportunity to observe follow-up actions that may need to be taken.

BANK ACCOUNTS FOR REFUGEES

Beginning last year in collaboration with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC), our community members have been able to open their own bank accounts, with referral from an NGO like Branches of Hope. With bank accounts, they can receive our monthly assistance through auto-pay, we also believe our clients are empowered to have more autonomy in managing their own finances, as well as access to banking services previously unavailable for them.



CLIENT EMPOWERMENT

EDUCATION

Over the years of working with refugees and asylum seekers, we have seen how students struggle in public school. In addition to language barriers, they often lack the educational background to prepare them for schooling in Hong Kong. Many refugee students also struggle with cultural and racial barriers to their integration into the local community. Our education programme has been supplementing public education in various forms: homework support, tutorials, and social integration via extracurricular activities with volunteer students from international schools. We also provide English

courses and vocational training in computer and auto mechanics for adults on a one-off or regular basis.

EMPLOYMENT

Employment support is provided to refugees who have been recognised in Hong Kong and are granted permits to work. We help refugees prepare for employment through job-related advice and skills training. We also help them locate job opportunities, and assist in work permit application and obtaining all needed documents. Recently we have launched a Corporate Scheme for Refugees Employment in hope of establishing

a network of relationships with corporates who are willing to provide jobs for refugees as well as raising awareness of refugee-related issues among businesses who hire.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2021

Every year, ROAD runs a Summer School for refugee and asylum-seeker children to learn through exciting activities. This year, the 3-week Summer School was held from 12 to 30 July 2021 with the theme “Ocean, Land, Space”. Forty students aged 4 to 12 years old joined us on this fun journey of exploration and learning. In addition to the English, Chinese and Science curriculum designed by three experienced teachers, the students went on three field trips to the Hong Kong Science Museum, the Hong Kong Space Museum and a recreational centre.

During the Summer School we had 10 refugee youth aged 15 to 21 who helped out as teaching assistants. They assisted volunteer teachers to ensure smooth operation of daily registration and meal arrangements. They also worked together with other youth volunteers from international schools and local organisations. Women from the RAS community played a key role in preparing breakfast and lunch for students throughout the Summer School as well. This was a great platform to facilitate integration and empowerment through peer support and interaction.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

We have partnered with Sports 100 to offer sports and leadership training sessions with 10 youth since May 2021. The goal of this new collaboration is to equip and empower youth to be leaders and coaches in different sports classes for younger children.

We have also partnered with Chinese International School (CIS) Service-Learning Program to provide a series of weekly after-school extracurricular activities that focus on performing arts for primary school children. Activities include dancing, acting, vocal training and guitar classes.



SOCIAL REFORM



WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2021

World Refugee Day, 20th June, is a day set aside by the United Nations to celebrate the strength, courage and perseverance of millions of refugees worldwide. For 2021 the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) chose the theme “the power of inclusion” for World Refugee Day. Branches of Hope joined with NGOs and churches around the world in calling all of us to include refugees in our healthcare, education and sport systems. We joined with the Vine Church to explore the theme of “Home Together” as we encouraged each other to make Hong Kong a truly generous and welcoming home – though temporary – for refugees and asylum-seekers. Refugee Day at the Vine brought together more than 2,000 people in person and online to hear

community members and volunteers share their stories of beauty and love experienced as we do Home Together

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Unlike war torn regions around the world, Hong Kong presents unique challenges for refugees and asylum seekers. Employment is not allowed, nor travel outside Hong Kong. Government funding is not available for refugees to attend college or university. It's easy for 13,000 refugees to be overlooked in a city of 7.5 million people. During the past year, ROAD had numerous speaking engagements in international schools and corporations to raise awareness and provide opportunities for partnership and collaboration as we reach out through public education.



IMPACT STORY

MOHAMED

To escape illegal demands made by local political factions, Mohamed (Mo) and his family arrived Hong Kong in 2015 to seek asylum. With the sudden change of culture and restrictions on asylum-seekers, Mo struggled with his emotional health and self-identity as the male head of the household.

In the years since he and his family got connected with Branches of Hope, Mo became an enthusiastic supporter in our activities and has walked closely with his mentor. After a long journey of healing, Mo's life was transformed. A year and half ago, Mo started to work at Branches of Hope after being recognised as a refugee and receiving a work permit. The opportunity to be employed again and to provide for his family has helped Mo regain his confidence and self-assurance. As the Education Programme Coordinator for ROAD, Mo has been helping

children and youth in our community to develop plans for educational access.

In spite of all the hardships he encountered, Mohamed chose to “pay it forward,” to leverage his opportunities to help others trapped in situations like his own. Branches of Hope team is very pleased to walk alongside Mo, eventually witnessing him finally resettled in another country and reunited with his family. Mo has left a legacy, not just in the work he did, but also in his very own story of life transformation as an asylum seeker.

Every refugee needs a durable solution – over the year, ROAD works in partnership with the UNHCR, community groups, individuals and international organisations to facilitate the resettlement of refugees to a third country – Besides Mo, ROAD resettled over 15 refugees to Canada.

ALAN*

Alan is a young adult and sports enthusiast in our refugee community. He fled his home country and arrived in Hong Kong with his family when he was nine. Ever since then, he has been actively involved in different team sports at school which inspired and motivated him to become an athletics coach or physiotherapist to help athletes recover from injuries. As the recipient of a Post-Secondary Education Assistance (PSEA) scholarship, Alan has just completed his first year tertiary education in Sports

Coaching and Performance. As the first child in his family to attend tertiary education, Alan is grateful.

Through PSEA scholarship, young people in the refugee and asylum-seeker community have been enabled to build skills, character and intellectual development. We have witnessed the transformation in their lives – from boys and girls in need of many kinds of supports, into young men and women with vision, resilience, and confidence.



PARTNERSHIP

We are firmly committed to ensuring that children in the refugee and asylum-seeker community receive early childhood education. Although the Hong Kong government provides subsidies for school tuition, other essential costs such as uniforms, books, shoes, and transportation are only covered partially. Since the launch of the “Keeping Kids in Kindergarten (K3) Sponsorship Programme” in 2014, over 200 children have been sponsored by generous donors. This year alone, 65 kids have been able to attend school without disruptions.

Because most members of the RAS community are unable to work legally in Hong Kong, they are forced to depend on government financial assistance. In order to address the gap between government assistance and the actual costs of living in Hong Kong, Secret Angels make monthly donations ranging from \$800 to \$3,200 through the “Secret Angel Sponsorship Programme”. As of 30 September 2021, 141 individuals and families are able to live healthier and fuller lives because of the support of Secret Angels. We recruited over 40 new Secret Angel donors during the past year.

After battling with COVID-19 for almost 18 months, we were finally able to host our first

private fundraising dinner at the American Club on 22 May 2021. Our ambassadors, Andrew Gardener and John Snelgrove, Branches of Hope Executive Director Aman Yee, the Head of ROAD Roy Njuabe, and two of our community members shared with our guests their stories and passion for outreach to marginalised people in Hong Kong. We reached the fundraising target thanks to generous support from our guests. New partnerships were created through this event, and we received positive response from participants who were encouraged by the refugee stories.



LOOKING AHEAD



Refugee Opportunity and Development (ROAD) works to transform the refugee landscape in Hong Kong by providing sustainable and comprehensive solutions in collaboration with our refugee and asylum-seeker community members. By providing training and holistic support, we equip and empower refugees to become community leaders in the short term, and in the future to bring transformative change in their own lives and to others in the community. This training includes basic life and job skills, financial management, communication skills, and leadership training to help them maximize their potential and be prepared for whatever might come next in life. In addition, through our newly launched Corporate Scheme for Refugee Employment, we are providing a solid platform for work opportunities that

includes pre-employment and on-the-job training, as well as strategic guidance for the companies that employ our refugee community members, along with awareness raising for the Hong Kong public.

In the process, we envision building up community leaders in the refugee community who will help Hong Kong people see refugees differently. A shift from relief to a focus on actively helping members to plan for their future will also better prepare them for resettlement, repatriation or integration. Our role is to work alongside with them as they navigate these possibilities, providing needed resources in this quest for a better future.

STOP TRAFFICKING OF PEOPLE

Every country in the world is affected by human trafficking, a horrific crime that exploits vulnerable children and adults for a variety of malicious purposes. Labour exploitation and human trafficking are happening here in Hong Kong every day, and Stop Trafficking of People (STOP) is taking this issue to heart. Using an integrated approach to help individuals and to drive social change, STOP has expanded its efforts in wellness support, community engagement and education, and building research advocacy and competence.

STOP.

STOP TRAFFICKING OF PEOPLE.

CLIENT CARE

Without adequate support, survivors of trafficking-in-persons can easily be re-trafficked, falling into a cycle of exploitation. In the past year, STOP's Care Programme has supported nine survivors of trafficking and modern day slavery. We also provided support to four others whom we identified as highly vulnerable, in order to prevent them from being trafficked or enslaved.

As always, our Care Programme provides social assistance and legal referral, ensuring that all dimensions of our clients' well-being are cared for. In Hong Kong, the lack of a comprehensive legal framework to tackle human trafficking also remains a challenge for STOP and STOP's clients. Victims of labour trafficking are seldom identified as victims of crime and their cases are often treated as labour cases instead of criminal cases. These challenges discourage victims from coming forward to report their trafficking experience, contributing to the underreporting of cases. In response, STOP's Care Programme strives to accompany vulnerable individuals throughout the journey of access to justice, and serve to collect evidence to advocate a more favorable environment for survivors where their voices can be heard in our community.



CLIENT EMPOWERMENT

Traffickers usually manipulate and induce job seekers to fall into employment traps, and victims of human trafficking or labor exploitation are usually greatly traumatized. This often leads to prolonged mental and physical distress (e.g. depression, anxiety, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, etc.).

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

With the support from HER Fund, STOP organised six workshops this year with an aim to begin the journey of trauma recovery and to enhance wellness of trafficking survivors with the support of wellness trainers. Through different forms of therapy, clients could communicate feelings of trauma and pain difficult to put into words. They also began to build a survivor community for transitional justice – to repair harm from trafficking

experience, to deliver a sense of justice, and to prevent the recurrence of trafficking.

OUTREACH

Trafficking victims often choose to remain silent, so reaching out to the vulnerable is believed to be an important step to create a safer environment for them to seek help. This year, STOP conducted 36 hours in outreach visits to different red light districts, approaching more than 1,000 sex workers in the course of these visits. In addition, we hosted workshops and talks for migrant domestic workers about labour rights. Since work is a big part of their migrant lives in Hong Kong, we work to empower them with useful tips on trafficking and exploitation prevention so they can also be the light and hope for persons at risk.



SOCIAL REFORM

WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS 2021

In anticipation of the United Nation's World Day Against Trafficking in Persons (30 July 2021), STOP organised a charity bazaar and awareness-raising event at the Vine Church in partnership with Barefoot Love Collective and Alabaster. With a core message, "Illuminating Another's Path Always Brightens Yours," STOP helped to build awareness among Hong Kong people and to enlist them in our anti-slavery movement.

STOP also hosted a private gathering of our clients to celebrate the potential, tenacity and resilience of trafficking survivors, aligning with the 2021 UN's theme of "Victims' Voices Lead The Way". A special thanks to our volunteers from Novy's Kitchen, who prepared lunch for us.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

NGOs alone cannot win the fight against human trafficking. To foster collective action and further expand our volunteer base, we organised two information sessions in mid-August and late-September to inform interested persons about participation opportunities in our upcoming programmes, such as the Migrant Domestic Worker Outreach and Sexual Exploitation Prevention Project. As we emerge from the pandemic, STOP's awareness-raising workshops have resumed on both virtual and in-person platforms.

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

STOP began developing a participatory research project on the justice-seeking experiences of trafficking survivors in

Hong Kong. This research aims to gain a greater understanding of victim-survivors' post-trafficking journey in Hong Kong after the launch of the "Action Plan to Tackle Trafficking in Persons and to Enhance Protection of Foreign Domestic Helpers in Hong Kong" in 2018. It is targeted to be completed in 2022.

As an extension of our previous study on the exploitation and trafficking of youth in the Hong Kong sex industry, STOP is designing a youth-led Sexual Exploitation Prevention Project that aims to prevent and tackle cybersex trafficking in the 21st Century through comprehensive sex and relationship education. The first phase of the programme is aimed to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2021.

SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGNS

STOP's Instagram page was officially launched in January 2021. Geared towards the local youth audience, our channel offers bilingual educational content about a broad range of relevant human rights topics in both local and global contexts.

This year, we launched four online campaign series, including "Beyond the Label 2", which unveiled the hidden truth of modern slavery in our chocolates and coffee, and looked at what local ethical brands are doing to transform the industry; "Word of the Week", which provided knowledge bytes about

Hong Kong's labour exploitation problem; "Anti-Trafficking Report Card", which discussed Hong Kong's achievements and gaps in anti-trafficking prosecution and protection over the past year; and our most recent "Cybersex and Sex Trafficking Myth and Truth", which explored different scenarios of sex trafficking through case studies.



Follow us @stop.hk



IMPACT STORY

As we walk with survivors on their journey of recovery and listen to them with empathy, we support their healing and empower them to overcome obstacles. The survivors in turn, by demonstrating incredible resilience in dark times, inspire us profoundly.

HEATHER*

Many trafficking victims choose to stay silent because of the fear of being criminalised even though they are the victims. Heather's story, unfortunately, once again proves their worries and fears to be legitimate. Heather arrived in Hong Kong expecting to become a domestic worker but soon discovered to her shame that she was being trafficked. Later she was prosecuted for a minor offense which stopped her from working or leaving the city. Referred to STOP by her lawyer, Heather started receiving psycho-social and financial support from us. We also worked together with lawyers, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and other partners to help her become recognised as a trafficking victim. This status was used as a mitigating factor in court. Because of this, she received a suspended sentence, which allowed her to return to her own country.

JACKIE*

As a single mother, Jackie was forced into an exploitative situation when traffickers threatened to harm her two sons. After a long fight to escape this trafficking situation, she became embroiled in legal prosecution in her home country which forced her to flee without her sons to seek asylum in Hong Kong. As a trafficking survivor, Jackie should have been recognised as a victim and entitled for government support, such as witness protection. However, her case was turned down. Although we hit a bump on the road in our journey with Jackie, STOP refused to give up. In addition to providing financial relief, we also equipped Jackie with knowledge and skills to self-help and set-up a crowdfunding campaign for her resettlement expenses. After a long journey, Jackie was finally reunited with her boys.

* Names have been changed to protect the identity of survivors.

PARTNERSHIP

As a member of the Civil Society Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force, STOP strives to work collaboratively with stakeholders throughout the society, the government and private sectors, and the general public. In addition to partnering with Sons and Daughters Hong Kong and Rahab's Rehab Ministry of outreach to sex workers, we also participated in different charity sales last year. Through these charity sales, we were able to raise fund for our programmes as well as raising awareness of the trafficking issues in the city.



LOOKING AHEAD

STOP works to find creative and sustainable solutions in reducing and preventing trafficking in and through Hong Kong.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The after effects of trafficking trauma can persist far beyond the actual time of trafficking and can interfere with the survivor's everyday life. In view of this, STOP gives priority to the ongoing health and wellness of survivors in their journey of recovery. In addition to the development of programmes for crisis intervention and human-centric community support, we also empower survivors, when they are ready, to give leadership in bringing change to modern slavery issues.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Education for the whole person is a fundamental factor in social development and a key for building the resilience that prevents human trafficking from happening. STOP is developing a series of education materials on cybersex trafficking prevention which we are making available to the local youth community even as we



engage with the larger demographic of vulnerable persons. While continuing our outreach and services to sex workers, we are working to raise awareness of trafficking risks among migrant workers, ethnic minorities and other vulnerable groups to help them avoid exploitation.

LOBBYING AND ADVOCACY

According to the "Trafficking in Persons Report" released on 1 July 2021, Hong Kong remains lacking of specific human trafficking legislation that sufficiently protects the rights of victims and prosecutes traffickers. With evidence-based research advocacy, STOP hopes to further combat human trafficking by providing recommendations in the establishment of a specific law and mechanism against modern slavery in the city.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Serving the marginalised and striving for a more favorable environment for the vulnerable takes all of us to work together. This involves collaboration with stakeholders throughout the society, the government and private sectors, and the general public. Through sponsorship programmes, community outreach and many other public engagement activities, we are able to support our community with immediate relief and assistance, opportunities to grow and be equipped, and to experience social integration.



OUR VOLUNTEERS



As a cosmopolitan city with a unique history of immigration, Hong Kong is one of the most multicultural cities in the world. While there is great diversity in our city, we struggle to realise its full potential.

This year we started organising a pilot outreach project in Wan Chai District. Our RAS members were especially helpful in preparing lunchboxes and communicating with Nepalese street cleaners with their shared language and culture. We were also able to find out more about the work conditions, welfare, and wellbeing of street cleaners, and provided valuable feedback to our District Councillors.

This community outreach project not only served as a platform to extend our care and support to marginalised groups in the

neighborhood, but it also empowered our community members to share and contribute to social integration. We have also engaged a diverse group of volunteers who have a heart for the community and people on the street. We hope to mobilise more volunteers and expand the scope of outreach activities based on our experience from this pilot scheme.

Ma Wan Easter Egg Hunt also returned virtually this year with endless support from our volunteers. Themed at “Everyone is a Treasure”, the online “Love Fun Share Carnival” promoted the message that regardless how much or less we have,

and regardless of our background, identity, ethnicity, age, we can still choose to explore the gifts and talents we have to help people in need in our community.

Last but not least, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to all the volunteers who have been a great support to our activities, classes, tutorials, outreach and donation drives.



Branches of Hope 2021



OUR PARTNERS

Branches of Hope is grateful for the support of the following partners who make our work possible:

FUNDERS

Anonymous Foundation
 Bird and Bird
 Centaline Charity Fund Ltd
 CWM/Nethersole Fund
 Goldman Sachs (Asia) LLC
 HER Fund
 Inkandescent
 Italian Women's Association
 Macquarie Group
 Mars Wrigley Foundation Fund
 Mayer Brown
 River Trading Company Ltd
 St. James's Place Charitable Foundation
 Sterling Group Ltd
 The American Women's Association of HK
 The Berrick Group
 The Best Gift Foundation
 The Economist Group
 Zeshan (HK) Foundation

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Alabaster Asia
 Barefoot Love Collective
 Café de Coral
 Chris Reinhardt Illustrations
 Dairy Farm
 Feather & Bone
 Golin
 Good Clowns
 Heart01
 Hong Kong Adventist Hospital - Tsuen Wan
 IRIT- Arts and Crafts for Kids
 Lonely Paisley
 Maltesers
 MARS
 Noah's Ark
 Novy's Kitchen
 Ocean Park Hong Kong
 Pacific Coffee Co.
 Redline Production
 Slowood
 Sports100 HK
 The Benevity Community Impact Fund
 The Body Shop
 The Coffee Academics
 The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Vita

Vitasoy

NGO PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network
 CECEs
 Christian Action
 Civil Society Against Human Trafficking Task Force
 Daly & Associates
 Discovery Bay Int'l Community Church
 DLP Piper
 Evangelical Free Church of China-Kong Fok
 Feeding Hong Kong
 Foodlink Foundation
 Friends of HK Charities Inc
 HandsOn Hong Kong
 Happy Baton
 Hong Kong Charity Bazaar
 Hong Kong Church Network for the Poor
 Hong Kong Dignity Institute
 Jo Lodder
 Justice Centre
 Kowloon Union Church
 Patricia Ho & Associates
 Pro Bono HK
 Refugee Concern Network
 Rahab's Rehab Ministry
 Run HK
 Social Career
 Sons and Daughters
 St. Stephen's Chapel, Stanley
 Susi Law
 Teen's Key
 The Amber Foundation
 The Vine Church
 USA Girl Scouts Overseas (Hong Kong)

UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS

Canadian International School
 Chinese International School
 Hong Kong Academy
 Hong Kong International School
 Island School
 The English Schools Foundation
 The University of Hong Kong
 Yew Chung International School



OUR TEAM

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 ROAD

Sherry Zhong
 Education Officer, ROAD

Christopher Ng
 Case Worker, ROAD

Mohamed Saleh
 Until August 2021

Rosana Viana
 Until March 2021

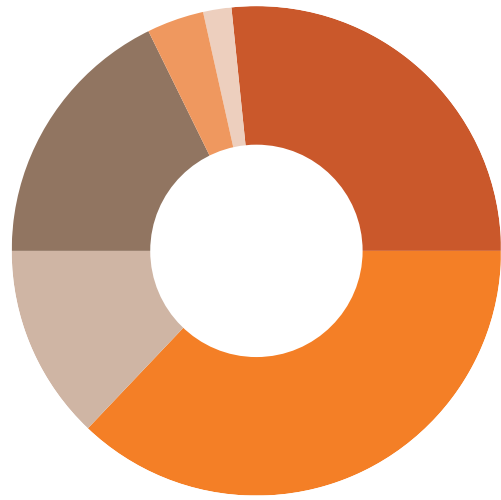
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 STOP.

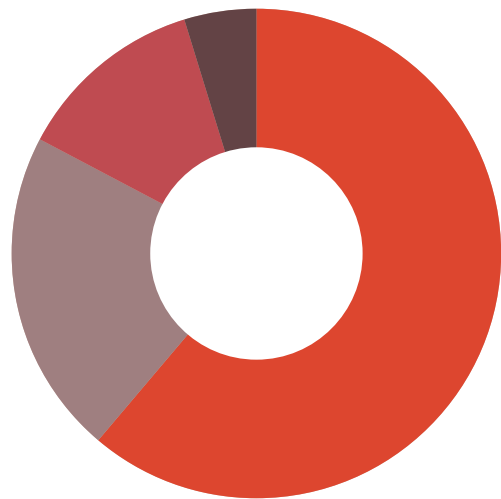
Veronica Siu
 Assistant Programme Officer,
 STOP.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



INCOME

■ The Vine	3,600,000
■ Sponsorship	3,044,464
■ Donation Income	2,006,082
■ Grants & Foundations	1,460,662
■ Campaigns & Events	850,182
■ Other Income	222,103
Total	11,183,493



EXPENDITURE

■ ROAD	6,172,944
■ STOP	1,472,508
■ Advocacy	337,651
■ Operation & Fundraising	2,223,340
Total	10,206,443

