

HONG KONG BLIND UNION 2017 – 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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OUR MISSION

Hong Kong Blind Union

Hong Kong Blind Union was established in 1964. It is the first self-help group organised and managed by people with visual impairment. It aims at promoting the spirit of self-help and mutual-help as well as striving for equality, opportunities and independence for visually impaired persons.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT Mr Chong Chan-Yau

Digital technology – a door to opportunities

It is our mission to promote equality, opportunities and independence amongst visually impaired persons (VIPs). We believe that VIPs have the right to equal treatment and the ability to live an independent life. With opportunities available, VIPs can unleash their potentials and contribute to our society.

“Opportunity dawns on the prepared.” Hong Kong Blind Union has long been getting ready for the advent of the digital era. In order to improve the lives of VIPs, we have been inventing digital products, software and applications.

In July 2017, I was delighted to have been invited to iLEAP's Transformational Leadership for Change programme organised by Microsoft at its headquarters in Seattle. During the event, community leaders from all over the world exchanged ideas on how to bring about changes to society with the use of digital technology.

Moreover, in order to better understand the latest development of technology around the globe, the staff of Blind Union and myself took part in “California State University, Northridge - the International Technology and Persons with Disabilities Conference” in San Diego, the US in March 2018. These two trips have shown me the unlimited possibilities and opportunities brought by digital technology. Thus, Hong Kong Blind Union must keep our efforts in promoting digital technology.

In addition to this, the long-awaited “Jockey Club Smart City Walk Project” was finally launched in October 2017. With the sponsorship from Jockey Club Charities Trust, we are going to devise an indoor navigation mobile app “Smart City Walk”, which assists VIPs and other people in need to walk around independently. As it is our firm belief that digital technology not only serves as a window for VIPs to lead an independent life, but also a door to ample opportunities.

Another encouraging development this year concerns the Marrakesh Treaty, which Blind Union has long been promoting. The government has eventually started a public consultation on the relevant provisions of Copyright Ordinance. Hong Kong Blind Union has been actively involved in various discussions regarding this issue and been in close liaison with relevant government departments throughout this year so as to ensure the equal right of VIPs to access information.

To sum up, this year has been a fruitful one. Apart from digital technology, Hong Kong Blind Union has been developing steadily in various areas. One more highlight of this year is that I was honoured to have received the Compassion Award from the HK & Macau Taiwanese Charity Fund in December 2017, which is a recognition for my contribution to the field of social welfare in the past years. All the award money received will be used for social welfare purposes including for Blind Union's project of “Around the World in Darkness”, which encourages members to travel outside of Hong Kong to broaden their horizons.

Last but not least, I would like to extend my thanks to the staff members of Hong Kong Blind Union for their constant efforts, and to the public and various organisations for their unfailing support, only with which “equality”, “opportunities” and “independence” can be realised in the lives of people with visual impairment.

Executive Director's Report Ms. Ko Pik-kei, Peggy

“Equality”, “Opportunities” and “Independence” have always been what Hong Kong Blind Union aims to strive for. We are glad to learn that these goals have been realised in various areas of our work this year.

Development of digital technology

“Jockey Club Smart City Walk Project” was officially launched in October 2017. It is indeed encouraging for Blind Union that the Project was recommended by the government and sponsored by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. The Project has received the largest amount of sponsorship ever amongst our projects and it is also the largest-scale project of indoor navigation technology in Hong Kong. Under this project, a mobile app called “Smart City Walk” will be devised to help VIPs and other people in need to walk around independently. The government's recommendation and Jockey's Club's sponsorship of this project not only shows the dire need for the service proposed in the Project, but also the recognition of our capacity in promoting digital technology in the past years.

“Jockey Club E-learning for All Project”, another important project of Blind Union in recent years, organised “Reading Barrier Breakthrough with E-Learning Symposium 2018” in January 2018, with over 300 participants taking part in it. Guest speakers from overseas including Ms Janette Barrios from the head office of Apple and Mr Neil Jarvis from Blind Foundation, New Zealand were invited to share in the keynote seminar. This showcased the success of Blind Union's effort in building international networks over the years.

Rights advocacy

As a self-help organisation, Hong Kong Blind Union puts much emphasis on striving for equal rights for VIPs. One major achievement this year concerns the Marrakesh Treaty, which Blind Union has long been promoting. The government eventually launched a consultation on the amendments of relevant provision of Copyright Law. In fact, Blind Union has been engaging in advocacy work with various government departments since the signing of Marrakesh Treaty in 2013. Therefore, it is delightful to see such significant progress. In the coming year, we are going to be actively involved in the discussion about this issue and in close liaison with relevant departments.

Barrier-free banking services (including the provision of voice navigation ATMs) is another issue that Blind Union has been fighting for in the past few years. With the concerted advocacy efforts of Blind Union and other organisations of VIPs in Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Association of Banks issued in March 2018 the “Guideline on Barrier-free Banking Services”, where good banking practices were set out for industry's reference.

Services for the elderly

With the ageing population, there is a rising percentage of elderly amongst our members. Sponsored by Zonta Club of Hong Kong East, our Services Centre regularly organised activities for the elderly, hence enriching the lives of our elderly members.

Moreover, we reached out to our elderly members especially those who rarely take part in activities with multiple approaches ranging from phone calls, home visits to case follow-ups. By so doing, we hope to have a better understanding of their conditions and their support networks so that we can introduce to them the services and community resources that they need.

Conclusion

This year has been filled with challenges but at the same time witnessed countless opportunities. Since I took up this new role, it is with the support of the President, every Executive Committee Member and all staff members that we could achieve such good results this year. In the coming year, we will constantly endeavour in an effort to achieve the three goals of Hong Kong Blind Union.

ORGANISATION CHART

ASM/EGM

Executive Committee

- Personnel Committee
- Finance and Fundraising Strategy Committee
- SC Consultative Committee
- VERC Consultative Committee
- Information Technology Advisory Committee
- Equal Opportunities in Social Participation Committee
- Communication Committee
- Steering Committee for Jockey Club E-Learning For All Project
- Social Enterprise Development Steering Committee
- Jockey Club Smart City Walk Project Advisory Committee
- Education Fund for People with Visual Impairment in China Committee
- Li Chu Shuk-Kwan Education Fund & Lee Bing Vocal Music Development Fund

Executive Director

- Head Office
- Services Centre
- Jockey Club Vocational and Educational Resources Centre
- Accessible Digital Technology Centre
- Accessibility Services Office

LIST OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

An Executive Committee releasing the spirit of self-help and independence

Being a self-help group organised and managed by visually impaired people, we select our Executive Committee Members every two years at the Annual General Meeting through a democratic election. Our Executive Committee Members supervise, manage and promote the development of Blind Union. All Executive Committee members must be our full members, i.e. visually impaired persons. The list of the Executive Committee Members for the current year is as below:

2017 - 2018 Executive Committee Members

President

Mr Chong Chan-Yau

Vice President

Mr Wong Chun-hang, Billy (until 30 July 2017)

Ms. Leung Wai-chi, Maggie (since 30 July 2017)

Financial Secretary

Mr Tam Sai-kit, Perry (until 30 July 2017)

Mr Ho Ka-Leung, Jason (since 30 July 2017)

General Secretary

Ms. Leung Wai-chi, Maggie (until 30 July 2017)

Ms. Shek Kin-Chong, Jess (since 30 July 2017)

Committee Member

Ms. Chiu Chi-Wun (since 30 July 2017)

Mr Chow Kin-chum, Kevin

Mr Ho Ka-Leung, Jason (until 30 July 2017)

Mr Ho Yui-chi, Merrick (since 30 July 2017)

Mr Ng Ping-Tung, Michael (since 30 July 2017)

Ms. Lee Yuen-Sai (until 30 July 2017)

Mr Lo Wai-Keung (until 30 July 2017)

Ms. Shek Kin-Chong, Jess (until 30 July 2017)
Mr Tam Sai-kit, Perry (since 30 July 2017)
Mr Tsui Kai-Ming (until 30 July 2017)
Mr Yuen Kin-Ming
Mr Zhu-min, Julian (since 30 July 2017)

LIST OF SUB - COMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

As at 31 March 2018

Personnel Committee

Mr Chong Chan-yau (Chairperson)
Mr Ho Ka-leung, Jason
Ms Leung Wai-chi, Maggie
Ms Shek Kin-chong, Jess
Ms Ko Pik-kei, Peggy (Executive Director)

Finance and Fundraising Strategy Committee

Mr Ho Ka-leung, Jason (Chairperson)
Mr Chong Chan-yau
Mr Chow Kin-chun, Kevin
Mr Ho Yui-chi, Merrick
Ms Shek Kin-chong, Jess
Ms Ko Pik-kei, Peggy (Executive Director)
Ms Choi Tsui-ping, Bessie (Senior Accounting Officer)

Services Centre Consultative Committee

Mr Yuen Kin-ming (Chairperson)
Mr Zhu-min, Julian (Vice Chairperson)
Mr Chan Herman Pasma
Ms Fung Po-Wah
Mr Leung Sau-hing
Ms Lee Tak-yuk
Mr Chow Siu-man (Centre Manager)

Jockey Club Vocational & Educational Resources Centre Consultative Committee

Ms Chiu Chi-wun (Chairperson)
Mr Ho Ka-leung, Jason (Vice Chairperson)
Mr Cheung Chun-kit
Mr Chung Chi-ming
Mr Ho Ho-yuen
Ms Ma Wing-man
Mr Ng Ping-tung, Michael
Ms Wong Tsz-sin
Mr Lau Shing-kwan (Project Coordinator)

Information Technology Advisory Committee

Mr Chow Kin-chun, Kevin (Chairperson)
Mr Yuen Kin-ming (Vice Chairperson)
Mr Cheung Yau, Joe
Mr Lau Chung-wai
Mr Leung Tsau-tin, Fred
Mr Wong Sung-keung
Ms Ko Pik-kei, Peggy (Executive Director)
Mr Wong Sze-fung, Terry (Project Manager)

Equal Opportunities in Social Participation Committee

Mr Chong Chan-yau (Chairperson)
Mr Wong Chun-hang, Billy (Vice Chairperson)
Mr Au Ka-tsun, Tommy
Mr Chan Chi-kong, Alex
Ms Chiu Chi-wun
Mr Chou Chun-cheong, Daniel
Mr Chung Chi-ming
Mr Ho Ka-leung, Jason
Mr Ho Yui-chi, Merrick
Ms Leung Wai-chi, Maggie
Mr Sung Tat-wah
Mr Tam Sai-kit, Perry
Ms Ko Pik-kei, Peggy (Executive Director)
Mr Chan Wai-hang, Roz (Project Officer)

Communication Committee

Ms Shek Kin-chong, Jess (Chairperson)
Mr Ho Yui-chi, Merrick (Vice Chairperson)
Mr Chong Chan-yau
Mr Ho Ka-leung, Jason
Mr Ng Ping-tung, Michael
Mr Lau Chung-wai
Ms Lee Yuen-sai
Mr Tam Sai-kit, Perry
Mr Tsui Kai-ming
Ms Mak Hoi-ki, Eva [Assistant Manager(Community Relations)]

Steering Committee for Jockey Club E-Learning For All Project

Mr Chong Chan-yau (Chairperson)
Ms Chiu Chi-wun
Mr Chow Kin-chun, Kevin
Mr Choy Shu-kay, Arthur
Mr Fong Po-kiu, Francis
Mr Ho Chi-kuen, Raymond
Dr Catherine Lam
Hon Charles Mok
Mr Remy Wong
Ms Ko Pik-kei, Peggy (Executive Director)
Ms Ho Lai-shan, Lisa (Project Manager)

Social Enterprise Development Steering Committee

Mr Chong Chan-yau (Chairperson)
Mr Cheung Kin-yeung
Mr Chow Kin-chun, Kevin
Mr Ho Ka-leung, Jason
Mr Leung Tsau-tin, Fred
Mr Ling Ho-wan, Howard
Ms Wong Ming-wai, Jennifer
Ms Ko Pik-kei, Peggy (Executive Director)
Ms Cheuk Ming-wai, Adelaide (Senior Project Officer)

Education Fund for People with Visual Impairment in China Committee

Ms Chiu Chi-wun (Chairperson)
Ms Ho Man-wai, Amy
Ms Lee Yuen-sai
Mr Zhu-min, Julian
Ms Ko Pik-kei, Peggy (Executive Director)
Mr Lau Shing-kwan (Project Coordinator)

Li Chu Shuk-Kwan Education Fund & Lee Bing Vocal Music Development Fund Committee

Ms Chiu Chi-wun (Chairperson)
Mr Chung Chi-ming
Mr Ho Ka-leung, Jason
Ms Li Sze-lai
Mr Eric Yip
Dr Alice Yuk
Mr Lau Shing-kwan (Project Coordinator)

OUR SERVICES

Head Office

1. Promoting correct concepts of visual impairment through publications, seminars, exhibition, and so on;
2. Participating in advisory committees of the government and other concerned organisations;
3. Following up on social policies, promoting equal opportunities and social inclusion;
4. Keeping in touch with relevant international and Mainland organisations to learn about the latest service development;
5. Building relationship with the public and organising fundraising projects; and
6. Publishing newsletters and audio magazines to report on the lives of visually impaired persons and the work of Blind Union.

Services Centre

1. Organising different kinds of social and recreational activities;
2. Providing support services to persons with visual impairment and the newly blind as well as their families, including counselling, life adaptation training and service referrals, so as to help them overcome obstacles arising from visual impairment;
3. Organising activities for visually impaired elderly, and contacting them regularly by phone calls and home visits; and
4. Providing daily living support services, such as case referral, purchasing of aids, and helping to build district support network among our members.

Jockey Club Vocational and Educational Resources Centre

1. Striving for equal opportunities in education by advocating for proper implementation of integrated education;
2. Supporting visually impaired students studying in mainstream schools by providing aids and support services to them;
3. Organising adult education courses;
4. Arranging services, such as recording, text-reading, Braille transcription and tutoring for members;
5. Organising personal development and leadership training programmes;
6. Providing supported employment services for visually impaired job seekers; and
7. Arranging freelance jobs to provide working opportunities for those members who are unemployed.

Accessible Digital Technology Centre

1. Conducting research and development of assistive aids suitable for visually impaired persons;
2. Providing visually impaired persons with technical support and training in using digital devices;
3. Promoting the adoption of accessible digital technology design and application; and
4. Providing related advisory services to individuals, schools, employers and organisations.

Accessibility Services Office

Implementing social enterprise services and the Jockey Club E-Learning For All project to improve community accessibilities as well as provide various kinds of supportive services for people in need;

2. Promoting barrier-free community facilities, as well as creating employment opportunities for visually impaired persons; and
3. Providing various kinds of supportive services for print disabled students so that they can make the best use of e-learning and break down barriers to learning.

SERVICE SNAPSHOTS

8.1 Head Office

The work of the Head Office includes members' affairs, rights advocacy, human resources, financial management, external relations and communications. Its aim is to carry out the mission of Hong Kong Blind Union and strive for the rights of visually impaired persons (VIPs).

8.1.1 Member affairs

Any Hong Kong resident with visual impairment is eligible to become our Full Member. Any VIP living outside Hong Kong or anyone who supports our mission can apply to be an Associate Member. 48 Full Members and 10 Associate Members joined Blind Union in 2017/18. As at 31 March 2018, we had a total of 1,592 Full Members and 353 Associate Members. The 53rd Annual General Meeting was held on 30 July 2017. 259 members participated and 11 members were elected the Executive Committee Members of 2017/19.

Six member gathering activities were held to encourage members to come together and give their views on our work, and the number of attendance was 232 in total.

8.1.2 Rights advocacy

Fighting for equal opportunities and basic rights of VIPs is the aim that Blind Union has been striving for.

Fighting for voice navigation automatic teller machines (ATMs)

We have been asking all banks to provide voice navigation ATMs to enable VIPs to use the machines independently. During the year, with the help of the Equal Opportunities Commission, we got the attention of HSBC, Standard Chartered Bank and Bank of China Group to address the needs of VIPs by installing more than 300 ATMs with voice navigation in various districts in Hong Kong. With this, VIPs can use the ATMs independently.

Moreover, with the concerted advocacy efforts of Blind Union and other organisations of VIPs in Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Association of Banks issued in March 2018 the “Guideline on Barrier-free Banking Services”, where good banking practices were set out for industry’s reference to provide barrier-free banking services to customers who are physically disabled, visually impaired and hearing impaired.

Striving for the rights of people with print disabilities

We have been concerned about the rights to the access to published works for persons with print disabilities, including the visually impaired. Therefore, we have urged the government to amend the Copyright Ordinance so as to be in line with the provisions of the Marrakesh Treaty (the Treaty) adopted by the World Intellectual Property Organisation in 2013, which safeguards the reading rights of people with print disabilities. This includes the requirement for publishers to provide accessible versions and cross-border exchange of published works.

This year, the government eventually considered amending the Copyright Ordinance in accordance with the Treaty and launched a consultation on this. Blind Union is very much looking forward to it and will be in close liaison with relevant government departments, keeping track with the progress of the amendment on the provisions of the Ordinance.

Attending external meetings

Representatives from Blind Union attended various meetings held by Transport Department, MTR Corporation Limited (MTRC), Housing Department, Link REIT and the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority and inspected their facilities.

In the meetings, they followed up on a number of facilities and services that are closely related to VIPs, including the service quality of bus companies’ frontline staff and their next-stop announcement and display system, the installation of escalator audible warning signals at MTR stations with multiple platforms, electronic audible traffic signals and barrier-free facilities in the community.

Raising members' awareness on rights advocacy

We have always been encouraging members to understand the basic rights of people with disabilities and fostering their awareness of rights advocacy.

To serve this purpose, we organised a two-day summer camp on 11-12 August 2017, which 17 members joined. Also, we invited representatives from Kowloon Motor Bus Company to a meeting on 15 August, which served as a platform for members to directly voice out their opinion and was attended by 26 members. Moreover, we held sharing sessions on different issues, such as transportation, surroundings and facilities, the Copyright Ordinance and so on. A total of over 30 Executive Committee Members and members attended these sessions, exchanging their views on the issues concerned.

Eradicating the barriers to living an inclusive life in the community

This year, we handled a total of 111 cases where members were not able to live independently in their communities. These included 35 cases of inadequate barrier-free facilities in the community, 46 cases related to transport services, five cases on public services such as medical services and housing, four disability discrimination cases, four cases regarding the use of accessible information technology, and 17 cases concerning the service quality of private organisations, personal affairs and other matters.

8.1.3 Public education and communications

We believe that increasing public awareness and acceptance of VIPs is very important for our full integration into the community. Therefore, Blind Union has always endeavoured to promote public education so that the public can have a correct understanding of the life and ability of VIPs and become aware of our needs, making Hong Kong an inclusive society.

The public education group consisting of visually impaired members organised public education seminars and training sessions for 30 schools and organisations during the year. Target groups included frontline civil servants, access co-ordinators and access officers of the government, frontline staff from the private sector and teachers and students from a number of universities, primary schools and secondary schools. A total of around 1,300 people took part.

8.1.4 Fundraising activities

About 50% of the funding for our service development comes from public donations each year. The remaining less than 50% is from the government's annual recurrent grant. The donations received are mainly used to support VIPs in education, employment, welfare, social participation and accessible information technology services and to encourage their full integration into society.

Flag Day 2017

This year's Flag Day was held in Kowloon on 19 August 2017. Around 800 volunteers were involved, raising about HK\$620,000 in total.

International White Cane Day

In celebration of the International White Cane Day which advocates the spirit of independence for VIPs, we held “Cane-a-thon” International White Cane Day 2017 in Tsing Yi Promenade on 8 October 2017. Around 220 people including 100 members participated and around \$220,000 was raised. During the event, participants walked in pairs, taking turns to wear a blindfold and experience walking with white canes. Also, it was the first time a group of VIPs were invited to walk independently with their white canes during the “Cane-a-thon” Walk, embodying the spirit of independence, which is the core message of the International White Cane Day.

Other fundraising activities

Public-spirited members of our society organised various fundraising events for Hong Kong Blind Union. On 10 September 2017, L99 held a charity event of which Hong Kong blind Union was a beneficiary and around \$50,000 was donated to us. Blind Union was also a beneficiary of the charity concert and booth workshop organised by HBS Group on 17 September 2017, receiving a donation of around \$70,000.

8.1.5 Exchanges in Mainland China and overseas

Attending conferences and exchanges in Mainland China and overseas

Blind Union highly values the opportunity to connect and exchange with organisations of and for VIPs in Mainland China and overseas. In the past year, we attended various conferences in China and overseas, including the opening ceremony of the e-book library at Sun Yat-sen Library held in Guangzhou in November 2017 and “California State University Northridge-Assistive Technology Conference” held in the US in March 2018. We also held tours to Guangzhou, Singapore and New Zealand in October and December 2017 and February 2018 respectively in which we paid visits to organisations including Guangzhou Institute for the Blind, Microsoft Singapore Ltd., Dialogue in the Dark Singapore and New Zealand Blind Foundation.

Receiving visitors from Mainland China and overseas organisations

We received a number of visitors from overseas and China's organisations, including Noor Dubai Foundation, Guangzhou Employment and Training Services Centre for the Disabled, Chongqing Special Education Centre and Macau Rehabilitation Affairs Committee.

8.2 Services Centre

The scope of work of the Services Centre (the Centre) is closely related to the life of visually impaired persons (VIPs), including recreational, sports and cultural activities, life adaptation and services for the newly blind. The objectives are to help them live independently and enable them to integrate into the community.

8.2.1 Social and recreational activities

To broaden the social circle of our members, the Centre organised 57 cultural and recreational activities throughout the year. They included local and Mainland tours, sports and recreational activities, dining, cultural and art activities as well as community familiarisation visits. The total attendance of VIPs and sighted companions were 2,176 and 1,251 respectively. In addition, 25 activities were organised by various groups under the Centre. 441 and 126 VIPs and sighted companions took part in these activities respectively.

8.2.2 Continuous learning courses

We provided a variety of continuous learning courses including Cantonese opera class, hiking team, yoga class, ocarina class, a cappella group and qigong class. There were 85 gatherings this year. The total number of visually impaired and sighted participants were 948 and 264 respectively. For some of the courses, public performances were held after their completion, enabling participants to showcase their talents.

8.2.3 Group activities and volunteer training

We regularly held interest groups, including Chinese music group, Karaoke group, card game group and the Leisure Band. The groups had 126 gatherings in total for the past year with 1,528 attendance of visually impaired members. Some of the groups also organised community services and performances to enhance the public's understanding of VIPs. In addition, a total of nine volunteer training sessions were held throughout the year with 124 participants in total.

8.2.4 District-based activities

To enhance interaction amongst members and strengthen their community support network, the Centre promotes a community-based service concept that brings services into the community. We organised activities in our five designated districts, namely the New Territories West, the New Territories East, the Kowloon West, the Kowloon East and the Hong Kong Island. During the year, 60 activities took place in the five districts, ranging from dining, shopping, community familiarisation tours, visits, cooking and so on. There were 1,031 VIPs and 530 sighted companions taking part in the activities.

8.2.5 Services for the elderly

Our Centre reached out to the elderly members, especially those who seldom participated in activities with multiple approaches so as to better understand their conditions and support network and introduce to them services of our Centre and available resources in the community.

The focuses of services for the elderly this year were showing care through phone calls, visits and case follow-ups. The Centre continued to collaborate with the Hong Kong Red Cross to pay regular visits to elderly members who seldom participated in our activities. We visited 84 elderly persons throughout the year. Also, our caring group met regularly and made follow-up phone calls to show our concern to our elderly members. 180 phone calls were made throughout the year.

Furthermore, with the sponsorship from Zonta Club Hong Kong East, our Centre regularly organised activities to enrich the lives of the elderly members. The activities included outings during festivals, tea gatherings, tours of the community and talks. The attendances of visually impaired elderly and sighted companions were 310 and 185 respectively.

A new group “Wonderful Elderly” was formed this year. During group gatherings, members were invited to exchange information about the daily life of the elderly or plan services related to the elderly, thus strengthening the support network for the elderly. There were five gatherings this year with the attendance of 41 people.

8.2.6 Individual funding programmes

Community Support Service for VIPs and their Families

Launched in 2015 and funded by the Social Welfare Department, the three-year programme offers counselling for newly visually impaired persons and their carers, tailor-made life skills training and support services for VIPs including case counselling, individual or group training, escort service for medical appointments and personal business as well as community education. The programme enables newly-blind persons to re-integrate into their communities and live independently. The Centre followed up 100 cases from January to December in 2017 to help them overcome the difficulties in their daily life arising from visual impairment. In addition, nine groups and six activities were rolled out to enable newly-blind persons and their families to establish a peer support network. In the same period of time, 146 people used the services of “Escort Service”.

The funding from Social Welfare Department for this programme was renewed for three years from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020.

Life and Environment Adaptation Programme for VIPs

This programme mainly assists VIPs who experience challenges due to estate redevelopment, decantation, changing jobs or changes in family or eyesight conditions. During the year, the Centre followed up 24 cases, enabling them to adapt to new travelling routes, to familiarise themselves with the new neighbourhood and thus to live independently.

Counselling and support services

With the support from The Community Chest of Hong Kong, a total of 34 cases were handled during the year. Workers catered to the needs of individual members by means of emotional support and resource referrals. During the year, a total of two groups and four activities were rolled out, with the total attendance of 71 and 195 VIPs respectively.

8.3 Jockey Club Vocational and Educational Resources Centre

The scope of work of the Jockey Club Vocational and Educational Resources Centre (VERC) includes advocating equal opportunities in education and employment for VIPs, helping them to deal with problems in study and work, and enhancing their personal growth and development.

8.3.1 Educational services

Supportive Services for Visually Impaired Students

With the support from The Community Chest of Hong Kong, we continued the Supportive Services for Visually Impaired Students. In the programme, the following services were provided:

Counselling and support services

This year, VERC handled over 40 counselling and support cases. With the use of casework approach, our staff had an in-depth understanding of the needs of individual visually impaired students and provided services for them, including support for their learning, emotional support and resource referrals.

One-on-one district-based homework tutoring support services

This year, a total of three phases of "district-based" homework tutoring support services for visually impaired students were organised. We arranged volunteer tutors to have one-on-one homework tutoring for visually impaired students based on their districts of residence and learning needs. 17 tutors served 18 visually impaired students from nine schools, providing a total of 424 hours of services.

Personal growth experiential activities

A total of 31 personal growth experiential activities were held this year. 332 VIPs participated in the 67 sessions of these activities and approximately half of them were students. Activities ranged from music, sports, arts, culture, volunteering, craftsmanship, community services and so on. Through these activities, we hoped to facilitate visually impaired students' personal growth. 85% of participants agreed that these activities broadened their horizons.

Talks on "inclusive campus"/audio magazine about integrated education

The VERC regularly imparts the message of equality and inclusiveness in schools. During the year, we visited 12 secondary schools and held talks on "Inclusive Campus" for 633 teachers and students. We also ran 13 workshops on "Getting to know the visually impaired", which attracted 132 teachers, students, social workers and parents to attend. In addition, we produced 12 episodes of the audio magazine "Integrators' Zone" for the year, which enabled the public to know more about the situation of integrated education for students with visual impairment.

Support for parents

In order to build stronger connection with parents of visually impaired students, the VERC formed a support group for parents in mid-2017. In the group, parents shared their experience of taking care of their visually impaired children. Also, we held an experiential activity for parents where they could have a taste of visual impairment.

8.3.2 Other education-related activities

Group work

This year the VERC formed four groups. 55 sessions of activities were held for these groups, attracting 41 VIPs to join with the attendance of 158 in total. The themes of these groups included support for parents of visually impaired students, community affairs and advocacy work as well as personal development and communication skills.

K.B. Tam Fund for Multimedia Production and Training

With the donation of our member Fred Leung and his family, we set up the K.B. Tam Fund for Multimedia Production and Training. With the Fund, a multimedia room with related hardware and software was set up and its opening ceremony took place on 23 September 2017. Apart from this, with the support of the Fund, various training courses on multimedia software were organised. Members could also apply for sponsorship from the Fund to attend training courses offered by other organisations. For this, a management committee was set up in order to oversee the use of the Fund.

Continuing education

The VERC organised six adult education courses funded by the Labour and Welfare Bureau during the school year 2017/18 (i.e. September 2017 to August 2018).

These courses included basic first aid, basic word processing, basic labour rights, basic mental health first aid, the use of smart phone and mobile apps, and the application of assistive tools for study and work. Two of these courses were already completed this year with the attendance of 260 and the average attendance rate of 70%. During the year, the VERC also organised a course on Wing Chun martial arts to encourage the all-round development of our members.

Leadership training for visually impaired youth

With the sponsorship from the Dialogue in the Dark Foundation, we launched a leadership training programme for visually impaired youth in the beginning of 2018. Through a series of workshops and training, the programme aimed to enhance the participants' acceptance of the identity as VIPs and boost their communication skills and organisational skills. The themes of the workshops included "self - understanding", "forum theatre", "non-violent communication" and "organisational skills". After the workshops, the participants designed a workshop and in April 2018, they will go to Guangzhou to share what they had learnt with their visually impaired counterparts and staff of relevant organisations. It served as a chance for exchange of ideas and at the same time for personal breakthroughs and self-realisation. A total of 13 members participated in the programme.

"Around the world in Darkness"-Xinjiang Lop Nor Desert Trip 2017

"Xinjiang Lop Nor Desert Trip 2017" took place from 21 to 29 October 2017. 20 members and 12 sighted companions participated in the trip. The feature of the trip was the emphasis on the use of non-visual senses to experience the beautiful scenery and local customs there.

Scholarships

The award presentation ceremony of Lee Bing Vocal Music Development Fund and Li Chu Shuk-kwan Education Fund this year took place at the auditorium on the 6th floor of CCC Kung Lee Church in Causeway Bay on 25 March 2018.

The scholarship for Li Chu Shuk-kwan Education Fund was presented to six students while the Scholarship for Lee Bing Vocal Music Development was awarded to three students.

Also, six visually impaired students nominated 22 teachers and classmates for the awards of Good Mentor Commendation Scheme. As it was the 10th and 5th anniversary of the two scholarship schemes respectively, some of the past awardees were invited to share their feelings and to express their gratitude to Rev. Lee in order to mark this special moment. On the same occasion, two past awardees of the Scholarship for Lee Bing Vocal Music Development, Siu Hoi-yan and Lee Hin-kwai, were appointed as Vocal Ambassadors to promote the development of vocal music.

8.3.3 Career development services

Supported Employment Services

We continued to provide Supported Employment Services funded by the Social Welfare Department. Services were provided to 40 VIPs every month on average. Throughout the year, services were provided to 48 service users. Among them, 12 persons were successfully employed (i.e. being employed for more than six months and receiving a monthly salary of more than HK\$1,500).

In addition, we assisted two members to apply for the Social Welfare Department's Support Programme for Employees with Disabilities and Jockey Club IT Scheme for People with Visual Impairment respectively to purchase assistive tools and computers.

Employment-related programmes and/or activities

Training scheme for IT support personnel

The training scheme for IT support personnel funded by Microsoft HK was held between June and July 2017. Eight members participated and completed 18 hours of training. Through lessons, practices and visits to IT companies, participants had a deeper understanding of the IT industry and learnt the basic skills of Excel. After completion of the programme, participants regularly joined the exhibitions and workshops jointly organised by Microsoft and WebOrganic, keeping abreast with the latest development of accessible technology.

e-Connect Employment Network

Since 2016, we set up the e-Connect Employment Network with five social service organisations (namely Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service, The Hong Kong Society for the Deaf, Hong Kong PHAB Association, The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation and Richmond Fellowship of Hong Kong) in order to connect the passionate companies and expand the employment opportunities for people with disabilities and people with chronic illnesses. The Network held regular employment-related events such as mock interviews, "Research on employment status of persons with disabilities and persons with chronic illnesses 2017", a large-scale job fair cum employers' sharing session and 10 mini-job fairs.

Recruitment and briefing session of telephone liaison officers

We collaborated with an insurance company and held a recruitment and briefing session for the job of telephone liaison officer in December 2017. During the session, participants were introduced the job details of a telephone liaison officer and suitable VIPs were selected for the jobs. Eventually, three VIPs were hired.

8.3.4 Advocacy and research

Education

Support for HKDSE candidates

The VERC collected the views of the candidates of the past HKDSE between July and August 2017. A meeting was arranged with the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority, where we followed up on the suggestions we made this year and in the past four years. The responses were positive with most suggestions being accepted and considered. It is hoped that this will enable visually impaired candidates to have fairer examination arrangements in the future.

Employment

Joining the Alliance of Employment Quota System for Disabled Persons

Representatives from the VERC were involved in the work of the Alliance of Employment Quota System for Disabled Persons. On 29 August 2017, we attended a meeting with the Secretary for Labour and Welfare Dr Law Chi-kwong, in which we followed up on the formulation of the Rehabilitation Programme Plan (RPP) and discussed the employment quota system for disabled persons. On 8 December 2017, we met with representatives from Labour and Welfare Bureau, Civil Service Bureau, Social Welfare Department, the Selective Placement Division (SPD) of Labour Department and General Grades Office, discussing issues including the employment of disabled persons as civil servants, Disability Allowance, open employment of disabled persons and residential care homes for persons with disabilities. On 28 December 2017, representatives from Blind Union attended a meeting with representatives from the SPD of Labour Department, reflecting to them the difficulties VIPs had encountered when using their services.

Establishing a mechanism of regular communication with the SPD of Labour Department

This year, Blind Union started regular communication with the SPD of Labour Department, expressing VIPs' opinion about their services and thus facilitating more equal right to use the services of the SPD. Representatives from the SPD visited the VERC in February 2018 to understand the assistive tools of VIPs and tips to communicate with VIPs, enabling them to better assist VIPs with employment in the future.

Research on the current employment situation

Collaborating with Prof Wong King-shui, Phyllis of The Chinese University of Hong Kong's Department of Social Work, Blind Union engaged in the research on the employment of VIPs in the hope of shedding light on the employment condition of VIPs and making recommendations on the relevant policies. The research team started inviting VIPs to participate in the survey in early 2018, and we expect to release the results in mid-October 2018 in line with the International White Cane Day.

8.3.5 Education of VIPs in China

With the Education Fund for People with Visual Impairment in China set up in 1999, Blind Union provided financial aid to visually impaired students in China so that they could continue their education despite poverty. We also promoted the cultivation of visually impaired children in China so that they could enjoy equal right to education, thus being able to unleash their potentials and contribute to society.

A forum on the employment of China's VIPs

Representatives from Blind Union attended the "Forum on the employment of China's VIPs" organised by Binzhou Medical College in Yantai City, Shandong, from 20 to 23 June 2017. With the theme "Breakthrough", representatives from Hong Kong shared the experience in inclusive education and employment and ways VIPs should equip themselves. A Hong Kong employer, Ms Kong Lai-ping of Sunshine Laundry, was also invited to share her experience of hiring VIPs.

Experiential learning programme for China's visually impaired tertiary students

In collaboration with The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), we arranged four visually impaired students from Shandong Binzhou Medical College to have experiential learning at CUHK from 25 September to 7 October 2016. CUHK arranged accommodation and for the students to sit in on different classes to help them understand the situation of inclusive education in local universities. Outside of their classes, Blind Union organised visits and exchanges with our executive committee members and other members.

Support for visually impaired students in China

This year, we continued to provide assistance to students in Meizhou, Zhanjiang and Binzhou Medical College, supporting their studies with scholarships. Our representatives paid a visit to Meizhou Special Education School in April 2017 and visited the sponsored families.

8.4 Accessible Digital Technology Centre

The Accessible Digital Technology Centre aims at improving daily lives of visually impaired persons (VIPs) with the use of technology. Our work scope includes the development of assistive aids, technical support and training, promotion of accessible technology design and application, and provision of support and consultancy services to organisations and needy individuals.

8.4.1 Jockey Club Smart City Walk project

Hong Kong Blind Union has always been endeavouring to improve the lives of VIPs with information technology. Recommended by "HKSAR Chief Executive's Community Project List" and funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, we launched the four-year Jockey Club Smart City Walk project in October 2017. With the rapid development of technology, mobile apps strengthen VIPs' and the elderly's connection with the world and enable them to live independently. In the Jockey Club Smart City Walk project, we developed an indoor navigation mobile app, the "Smart City Walk" with the combination of different positioning technologies. The app will guide users to their destinations with text and audio outputs, enabling VIPs and other people in need such as the elderly to walk around independently with ease. This project will provide training to VIPs and the elderly on the use of information technology so that they can better integrate into society. At the same time, talks and sharing sessions will be held to raise public's concern about VIPs.

In order to better understand the latest development of indoor positioning technologies, we visited various organisations for and of VIPs and IT companies in China and overseas with funding from the project from October 2017 to March 2018. For details, please refer to the section on "Exchanges in Mainland China and overseas" about the work of Head Office.

We expect that this mobile app will be launched in the first quarter of 2019 with iOS and Android versions available.

8.4.2 Organising IT interest groups

IT interest groups of various themes including smartphone application and IT skills and knowledge enhancement were regularly organised for members during the year. To embrace better skills and the latest trends, members shared with each other in the gatherings their experience and information about new products. Each group held 28 gatherings with 184 attendances during the year.

8.4.3 IT training and support

Five hands-on workshops on the usage of software were organised and the number of attendance was 34 in total. Helpdesk service was provided to support members' enquires on software and assistive aids. 2,056 phone-in and 188 face-to-face enquiries were handled during the year.

An issue of "Accessible Digital Technology Newsletter" was published every month to help subscribers keep abreast with the latest technology. There were 426 subscribers and about 44,000 webpage hits.

8.4.4 Development and enhancement of assistive software and mobile applications

With the funding from The Jockey Club e-Learning for All Project (ELFA), we continued the development and enhancement of various software and mobile apps. Our tasks included the development of a new EasyDots Chinese Input Method that can be used on Apple Mac machines and adding a new English format UEB to the Braille transcription software Brite. In addition, we continued to upgrade the NVDA add-on to strengthen support for Windows 10 and above, and to improve the mobile app "iEasyDots" on both Apple iOS and Android platforms in order to provide better support for the new models of mobile phones.

8.4.5 Development of internal IT management system

Funded by the Social Welfare Development Fund of the Social Welfare Department, Blind Union launched two projects in order to upgrade the infrastructure of information technology and to enhance our management.

- We developed a new information dissemination system by improving the existing telephone hotline system, and by making our information available through a mobile app or on our website so as to make it easier for VIPs to access our information.
- We also transferred our internal email server to the Microsoft Cloud Platform System. Our email system was then managed with Microsoft Exchange Online, so that its security and stability could be enhanced.

8.5 Accessibility Services Office

8.5.1 Jockey Club E-Learning For All Project (ELFA)

Funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the Project provides supportive services for print disabled students from primary to tertiary level.

As at March 2018, a total of 322 individual students and 95 schools with 3,184 print disabled students registered as service users in the Project. This year, 1,037 electronic learning materials or textbooks (33,611 print pages in total) were transcribed and 446 tactile learning materials were produced for students in need. Training workshops and social support activities were organised with the number of attendance of 300. About 950 copies of software and applications developed by Blind Union were distributed for free.

Under the Project, an online platform was set up providing a variety of services such as free online OCR (Optical Character Recognition) service, accessible e-book bank and bi-monthly e-learning newsletters. This year, we produced microfilms and a collection of users' sharing, took part in the Learning and Teaching Expo and conducted a study in collaboration with The University of Hong Kong looking into the impacts of e-learning tools and resources on print disabled students.

“Reading Barrier Breakthrough with E-Learning Symposium 2018”

The symposium was held on 30 January 2018 at Hong Kong Productivity Council with the theme of "Information Technology Bringing Opportunities for Inclusive Schooling- Accessible Learning Materials and Holistic Development". It provided a platform for connection and exchange of ideas where industry practitioners, professionals, academics, students and parents reviewed the experience of the development of e-learning in Hong Kong in the past, and explored the latest development of the information technology concerned and the opportunities brought to the print disabled students. It was a major event under the project.

Over 300 guests participated in the event which consisted of a keynote seminar, panel discussions, workshops and exhibitions. Amongst the keynote speakers were experts from overseas such as Ms Janette Barrios from the head office of Apple and Mr Neil Jarvis from Blind Foundation, New Zealand. Other speakers included Mr Fred Sheu of Microsoft Hong Kong and representatives from Education Bureau, Hong Kong Examination and Assessment Authority and Intellectual Property Department.

8.5.2 Social enterprise services

Operating on a social enterprise model, Blind Union strives to promote barrier-free community facilities, acquire suitable daily commodities, as well as create employment opportunities for visually impaired persons. Our social enterprise business responds to the HKSAR Government's targets of promoting barrier-free facilities and services, playing a leading role in building an inclusive society.

Web Accessibility For All (WAFA)

Funded by the Home Affairs Department's "Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership Programme (ESR Programme)", the social enterprise Web Accessibility for All (WAFA) was set up in 2013 to promote accessible digital technology. This year, WAFA provided testing and consultancy services to more than 250 web pages and mobile apps.

Production of tactile maps and consultancy for audio systems

In response to the government's policy of promoting accessibility, the enterprise continued to produce and provide consultancy services for tactile maps and audio systems as well as engage in the production and sales of tactile signage. To cater for the needs of different people, our services were provided with references to the standard in the Buildings Department's "Design Manual: Barrier-free Access 2008", and also views given by our staff and members with different levels of visual impairment.

EasyBuy

To ensure the products selected met more of our members' needs and to tap the self-help spirit, we invited several members to form a group to help source more suitable products and widen the choices of economical and quality goods for other members. Since 2016, we also started adopting group-purchase so that members could acquire high quality products with a low price tag.

Braille / text transcription services

Our social enterprise provides the service of adding names, phone numbers and other information in Braille on ordinary name cards. Our services also include converting printed materials, Braille and audio files (such as interview recordings) into text or Braille format. Target customers include government departments, private companies, social welfare agencies and tertiary institutions. Our business not only provides job opportunities for visually impaired people but also makes information accessible among the visually impaired, the public and related organisations.

SERVICES STATISTICS

9.1 MEMBERS

Full Members (1,592 members)

Gender:

Male: 53.46%

Female: 46.54%

Age:

17 years old or below: 2.68%

18-59 years old: 53.65%

60 years old or above: 43.67%

Associate Members(353 members)

Gender:

Male: 36.44%

Female: 63.56%

Age:

17 years old or below: 0.28%

18-59 years old: 53.67%

60 years old or above: 46.05%

9.2 Rights advocacy

This year, we handled a total of 111 cases where members were not able to live independently in their communities. These include:

Case Category	No. of Case
Inadequate barrier-free facilities in the communities	35
Transportation and transport services	46
Public services e.g. medical treatment and housing	5
Disability discrimination	4
The use of accessible information technology	4
Service quality of private organisations, personal and other affairs	17

9.3 Public Education

Target	No. of Participant (No. of School/ Organisation)
School	886 (15)
Organisation	395 (16)
Total	1,281 (31)

9.4 SERVICES CENTRE

9.4.1 Social & recreational activities

Activity Category	No. of Session	No. of Attendance (VI / S)
Local and mainland tour	19	713/384
Arts & culture/ community programme	16	192/92
Recreation & sports programme	12	130/106
Dinner gathering	7	700/275
Others (large-scale programmes, seminars)	3	441/394
Total	57	2,176/1,251

There were 25 activities which were organised by various groups. The number of visually impaired and sighted participants were 441 and 126 respectively.

9.4.2 Continuous learning courses

Course Category	No. of Session	No. of Attendance (VI/S)
Cantonese opera class	45	570 / 70
Hiking team	8	103 / 164
Yoga class	3	54 / 15
Ocarina class	10	34 / 16
A cappella group	17	175 / 0
Qigong class	2	12 / 4
Total	85	948 / 269

9.4.3 Group activities

Activity Category	No. of Session	No. of Attendance (VI)
Chinese music group	47	760
Karaoke group	33	301
Leisure band	21	208
Card games group	25	259
Total	126	1,528

9.4.4 District-based activities

District	No. of Session	No. of Attendance (VI / S)
NT West	17	385 / 240
NT East	9	150 / 66
Kowloon East	12	206 / 88
Kowloon West	12	136 / 76
HK Island	10	154 / 60
Total	60	1,031 / 530

9.4.5 Elderly services

Service Category	No. of Session	No. of Attendance (VI / S)
Caring group gathering	6	30 / N/A
Elderly gathering	5	41 / N/A
Caring group telephone caring condolences	N/A	180 / N/A
Regular visits	5	84 / 45
Recreational activities (tea gathering and outings)	9	310 / 185
Total	25	645 / 230

VI: visually impaired persons S: sighted persons

9.5 JOCKEY CLUB VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES CENTRE**9.5.1 Education & development programmes**

Programme category	No. of Session / hr.	No. of Attendance (VI)
Support & Development Group	55	158
Personal growth activities	67	332
Continuing education	58	260
One-on-one district-based homework tutoring support services	424 hrs.	384

9.5.2 Inclusive talks

Programme category	No. of Session	No. of Attendance (S)
Inclusive campus talks	12	633
"Get to know the visually impaired" workshops	13	132
Total	25	765

9.5.3 Profile of supported employment services users

Gender	No. of people
Male	30
Female	28

Education level	No. of people
Primary	1
Secondary	27
Tertiary or above	30

Age	No. of people
15 -35 years old	29
36 - 50 years old	20
50 years old or above	9

9.6 ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES OFFICE

9.6.1 Jockey Club E-Learning For All Project (ELFA)

Profile of services users

322 students (12 students graduated this year and have withdrawn from the programme) and 95 schools (3,184 print disabled students)

Type of disability	No. of Student (graduated)
Visually impaired	81 (5)
Physical challenged	22
Dyslexia	151
Multiple disabilities	56 (7)
Total	310 (12)

Type of School / Institute	No.
Primary school	14
Secondary school	53
Tertiary institute	16
Special school	10
NGO	3
Total	95*

* One of them has primary and secondary schools

9.6.2 Services Numbers (August 2017 – March 2018)

Service	Statistics
E-books production	424 e-books & 613 e-notes, 33,611 printed pages in total
Tactile teaching material	446 copies
Software distribution	723 software & 225 App
E-Learning For All e-newsletter	516 subscribers

Activity Category	No. of Session	No. of Attendance
Training workshop	9	142
Psychological support activity	9	130
Seminar	1	300
Total	19	572

9.7 ACCESSIBLE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

9.7.1 IT groups

Event & groups Category	No. of Session	No. of Attendance (VI)
Apple Products Application Group	22	122
Knowledge Exchange Group	6	62
Total	28	184

9.7.2 IT training and support

Service	Total
Hotline Service	2,056
Face-to-face consultation	189

Group	No. of Session	No. of Attendance
IT application workshop	5	34

Financial Highlights

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018 (ALL AMOUNTS IN HONG KONG DOLLARS)

	2018	2017
INCOME		
Donation and fund raising income	1,779,556.45	2,092,005.61
Project income	1,590,973.49	2,407,150.64
Program income	1,720,579.00	1,534,260.30
Flag day income	617,216.85	877,201.60
Social Welfare Department subvention	4,052,899.00	3,949,149.00
Social Welfare Development Fund grant	619,320.00	17,060.00
Block Grant from Lotteries Fund	60,000.00	58,000.00
Labour and Welfare Bureau subvention	40,587.25	26,442.25
Community Chest Allocations	571,900.00	555,200.00
Community Chest Capital Project Fund	-	453,916.00
Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust grant	4,341,662.32	2,877,397.08
Bank interest income	87,256.87	102,480.56
Other income	92,355.40	35,388.35
	15,574,306.63	14,985,651.39
LESS: EXPENDITURE		
Personal emoluments	906,257.68	1,307,600.07
Program and project expenses	13,290,285.79	12,608,416.24
Flag day expenses	58,604.93	34,940.40
Administrative expenses	363,146.31	376,963.07
Rent and rates	364,900.00	375,700.00
Audit fee	15,000.00	15,000.00
Utilities	145,404.20	128,119.10
Depreciation	6,443.60	6,951.60
	15,150,042.51	14,853,690.48
	424,264.12	131,960.91
Net transfer from Project funds not yet utilized	521,304.54	67,847.79
	945,568.66	199,808.70
APPROPRIATIONS		
Transfer to Labour and Welfare Bureau Surplus Account	(13,985.70)	(4,079.01)
Transfer to Li Chu Shuk-kwan Education Fund	(219,073.95)	-
Transfer (to)/from Lee Bing Vocal Music Development Fund	(220,319.25)	62,116.00
Transfer to Social Welfare Subvention Surpluses Account	(7,212.38)	-
Transfer to Lump Sum Grant Reserve	(177,446.46)	(105,100.53)
Transfer to Provident Fund Reserve	(39,703.90)	(35,941.19)
Transfer from/(to) Block Grant Reserve	11,948.00	(2,051.43)
Transfer from/(to) Social Welfare Department Community-based Support Projects for Persons with Disabilities and their Families Grant	75,088.32	(71,470.77)
Transfer to Social Welfare Development Fund	(272,722.25)	(8,766.10)
Transfer to Social Enterprise Development Fund	(7,307.00)	-
	(870,734.57)	(165,293.03)
Surplus for the year	74,834.09	34,515.67

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2018 (ALL AMOUNTS IN HONG KONG DOLLARS)

	2018	2017
ASSETS		
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	6,613.00	13,056.60

CURRENT ASSETS

Stocks	53,344.51	90,695.22
Accounts receivable	2,064,727.12	2,072,479.30
Deposits and prepayments	90,016.00	90,570.56
Fixed deposits	8,384,906.41	9,552,056.03
Cash and bank balances	3,094,410.59	1,703,045.50
	13,687,404.63	13,508,846.61

LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued charges	270,700.01	308,671.42
Project funds not yet utilized	975,677.61	1,496,982.15
Deposits repayable and receipts in advance	732,753.14	887,602.35
	1,979,130.76	2,693,255.92
Net current assets	11,708,273.87	10,815,590.69

NET ASSETS

11,714,886.87	10,828,647.29
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RESERVES AND FUND BALANCES

General Fund	2,172,078.75	2,097,244.66
Other Funds and Reserves		
Development Fund	5,871,252.98	5,744,485.85
Sister Moira Education Fund	151,122.07	149,882.57
Education Fund for People with Visual Impairment in China	942,190.20	1,155,354.81
Li Chu Shuk-kwan Education Fund	380,461.01	146,387.06
Lee Bing Vocal Music Development Fund	246,203.25	10,884.00
Labour and Welfare Bureau Surplus Account	28,508.30	14,522.60
Social Welfare Subvention Surpluses Account	140,756.00	137,815.21
Lump Sum Grant Reserve	556,891.19	379,388.02
Provident Fund Reserve	415,840.57	376,136.67
Block Grant Reserve	2,021.43	13,969.43
Social Welfare Department Community-based Support Projects		
Projects for Persons with Disabilities and their Families Grant	188,559.86	263,648.18
Social Welfare Development Fund	353,649.15	80,883.12
Social Enterprise Development Fund	265,352.11	258,045.11
	11,714,886.87	10,828,647.29

The above accounts are not specified financial statements in relation to the company. The specified financial statements for the financial year with which those accounts purport to deal will be delivered to the Companies Registrar after the Annual General Meeting. An auditor's report has been prepared on the specified financial statements for the financial year. The auditor's report i) was neither qualified nor modified; ii) did not refer to any matter to which the auditor drew attention by way of emphasis without qualifying the report; iii) did not contain a statement under section 406(2) or 407(2) or (3).

Source of Income

INCOME	%
Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust grant	28.5%
Social Welfare Department	27.4%
Donation and fund raising income	11.7%
Project income	11.5%
Program income	11.3%
Flag day income	4.0%
The Community Chest of Hong Kong grant	3.7%
Other Income	1.2%
Block Grant from Lotteries Fund	0.5%
Labour and Welfare Bureau Subvention	0.2%
	100.0%

Expenditure Analysis

EXPENDITURE	%
Program and Project Expenses	87.7%
Personal Emoluments	6.0%
Flag Day Expenses	0.4%
Administrative Expenses	2.5%
Rent and Rates	2.4%
Utilities	1.0%
	100.00%

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

政府部門及法定機構 Government Departments & Statutory Bodies

公司註冊處 Companies Registry

教育局 Education Bureau

香港平等機會委員會 Equal Opportunities Commission, Hong Kong

香港考試及評核局 Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

香港房屋委員會 Hong Kong Housing Authority

香港金融管理局 Hong Kong Monetary Authority

觀塘區議會 Kwun Tong District Council

觀塘區青年活動委員會 Kwun Tong District Youth Programme Committee

勞工及福利局 Labour and Welfare Bureau

地政總署 Lands Department

康樂及文化事務署 Leisure and Cultural Services Department

政府資訊科技總監辦公室 Office of Government Chief Information Officer

勞工處展能就業科 Selective Placement Division of the Labour Department

社會福利署 Social Welfare Department

基金 Funds

連炎輝慈善基金有限公司 Alan Lin Charity Fund Limited

蘋果日報慈善基金 Apple Daily Charitable Foundation

陳楊福和基金有限公司 Chen Yang Foo Oi Foundation Limited

黑暗中對話(香港)基金會有限公司 Dialogue in the Dark (HK) Foundation Limited

利銘澤黃瑤璧慈善基金 Drs Richard Charles and Esther Yewpick Lee Charitable Foundation

史偉莎慈善基金會有限公司 LBS Charitable Foundation Limited

獎券基金 Lotteries Fund

紀恩基金有限公司 Remad Foundation Limited

香港公益金 The Community Chest of Hong Kong

香港賽馬會慈善信託基金 The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust

偉倫基金有限公司 Wei Lun Foundation Limited

學校 Schools

Aero Institute

車路士足球學校(香港) ChelseaFC Soccer School (Hong Kong)

心光盲人院暨學校 Ebenezer School & Home for the Visually Impaired

香港中文大學學術交流處(國內事務) Office of Academic Links (China), The Chinese University of Hong Kong

加拿大神召會嘉智中學 PAOC Ka Chi Secondary School

香港中文大學逸夫書院 Shaw College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

德貞女子中學 Tack Ching Girls' Secondary School

香港真光中學 True Light Middle School of Hong Kong

東華三院李嘉誠中學 TWGHs Li Ka Shing College

非牟利團體 Non-profit Organisations

香港展能藝術會 Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong

香港護士協會 Association of Hong Kong Nursing Staff

浸信會愛羣社會服務處 Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service

Beyond Vision Projects (BVP)

基督教家庭服務中心 - 迪智展能中心暨宿舍 Christian Family Service Centre - Dick Chi Day Activity Centre cum Hostel

基督教家庭服務中心 - 翠林綜合職業復康服務 Christian Family Service Centre - Tsui Lam Integrated Vocational Rehabilitation Service

國際十字路會 Crossroads Foundation

電子學習聯盟 eLearning Consortium (eLC)

香港導盲犬協會 Hong Kong Guide Dogs Association

香港社會服務聯會-資訊科技資源中心 The Hong Kong Council of Social Service - Information Technology Resource Centre Limited

香港社會服務聯會 The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

香港特殊學習障礙協會 Hong Kong Association for Specific Learning Disabilities

香港聾人協進會 Hong Kong Association of the Deaf

香港資訊科技商會 Hong Kong Information Technology Federation (HKITF)

香港紅十字會 Hong Kong Red Cross

香港紅十字會支心行動 Hong Kong Red Cross Act of Care Project

香港導盲犬服務中心 Hong Kong Seeing Eye Dog Services

香港聖約翰救傷隊少青團 Hong Kong St. John Ambulance Brigade Youth Command

香港互聯網協會 Internet Society Hong Kong (ISOC HK)

劉葉淑婉紀念自修中心 Lady Lau Memorial Study Centre

微型森林 MicroForests

流動學校 Mobile Schooling

新生精神康復會 New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association

香港晨曦會 Operation Dawn

陳校長免費補習天地 Principal Chan Free Tutorial World

香港足球總會 The Hong Kong Football Association Limited

香港弱智人士家長聯會 The Hong Kong Joint Council of Parents of the Mentally Handicapped

香港盲人輔導會 The Hong Kong Society for the Blind

東華三院 Tung Wah Group of Hospitals

有機上網 WebOrganic

香港基督教青年會 YMCA of Hong Kong

香港東區崇德社 Zonta Club of Hong Kong East

義工團體 Volunteer Groups

屋宇署義工隊 Building Department Volunteer Team

香港域多利青年獅子會 LEO Club of Victoria Hong Kong

瑪利諾修院學校(中學部) Maryknoll Convent School (Secondary Section)

珀麗灣義工團 Park Island Volunteer Team

上山下海在香港-山海義工群組 SSHH-Volunteer Group

職業訓練局會計及財務學校友會 VTC Accountancy and Financial Services Alumni Association

企業 Corporates

2the Max Asia Pacific Limited

特許公認會計師公會 ACCA Hong Kong

艾德爾珠寶有限公司 Adler Jewellery Limited

雅集出版社有限公司 Aristo Educational Press Limited

親子王國 Baby-Kingdom

中國銀行(香港)有限公司 Bank Of China (Hong Kong) Limited

北斗星工作室有限公司 Big Dipper Studio Limited

一念素食 Bijas Vegetarian Restaurant

突破有限公司 Breakthrough Limited

豚王 Butao Ramen

大家樂集團有限公司 Café de Coral Holdings Limited

華星冰室 Chrisly Cafe

國泰航空有限公司 Cathay Pacific Airways Limited

查理布朗咖啡專門店 Charlie Brown Café

顧張文菊、葉成慶律師事務所 Christine M. Koo & Ip, Solicitors & Notaries

高立信有限公司 Collection Group Limited

商台製作有限公司 Commercial Radio Productions Limited

浪濤軒酒店 Concerto Inn

建造業議會 Construction Industry Council

香港逸東酒店 Eaton Hong Kong

經濟一週 Economic Digest

教育出版社有限公司 Educational Publishing House Limited

Eone Timepieces Hong Kong Limited

金枕頭泰國餐廳 Golden Durian Thai Restaurant

力康發展有限公司 Heal Force Development Limited

哈佛諾基基因科學研究所有限公司 Healthology Biosciences Limited

甜入心 Heart's Dessert

HKT Education Limited

香港教育圖書公司 Hong Kong Educational Publishing Company

亨庫蓄有限公司 Humdinglai Limited

鴻福堂集團有限公司 Hung Fook Tong Holdings Limited

華建貨運有限公司 Infinity Cargo Express Limited

躍思教育出版社 JumpStart Publishers

廣發餐廳 K F Cafe & Restaurant

金記冰室 Kam Kee Cafe

瓊華有限公司 King Wah Company Limited

帝景珠寶有限公司 King's View Jewellery Limited

史偉莎集團有限公司 LBS Group

齡記出版有限公司 Ling Kee Publishing Company Limited

萬達髮品製造有限公司 Man Tat Wigs Manufacturing Company Limited

宏力保安服務有限公司 Megastrength Security Services Company Limited

Microsoft Hong Kong Limited

現代教育研究社有限公司 Modern Educational Research Society Limited

香港鐵路有限公司 MTR Corporation Limited

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牛津大學出版社(中國)有限公司 Oxford University Press (China) Limited
樂思教育出版有限公司 Pan Lloyds Publishers Limited
百樂酒店集團 Park Hotel Group
山頂纜車有限公司 Peak Tramways Company Limited
培生教育出版亞洲有限公司 Pearson Education Asia Limited
導師出版社有限公司 Pilot Publishing Company Limited
PizzaExpress (Hong Kong) Limited
悅年有限公司 Please Year Limited
寶匙有限公司 Prosimex Company Limited
沙非路香港有限公司
Safilo Hong Kong Limited
新輝(建築管理)有限公司 Sanfield (Management) Limited
聯合出版(集團)有限公司 Sino United Publishing (Holdings) Limited
Smark B TV 媒體有限公司 Smark B TV Media Limited
Spark Bar & Restaurant
渣打銀行(香港)有限公司 Standard Chartered Bank (HK) Limited
星光實業有限公司 Star Industrial Company Limited
九重鮮 Steam Fresh
甜牙牙 Sweet Tooth
太興飲食集團 Tai Hing Catering Group
大埔振興有限公司 Tai Po Chun Hing Limited

德生電子實業有限公司 Tecsun Electronic Industrial Limited
德思盧博(亞洲)有限公司 Teksbotics(Asia) Limited
逸泰居 The Headland Hotel
香港保險業聯會 The Hong Kong Federation of Insurers
九龍巴士 (一九三三) 有限公司 The Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited
西藏水資源有限公司 Tibet Water Resources Limited
香港強韌有限公司 Tough Jeans Limited
潮龍餐飲管理有限公司 Trendy Dragon Catering Management Limited
烏都鄰舍中心有限公司 Urdu Neighbour Centre Limited
視障領域 VI Horizon
華豐燒臘有限公司 Wah Fung (Roast Meat) Company Limited
傲科實業有限公司 Wintech Manufacturing Company Limited
活色生香國際有限公司 Wonderlife Universal Limited
國際文具集團有限公司 World Wide Stationery Manufacturing Company Limited
英記茶莊有限公司 Ying Kee Tea Company Limited

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陳惠良

陳惠芬

楊薇

譚溥源

全體義工 All Volunteers