



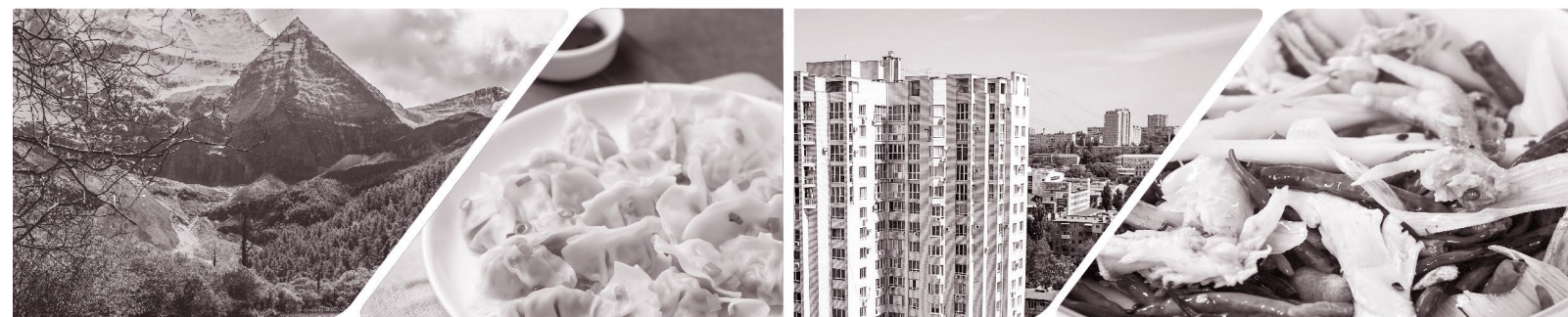
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# MSI Bulletin

A CALL TO CHRISTIAN PROFESSIONALS

Your Life is the Message

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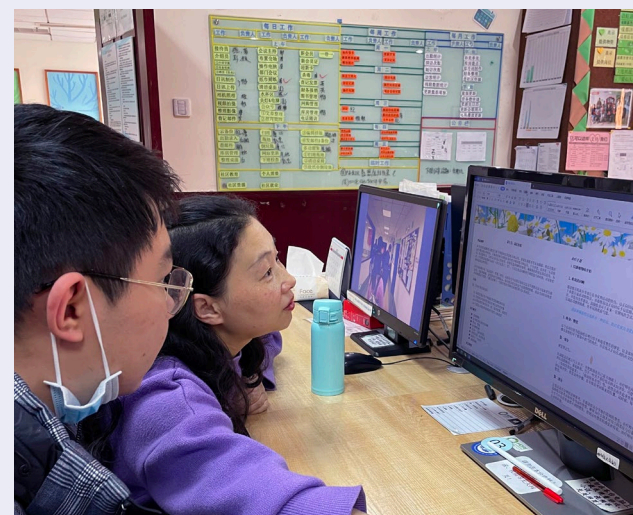
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## VOLUNTEER SERVICES HAVE RESUMED!

by Eva Y

*The volunteer programme at Hope Clubhouse aims to promote serving with love and impacting others' lives with their own. Praise God that with the easing of the pandemic restrictions, the volunteer programme is gaining momentum.*

### VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS IN PARTNERSHIP

In order to facilitate greater partnership, Hope Clubhouse has invited volunteers with English skills to join in the translation and contextualisation of positive psychology courses. We are thankful that these volunteers are willing to take on this task and work alongside our members.

### VOLUNTEERS AND ORGANISATION IN PARTNERSHIP

"Quick! One more minute to go!" The room was filled with energy as university student volunteers and members worked noisily and conscientiously to connect pipes in order

for a ball to pass through. The whole room was charged with energy, excitement and joy!

**University Student:** Initially, I was very nervous. But after interacting with the members and seeing how relaxed and involved they were, I too relaxed and wasn't nervous any longer.

**Member:** We are thankful that the university students accepted us and joined in the activities with us. We are very happy!

Young Clubhouse members and university students gathering together - this has been a long-held dream of members to be able to interact with their peers. ■



## CONDUITS OF LOVE

by Zhaojue local staff

I have been cooperating with MSI teachers for 18 years. During this time, I have welcomed and bidden farewell to many friends from various countries and regions who have visited our small county. I have come to understand that they are not here to sightsee and enjoy the scenery, but to lovingly help this place.

I remember that I accompanied Teacher Yen and other foreigners to Boyihuo village to follow up on the sheep lending project. At that time, the paved road only reached the foothills of the mountain, and we had to trek up the rest

of the way. After nearly two hours of trekking on many trails and through many creeks, we finally arrived at the destination. It was a really tiring journey. After a short rest, the foreigners went with the farmers to see how the sheep were doing. The arrival of these experts in the mountains made the farmers very happy. A group gathered round Teacher Yen asking questions, and she patiently clarified their doubts. It was only at sundown that our trip to the countryside ended. On the way back, I asked them why they were willing to endure hardship to come to this place. They just smiled and said: We are just conduits of love, and the hard work is nothing if we can pass on this love to every corner of the world.

Yes, you have spread the gospel of love and sowed the seeds of this love. I believe that from this love beautiful flowers will one day bloom. ■



1. Thank God that the Sichuan Public Health Bureau and the INGO Management Office have approved our year end report, financial audit, and 2023 budget and work plan.

2. Please pray for more short and long term workers to join us on the field. There are many projects which can be expanded or started but we need workers.

3. Thank God for providing the necessary funds for Sichuan's ministries.

4. Please pray for our local staff to grow and deepen their relationship with the Lord and develop into leaders on the field.

## IMAGO DEI

by Wendy C

In the paediatric department here in Meigu, I am gaining the reputation of being a 'chair-person'. It is not that I chair any committee; but that I have been known to buy chairs for children with special needs.

Three-year-old Michael has cerebral palsy. He has high muscle tone especially in his legs. Under the expert guidance of an experienced Occupational Therapist remotely from Canada, we sourced a chair that fits Michael so that his ankles, knees, and hips can all be at 90 degrees comfortably, relaxing him and allowing him to sit securely, so that he can learn to use his hands.

Two-year-old Gabriel was born with generalised profound muscle weakness. He cannot sit or stand on his own, or even lift his arms against gravity. His chest muscles are weak too, making him prone to chest infections. His older brother had the same condition and passed away around the age of three. I met

Gabriel on his third hospitalisation for chest infection. The infant car seat we got him is no match to the electric wheelchair children with similar conditions get in Canada, but at least it allows him to sit upright supported, decreasing the chance of aspiration and chest infection when he feeds.

These two boys have almost no chance of going to school or ever attaining independent living. Their parents have taken the responsibility of looking after them to the best of their abilities; a courageous act of love when the prevailing culture is to measure a person's worth based mostly on their ability. We are glad to walk with them and support them, proclaiming the counter-cultural message of Imago Dei: made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). We all have intrinsic worth and are loved by our heavenly Father, regardless of our gender, race, health, or ability. This is good news. ■



## FRAGMENTS OF TIME GARBAGE AND LIFE

by Sharon L

A favourite of Always Shining Volunteer Family (ASVF) volunteers is the Creation Care environmental protection activity which involves picking up rubbish. It does not require too much investment of time, everyone can do it, and the results are immediate! At the same time we pick up some lessons of life, such as: We clean up our own mind and soul while we clean up the environment. Also: It's good to benefit others and make yourself happy. And: Garbage is like our sin: it is always hidden in places where it is not easy to find. And yet, the smaller it is, the more difficult to deal with.

Picking up trash is not the goal of the activity, but living by example is. Although some people are indifferent to this activity, our actions of "bowing down in humility", "being faithful in small things", and "never being discouraged" still touch many passers-by.

In addition to picking up trash, the upcycling activity was also a highlight. During the process, I deeply realised that created beings are nothing but dust. But, because of God's grace and redemption, after being reshaped by Him, we become something of value so that our small-as-dust life can be perfected in His eternity. Although we are all broken, we are all made perfect in Him!

### Please pray that:

1. More people will join and become volunteers.
2. People will have a deeper understanding of the true meaning of Creation Care.
3. The final products of the upcycling activity can be smoothly distributed to hospital wards and nursing homes and that they will be a blessing. ■

