

GENERAL

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## 1.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REMARKS



### Bridging the Gap

Caritas – Hong Kong is a social service organization founded by the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong. Apart from offering relief to the poor and the distressed people, Caritas plays an important role of a bridge bringing God's love to the Last, the Least and the Lost by giving them light and hope through the services provided by Caritas.

Understandably, in the real world, there is distance among people. In particular, relational poverty has been significantly affecting our society in recent years. However, we should not take it as a common societal phenomenon. Most of the time, we create the gap by ourselves. Without knowing it, we cover our eyes as if we see nothing. As long as all sorts of false ideas and images arise, we give them bad names, make jokes of them and cover them with prejudices, avoid direct contact with them and treat them as devil.

Perhaps, we forget that all these people are our brothers and sisters in Christ. We should treat them with sincere love. Nevertheless, we take the courage to

overcome the barriers and get rid of our selfishness, we can see in one another's eyes that we all are the children of God and members of the same family. Only if we have a true heart of care and solidarity, we can then eliminate the difference and gap among us and establish a harmonious relationship.

Caritas has been serving the Society for more than 60 years and is proactively developing diversified and high quality services to meet the community needs. These services are bridges for connecting the love of God with the service recipients and sending our care to the needy in every corner of the Society. In response to the increasing demand of social services and changing needs of the community, Caritas has to continue building more and more solid bridges so that our vision of serving the needy could be achieved. I believe that the success of Caritas in building of these bridges is attributable to the great effort of our staff and the devotion and unyielding support of our donors.

Last but not least, on behalf of Caritas, I would like to extend a note of thankfulness to Most Rev Michael M.C. Yeung who has been serving the Agency for 25 years. His effort and dedication had led the Agency in overcoming various challenges. It is delighted that he has been appointed to be the Chairman of the Council and work with us from another aspect.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Yim'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line above the first part of the name.

Rev Joseph T.L.Yim

## 1.2 CARITAS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN 2014/2015

### Theme of the 2014/2015 Campaign : “Give Them a Ray of Hope”

Appeals for support and running bazaar stalls made to the parishes, schools and associations were met by encouraging responses. Over 600 units, including parishes, mass centres, schools, organizations and Caritas service units participated in this year’s Campaign. The six bazaars held in Hong Kong, Tuen Mun, Kowloon, Sha Tin, Tsuen Wan and Cheung Chau with over 430 stalls were operated by about 12,000 enthusiastic volunteers. The official opening of the Hong Kong Bazaar was officiated by Prof the Hon Anthony Cheung Bing Leung, GBS, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing while that of the Kowloon Bazaar was officiated by the Hon John Tsang Chun Wah, GBM, JP, Financial Secretary. The other four bazaars were opened by local dignitaries.



- Prof Anthony Cheung participated in the stall games at Hong Kong Bazaar



- Smiling faces at the Kowloon Bazaar – Cardinal Tong and Mr John Tsang together with other guests pictured with the students

The Industrial & Commercial Bank of China (Asia) has taken up the chairmanship of the Campaign for 16 consecutive years. This year, the total amount raised from the Campaign came to a record high of \$30.89 million, which included \$6.93 million from the six bazaars, \$12.45 million from the sale of raffle tickets and \$11.51 million from the Friends of Caritas (through fundraising activities including Charity TV Show, Musical and Golf Day), patrons of the Campaign, corporate donors and individual benefactors.



- The six Bazaars attracted around 100,000 visitors who had returned home from a “fruitful journey”



- Charity Musical "Hello, Dolly!"- Most Rev Michael M.C. Yeung and Members of Friends of Caritas gave a great applause to the impressive performance



- Over 100 golfers enjoyed the Golf Day for charity and for fun

## 1.3 CATHOLIC CHURCH LENTEN CAMPAIGN 2014 AND GRANT FROM LENTEN ALLOCATION

The Catholic Church Lenten Campaign Organizing Committee ("the Committee") chose "Faith Comes to Perfection with Love" for its theme. Caritas, serving as the Committee's Secretariat, helped in the campaign by organizing promotion seminar, preparing press release, designing posters, managing the webpage, coordinating the printing and distribution of Lenten messages, printing "Way of the Cross" booklets, producing banners, Lenten Boxes and Paschal Lamb savings boxes for collection of donations.

With the support of parishes, Catholic schools and organizations, a total of \$7.04 million was raised in response to the appeal in 2014, as compared with \$6.75 million raised in 2013.

An amount of \$5.6 million was allocated to Caritas to fund the services for the needy through its social, medical care and education programmes.

In the spirit of solidarity, a sum of \$0.5 million was allocated for overseas and local emergency relief activities with Caritas providing the administrative and secretarial support.

Caritas supported the Committee in the Lenten Charitable School Award Scheme which received positive response from 105 Catholic schools and kindergartens with a total of 117,312 entries. Prizes were presented to winners of the drawing, colouring and blog writing competitions in May 2014.



- Lenten Charitable School Award Presentation Ceremony 2014

## 1.4 STAFF POSITION

The total number of full-time staff was 5,335 as at 31 March 2015, fell by 1.6%, compared with that in March 2014. There was a slight decrease in full-time staff headcounts in subsidized schools and Social Work Services as at that date. It was noted that part-time staff dropped sharply to 1,111, representing a decrease of 20.3%, of which Community & Higher Education Service took up the largest proportion. The turnover rate of full-time staff remained steady as in previous years, being 21.3% for the year 2014/2015.

Diagram 1 shows the distribution of full-time and part-time staff as well as the wastage of full-time staff in various Services.

Diagram 2 delineates the position of staff having served for 10 years or more by gender. The number of female staff remained dominant, taking up about 73% of the long-serving staff members.

The Agency is like many employers in Hong Kong facing the problem of the wave of retirement at mid-level and senior level management in the next three years and has been making efforts to step up its succession planning.

Diagram 1

### Staff Strength as at 31 March 2015 and Turnover in 2014/2015

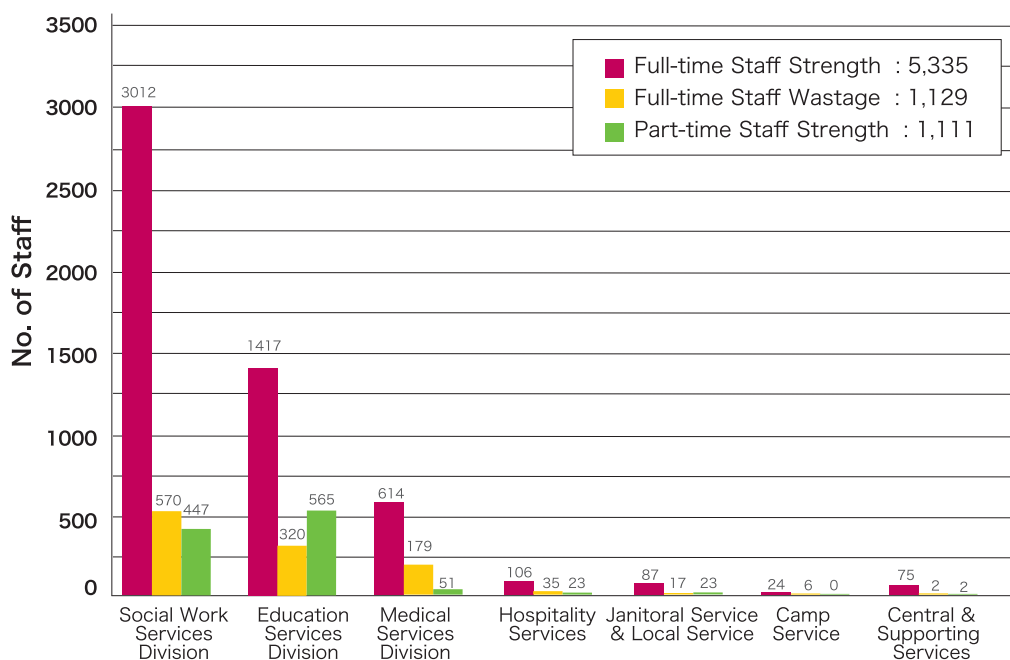


Diagram 2

### Position of Long-serving Staff as at 31 March 2015

