

# Amity Outlook

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## Rebirth of Woyun Village



愛德基金會  
THE AMITY FOUNDATION



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#### ON THE COVER:

In the past 11 years, the promotion of organic fertilizer has brought health and wealth to the villagers in Woyun Village, a place known as the "hometown of garlic".





## Internet charity: innovation of tools, evolution of minds

**T**he development of Internet has brought new possibilities to the philanthropic sector of China by further driving the sector development in two ways: On one hand, philanthropic organizations can promote their ideas and information in a more positive way via internet, building good reputation for both the organizations and the whole sector; on the other hand, the mass public can participate in charity more directly and swiftly via internet. The whole changes have brought charity closer to everyone and infused the concept into our daily life. It can be easily noticed that, more people are choosing charity as one of their personal lifestyles.

### Amity and its way of Internet charity

- More than ten years ago, Amity started proactively its “Internet+ Philanthropic” strategy.
- In 2003, Amity Foundation established its official website. Since then, Amity gradually reduced its dependence on other off-line advocacy strategies and started a new era in speaking for itself and creating its own brand name.

- In 2004, Amity Foundation established a new department responsible for online fundraising, seeking for new opportunities in this area.
- In 2008, “Amity Orphan Fostering Program” officially registered on the Tencent Charity Platform, as the first project to solicit “Monthly Donation”. Up until now, accumulatively over RMB100 million has been raised to improve the life and education quality of more than ten thousand of orphans.
- In 2016, with an aim to cope with the challenging era of the Internet, Amity adjusted its strategy by establishing Amity Way Fundraising Team. This name contains multiple meanings and wishes. By integrating new media resources, Amity Foundation created an innovative way to cooperate with grass-root social organizations, promoting the fresh idea of “Everyone for Charity”.
- In 2017, Amity Foundation raised over RMB160 million online, which contributed to about 58% of the yearly income.
- Up until the end of 2017, Amity Foundation has raised a total of over RMB300 million via internet during its 11 years of online fundraising.

## Accelerator of “Everyone for Charity”

Internet tools and platforms provide people with easy access, rich content and multiple interaction, resulting in a better sense of involvement. More people are able to offer help in programs that they are interested in. Though a donation may be small and negligible, all pennies from a lot of individuals can ultimately accumulate with each other and make a huge difference.

Moreover, thanks to the fun and interaction of Internet tools and platforms, donating or other forms of charity involvement offer personalized feedback to the donor. Once given the opportunity to share feedback via social media, a donor becomes a promotor of the programs and gains great confidence and sense of achievements. This is how the era of “Everyone’s Charity” develops.

## Engine for social organizations

For grass-root social organizations, internet is a fair, extensive and unlimited show platform, on which they can exhibit their ideas and practices promptly, truly, and thoroughly. In this way, they can achieve more social attention, as well as more possible resources so as to provide more powerful and stable support and maintenance.

For those organizations that plays a role of a hub, internet facilitates involvement of the general public and broke traditional large-sized, regular and centralized donations to small, irregular and sporadic donations. The change improves the structure of overall donation and reduces the risk of over-dependence on large donors. This in turn helps improve those organizations’ self-development ability.

Of course, Internet is a set of tools, a form of technology and a kind of platform, but it is far more than those. In the coming era of internet charity, efficiency, accuracy, as well as transparency are the emphasizes of philanthropic work, which means that social organizations must adapt themselves to a new environment and a fresh working style. Aside from using Internet tools and platform to promote and manage projects, social organizations shall bear in mind and apply Internet thinking to every part of their work, so that they may enjoy vitality and sustainable developments.

## Fusion power for the sector

Before, this sector was relatively independent, differentiating itself from other fields. Today, things have changed a lot. Thanks to the support of Internet tools and platforms, the original limit no longer exists. Charity has fit into every aspect of our daily life. Everything we do in daily life can be transformed into charity, like taking a walk, eating meals or even using social media. On the other hand, the strong influence and appeal of the Internet has spread concepts of philanthropy and make people understand how “philanthropy” steps in alignment with the development of the country and the society. More importantly, members of the society and resources will be able to make connections with philanthropy, resulting in direct improvement of public awareness, social involvement and cross-sector resource allocation.

With timely information and exchangeable resources, Internet has become the fusion power of the philanthropy sector. It collects love, talents and resources, enabling ideas to be better known and accepted.

## Efforts of Amity Way fundraising

With its openness, interactivity and universality, the Internet can be deemed as a platform emphasizing “link” and “agglomeration effect”.

“Amity Way” fundraising team was first established in early 2016. We ascribe multiple meanings and sincere wishes to this name. We hope Amity Way will become a cooperative platform for established NGOs in the sector and a supporter for the grass-root organizations. In addition, the platform will integrate all resources via the

open and connected Internet to advocate for the concept of “Everybody for Charity”.

The establishment of “Amity Way” team represents Amity’s embrace of the new Internet era. It provides social organizations with the best service, aiming to improve the service quality and customer satisfaction. And, it offers multiple forms and kinds of services, including training and tailoring, both online and offline. By helping social organizations to raise money online and manage programs from start to end, Amity itself also become more powerful as well as its supported organizations. This ultimately generate agglomeration effects and scientific division in the sector, resulting in healthier and more sustainable developments.

**The “9.9 Philanthropy Day” event of the year 2018 is approaching. As a blockbuster for the sector, the 9.9 Philanthropy Day event keeps breaking online charity records and receives social attention and welcome. It follows its mission to spread charity concept through promoting charity festivals. By taking this chance, Amity Foundation will continuously join hands with more social organizations and enterprises. With this particular strategy, Amity Foundation will keep pursuing the creativity of charity, the morality of society and the value system of the world.**





## Rebirth of Woyun Village - ten years of tenacity

**T**en years ago, on May 12, 2008, the devastating earthquake thrilled the land of Sichuan Province. From 2008 to 2018, people remember and care for the people and land that suffered the earthquake in their own ways.

Although the injury was serious and the pain was deep, life still needs move forward.

Thanks to the support of the government and the society, people surviving the Wenchuan disaster gradually emerged from the pain and found new vitality in the reconstruction of new houses and new hopes.

Those lovely and strong villagers in Woyun Village, Gongji Town, Mianzhu City, which were supported by Amity Foundation in the post-disaster reconstruction, are no exception. Amity Foundation participated in the reconstruction work after the 5.12 earthquake in Woyun Village, and witnessed the restoration and rebirth of the villagers of Woyun with sweat and tears.

Now, how is Woyun Village? Do the achievements and ideas cultivated by Amity in the post-disaster reconstruction in the village still exist? Are those villagers doing well in these years? Has the trauma kept Woyun Village struggling? With these questions, Amity staff once again walked into Woyun Village.



## Rebirth of Woyun under Love

*Ten years after the 5.12 earthquake, when Amity staff came back to this Village of Woyun again, the light clouds, the fields of crops and the peaceful view make people linger.*



△ Woyun Village

Upon the earthquake, as a social organization that has been involved in disaster relief since 1987 and has long been concerned about post-disaster reconstruction, Amity Foundation dispatched staff to the disaster-stricken area to conduct joint investigation and needs assessment with local partners, based on which humanitarian relief would be implemented. In the following two years, Amity established a Wenchuan Earthquake Reconstruction Office, setting Woyun Village of Mianzhu City as its main project area. Later, Amity Foundation conducted various

project activities for different groups of people on different reconstruction phases in 24 hardest hit areas and counties in Sichuan and Shaanxi provinces, including emergency assistance program, rehabilitation and growth program, production recovery program, disability rehabilitation program, drinking water recovery program, residential housing reconstruction program, psychological support program, and community reconstruction and development program.



The Wenchuan Earthquake Disaster Management Program provides basic humanitarian relief, protects the lives of the people, and guarantees basic living conditions for people in the disaster areas. At the same time, it pays special attention to the education of the awareness of disaster prevention and mitigation of people in target communities. Through restoration and reconstruction activities in various communities, Amity procured the involvement of people in all communities and focused on the restoration and improvement of the overall functions of communities, laying a solid foundation for post-disaster sustainable development in community organization, culture, spirit and health.

According to statistics, with the support of people from all walks of life at home and abroad, Amity Foundation has granted more than RMB52 million for the emergency rescue and post-disaster reconstruction of Wenchuan earthquake, benefiting 162,000 people.

## Peaceful country life

Upon entering the village, you will see cement roads connecting every household. Bulletin boards established by Amity ten years ago still play its role after ten years of wind and rain. Small farmhouses reconstructed by Amity and other organizations are distributed on both sides of the road. The beautiful patterned walls are still glimmering as they were once built. In front of the house, there are crops dried under sun and dogs lying on the ground and enjoying the wonderful afternoon.

Houses rebuilt in Woyun Village were designed by Hong Kong volunteers from Amity Foundation. They are sturdy, good-looking and practical.

“In addition to funds granted by the government, Amity also provided financial support to the villages according to



△ Amity bulletin boards still in use



△ Woyun, the "hometown of garlic"

the family population” said Mr. Shu Junsong, who stayed in Woyun Village for 33 months for the post-disaster reconstruction. “Moreover, different room types could be selected based on family sizes. If any children live with the elderly, they would be given additional support.”

“Amity is a foundation that has a long-term vision,” Gao Lehua, the former secretary of the village, told us. “You see, this encouragement policy enhanced our family harmony in the village. Now, Woyun Village clearly does better in respect of elderly care than other villages”.

Strolling in Woyun Village, six water towers, each more than ten meters high, are eye-catching. They guarantee the drinking water demand for nearly 1,000 households in 16 village groups. After the earthquake, most of the



△ Amity water tower

original water towers in the village collapsed and the rest no longer produced any water due to groundwater changes. Amity Foundation invited geology experts and professional drilling teams to look for water source 50 meters underground. After finding the water source, Amity carefully selected a supplier that provides high quality water pipes to deliver drinking water to every household. "You know what," said Wu Guofu, the current director of the village committee. "The water pipes in the village before the earthquake often cracked and we had serious water leakage problem. However, after being rebuilt by Amity Foundation, those water pipes have never had any quality issues."

## Delightful harvest

Walking in the fields, you will see villagers working hard on their harvest.

Once hearing we are from Amity Foundation, the villagers

put down their farm tools and recalled the scene where Amity helped them resume production and life 10 years ago. Speaking of the organic fertilizer provided by Amity in the recovery of production in Woyun Village after the disaster, everyone appreciated.

"Oh, organic fertilizer is so good! It does no harm to the soil!"

"Before Amity came, we used chemical fertilizer. Now I am used to using organic fertilizer. Although crops may grow a bit slower, they are good for health and delicious!"

"Amity's high quality granary is also very functional. We are still using them now." Shui Yuxiang, who was washing clothes, enthusiastically invited us to visit the "Amity granary" at her home. Although the characters "Amity Foundation" was blurred, Shui Yuxiang gave a thumbs-up saying "Amity is a good organization!" when the granary opened and the unhusked rice poured out and her container was full. "Amity found that after the disaster cereals could not be saved and delivered these aluminum granaries to us. You see, it is really durable, moisture-proof, insect-proof and rodent-proof! Now many families are still using them." She smiled. "Once filled in full, one granary can provide cereals for the whole family in the whole year!"



△ Amity aluminum granary





△ Villager working in the field

## Amity is in everyone's heart

In the village, there is a restaurant called "Mountainside Chicken Farm". The boss of the restaurant is 24-year-old Wang Yajun. Ten years ago, Wang Yajun was still in junior high school when he experienced the unforgettable earthquake. In the subsequent reconstruction process, Wang Yajun became a volunteer of Amity Foundation.

Speaking of the old days, instead of the psychological trauma brought to him after the earthquake, Wang Yajun was most impressed by the experience of being a volunteer of Amity which means much to his character and life. "I was an introverted boy and was not talking much. And I was often bullied," Wang Yajun told us. Later, he met staff from Amity, who taught him a lot. "I participated in the activities held by Amity, learned from Amity staff and got to know a lot of volunteer friends from all over the world. I felt that life was better. Gradually, I forgot the pain of the earthquake," Wang Yajun said. "It was Amity that taught me to be optimistic and perseverant and never to give up."

Amity not only brought changes to the children in the village, but also taught the villagers a lot of skills.

During the reconstruction, Amity held several trainings on disaster escape and first-aid knowledge. "Amity trainings were so useful," Wu Guofu, the village director, told us the story about giving first-aid to a drowning child. "At that time, a child accidentally fell into the water. After someone got the child out of water, I used the cardiopulmonary resuscitation skills learnt in Amity training class to save the child's life. Later the doctor told me that if my actions were not taken in time, the child might have been gone..."



△ The boy surviving the earthquake is now starting his own business



△ Villager still keeping the coat distributed by Amity ten years ago



△ Village director Wu Guofu (second from right), former secretary Gao Lehua (first from left) and Amity staff Shu Junsong (second from left)

Amity won the trust and respect of the whole village with their sincerity and hard work, and spread the seeds of philanthropy on this land. "Before 2008, it would be difficult to ask the villagers to make donations. There are two reasons: 1. the villagers themselves were poor; 2. They usually doubt where the donation had gone." Said Gao Lehua, the former party secretary of the village. "However, after the Wenchuan earthquake, everyone has deeper understanding and more trust in charity. Now, if we know a disaster occurs somewhere, our villagers will make a voluntary donation. Because everyone knows the money will go to organizations like Amity Foundation who will spend it on those people who need help, just like everyone helped us ten years ago."

## Continuation of Amity's concept

In rural areas, women are rarely involved in decision-making and management. On the contrary, Amity paid special attention to call up women's power and cultivating women's abilities during those reconstruction years. As a result, there are quite a few women representatives in the Reconstruction Committee of Woyun Village. In addition to the knowledge of housing construction, they also participate in some decision-making and coordination

work, playing a very important role. Tian Wenmin, 28 in the year of 2008, was one of them. "I was confused what I shall do when I first became a representative in the reconstruction committee," said Tian Wenmin. "Later I attended various trainings provided by Amity. After applying the knowledge learnt in the trainings to coordination and engineering supervision work, I grew my logic, self-confidence and organizing capability." Today, Tian Wenmin is the director of women's affairs in Woyun Village. She attributes her qualification for her current position to the experience of involvement in the Amity Reconstruction Program.



△ Tian Wenmin, director of women's affairs

Woyun Village has a Singing and Dancing Team. Before the earthquake, the Singing and Dancing Team was a self-entertaining organization. After the earthquake, nobody was in the mood for singing and dancing until Amity came to Woyun Village. "I remember it was the first Mid-Autumn Festival after the earthquake," said Tian Yunhui, the team leader of the Singing and Dancing Team. "Amity wanted to hold a Mid-Autumn Festival Party and asked villagers and my team to perform. You know at that time, nobody was in the mood to perform or organize. Amity staff enlightened us that the future would be long and we needed to have new life." Tian Yunhui realized that



Amity was trying to bring villagers out of despair and grief through this party. So they tried best to cheer up and more and more villagers began to participate in the activities organized by Amity. "I really appreciate Amity," she said. "In the most difficult time, Amity let our heart find a home." After that, Tian Dajie's eyes were a little moist. Now, this Singing and Dancing Team is famous in the surrounding counties and gives nearly 20 performances every year. It has become a "cultural brand" for Woyun Village.



△ Woyun Singing and Dancing Team

In Woyun Village, villagers keep a profound feeling for Amity. Even ten years later, they have much to talk about Amity. Wu Guofu, director of the village of Woyun Village, told us: "Even today, we are still learning the spirit of rigor, seriousness, persistence and dedication from Amity. No matter we do anything for ourselves or for others, we will follow the standards of Amity."

In the past, it was a headache to decide households who are in difficulties and may receive subsidies. People often have different ideas and conflicts were easily seen in the community. Now, the village committee follows the

experience and methods of Amity used in reconstruction: 1) to determine village representatives, 2) to formulate criteria for selecting households in difficulties, such as family income, car, family members, etc., 3) to establish rules that everyone recognizes to ensure fairness and justice. After final agreement is reached during the discussion, the result will be published for no more than 15 days, villagers with different opinions will be visited and opinions will be collected and assessed. The whole process is to be held with openness and transparency. "Today, you can see that all the work in our village is carried out in an orderly manner. We believe we are inspired by Amity's work philosophy and experience!"

Ten years are so short that we can still see those Amity water towers and granaries in the village. But ten years are also long enough for Amity ideas and spirits to penetrate the hearts of the villagers. We hope this homeland that is reborn by love will become more dynamic. Let's wish a prosperous rebirth and development of this small village.



△ Woyun Village

## Home of the fearless

*With the love and support of donors and volunteers at home and abroad, the village has finally revived. Those who have suffered are telling us: the hope is the hope of the fearless and the home is the home of the fearless.*

*Several Hong Kong volunteers who participated in the reconstruction work of Woyun Village shared their precious memories.*



△ Anthony Tong, Executive Director of Amity HK, Tang Wai Man, Ng Cheuk Yee, and Wong Hak Kong (left to right respectively) meeting at Amity HK office to look back at the old days in Woyun



△ Kwong Chong Kin showing a picture taken in the reconstruction

### “ At that time, they didn't want to live”

"When we passed through the ruins of the Jiulong Village, I saw almost all houses was down, but there were some doors still standing there straight. I have to say the scene made me terrified!"



△ Anthony Tong was shocked seeing the destruction after the earthquake

Although he had got to know the situation in the earthquake-stricken area from various sources, Anthony Tong, Executive Director of Amity Foundation (Hong Kong), was “very shocked and felt chilling” when he entered the disaster area of Wenchuan from the prosperous city of Hong Kong.

It was the City of Mianzhu in June 2008.

Anthony Tong still remembers that many people were desperate and standing on the side of the road, murmuring “I don't want to live this life anymore.” Their lives were stagnant at 14:28 on May 12, 2008, just like many clocks on the buildings. Their minds were collapsed and volition distorted.





△ Amity relief truck after the earthquake



△ Amity staff doing need assessment after the earthquake

## New concerns

After emergency rescue, in July, Amity Foundation put Woyun Village of Guangji Town, Mianzhu City as its project site to carry out post-disaster reconstruction of the village and surrounding areas.

Anthony Tong once again came to this land with architectural volunteers from Hong Kong, including Kwong Chong Kin, Ng Cheuk Yee, Tang Wai Man and Wong Hak Kong. Together with Amity staff who had already stayed in the “Amity Foundation Wenchuan Earthquake Reconstruction Office” in Woyun Village, a strong team was established.

At that time, in the village of Woyun, although the ruins remained and the villagers were still depressed by the disaster, some signs had appeared. For example, some villagers began to grow some vegetables for dinner and some began to make small deals.

This kind of new development made Amity team “happy but anxious” - what can we do to make the people in Woyun Village get a new home soon? And for Hong Kong

experts who are accustomed to urban architectural design, the architectural design for rural communities and houses was still challenging.

While formulating “tactics”, in respect of the “strategy”, Amity team insisted that the reconstruction needed to take into account the sustainable development of the villagers and the communities; the villagers needed to be fully involved in the reconstruction work; reconstruction must consider the demands of the villagers as well as scientific and rational designs; and more importantly, the psychological support was also in need.

## Long way ahead

This Amity Reconstruction Team, whose language, culture, and habits are completely different from those of the people in Woyun Village, began a long way to rebuilding the village.

In the planning stage, the team fully took into account the topography, climate, seismic demand, industrial structure and other factors. The team selected a “compact community” mode for the new village. By living in

communities, more land is in one piece, allowing large-scale farming or leasing. In the construction stage, Amity team developed an easy-to-understand booklet that contains the concept of planning and the knowledge of architecture, so that the villagers have an intuitive understanding of “how to build” and “why to build” through animation and three-dimensional models. Therefore, villagers could participate in the reconstruction in person and carry out cross-checking so as to ensure the quality of the house reconstructed...



△ HK volunteers discussing reconstruction details with villagers after the earthquake



△ Villagers participating in the reconstruction process

Apart from the above, Amity Team also helped the villagers to restore their lives and production through provision of daily necessities, promotion of organic fertilizers, restoration of water conservancy and design of “Amity granaries”.



△ Amity class resumption and growth program signed



△ Amity staff together with village children

The earthquake separated countless families and people, and shattered the information communication mechanism of social life. In order to make the villagers well informed of relevant information and policies of the post-disaster reconstruction work, Amity set up bulletin boards for information disclosure.

"We set up special bulletin boards in Woyun Village to make all information publicly available. The villagers were



very clear about the standards, implementation methods and procedures for financial aid." Anthony Tong was very proud of the bulletin boards. "The villagers in Woyun Village said that there was nothing they didn't know. All the information was on the bulletin boards." Today, the bulletin boards established by Amity are still in use. They have become an important platform for villagers to obtain information and participate in social life.

Consequently, although the reconstruction of Woyun Village was not the first to start, it had the fastest progress, the fewest problems and the smoothest work.

## Physical and mental reconstruction

Post-disaster reconstruction is not only a process of material recovery, but also a recovery process of psychosocial life. During the reconstruction process of Woyun Village, Amity Team combined the two as an organic whole. Led by the concept of sustainable development, the team insisted beneficiaries' overall involvement and incorporated community spirit and civic awareness in every aspect of the reconstruction work. This overall integration allows intangible spirit recovery grew together with the tangible rebuilding of new houses. Let the sunshine in, not only into the houses, but into people's hearts.

After the completion of the reconstruction, Amity staff, experts and volunteers went several times back to the new Woyun Village. They found some gratifying changes that made everyone happy.

"After the completion of our reconstruction work, there have been many earthquakes around the City of Mianzhu, but houses in Woyun Village are intact. The villagers said that when the earthquake recurred they were not afraid in their own houses because the houses were built by

themselves under professional instructions. They knew the earthquake resistance of the houses was very good."

"The villagers proudly told me that they now have 'two incomes': due to the centralized settlement layout, they could rent out their land to collect rents, and on the other hand, they could find job locally or in other villages. So totally more income will be earned."

"We gave some long-term development planning suggestions to the villagers according to the geographical characteristics of the village. For example, low-lying places might be constructed into fish ponds and 'farmhouse entertainment centers' could be built beside the ponds as an economic source... Now, I found these suggestions have been taken and become a reality!"

"In the newly planned Woyun Village, because of the concentration, the interaction between the villagers has been increased. Villagers share their biogas pools and share the places to dry crops... The whole Woyun Village is very harmonious."



△ Child in Woyun Village

"Once, my visit was right after the Ya'an earthquake, I saw that the bulletin board of Woyun Village was still in use, and on the board was the donation of the villagers to the Ya'an earthquake-stricken area, like RMB1, RMB5, RMB10... I am so moved that the villagers of Woyun, in their reconstruction efforts together with Amity, have learned to care about this society and those who need help."

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## Hope - rebuilt by the fearless

Some villagers suggested Woyun Village change its name to "Amity Village". To some extent, today's beautiful sightseeing and peaceful life in Woyun Village cannot be separated from years of cultivation and guidance of Amity staff. They use their sincerity to help rebuild this land.

However, Amity staff feel that new blood may not be generated by only external forces. Amity is only a catalyst. It is this land that has nurtured these strong and tenacious people, allowing open-mindedness, courage, perseverance and wisdom of villages in the catastrophe with limited resources and guidance.



△ Hope growing out of Woyun Village



## Amity's spirit, spreading from home to abroad

Amity Foundation has been devoted to humanitarian rescues for over 30 years. Its presence has expanded from China to the outside world. Its practices has been showing the speed and spirit of Amity Foundation.

### Concept of participatory sustainable development

1987 was the year when Amity first responded to a disaster - the tragic forest fire happened in Greater Khingan Mountains. Since then, over the past 33 years, Amity Foundation has carried out countless rescue work, supporting the locals who suffered from the snowstorm in Inner Mongolia, the flood of the Yangtze River, the earthquakes in Lijiang, Yaan, Wenchuan and Yushu, and many other disasters. Amity also participated in international disaster relief including windstorm in the Philippines, earthquake in Nepal, flood in Sri Lanka, tsunami in Indonesia, drought in Ethiopia and earthquake in Ecuador. "Going Global" is now regarded as Amity's fourth ten-year goal and direction of the future.

Amity Foundation always adheres to the principle of humanitarianism, that is, each individual must be treated equally and given the same right, regardless of their genders, races, religions and nationalities. In addition, Amity believes that during rescue and reconstruction, individuals shall be involved in decision-making and management, as well as in need assessment and feedback collection so that the programs will be able to be improved from an "inner side".

Last but not least, with the concept of sustainable development, Amity's disaster management work focuses



△ He Wen, Associate General Secretary of Amity, talking with a villager

on capacity building, infrastructure improvement, ideological development, and mechanism and system completion, hoping to "help people help themselves" and achieve long-term development.

As a non-government organization with a history of 33 years, Amity Foundation has been active in international disaster relief work. "Amity has been greatly influenced by international philosophy for the past 20 years and has received help and assistance from international organizations and individuals in supporting China's disadvantaged areas." Said He Wen, Associate General Secretary of Amity Foundation, "Now it's time to deliver our gratitude to the world by gathering domestic resources to help people in other countries. You know, Amity's vision is 'abundant lives, more justice and a better world'.

## Encouraging more Chinese social organizations to go global

There has been a long history that social organizations provided humanitarian rescues around the globe. Compared with government or corporations, social organizations have their own advantages. They know more about the needs of communities, and they are more segmented and professional to focus on various areas.

In the context of "the Belt and Road Initiative" and "South-South Cooperation" strategies, in recent years, China's development has been highly integrated with the world's development. These policies promoted cooperation between governments, as well as between social organizations. Chinese social organization's involvement allows other countries to understand China's development model and experience.

By going global, Chinese social organizations learn advanced experiences and concepts from other countries, which are also crucial to their own developments. For example, Amity's participation in the rescue work of Nepal earthquake brought our experience in disaster relief and reconstruction to the local area while taking back local experience of social development. It is a mutual learning and communication process.

Since the Nepal earthquake in 2015, more and more social organizations have been going global to participate in the international disaster rescues. While feeling delighted about this phenomenon, Zhang Qiang has some suggestions for organizations who intend to go global. Firstly, aside from political environments, social organizations should improve its vision, ability, strategy, profession and other standards to prepare for new challenges. Secondly, obeying international rules and respecting local culture are necessary. Thirdly,



△ Zhang Qiang, Deputy Executive Director of the Disaster Relief Committee of China Charity Alliance

Chinese social organizations may unite with one another to enforce cooperation and to find connections between organizations and country strategies.

Zhang Qiang highly appraised Amity's devotion in international rescue works. As far as he was concerned, Amity Foundation has embedded itself into the international rescue network, making deepened participation and cooperation. What's more, along with the disaster relief work, a number of Amity's program are also going global, for instance, Amity's exploration in Africa for sustainable projects. Lastly, Zhang Qiang encouraged other Chinese social organizations to share good examples and experiences in managing international programs. Only in this way can more social organizations be called to participate in international relief work and developmental programs and spread their opinions and thoughts in international NGO events.



## Wishes of “The Happy Naive”

**T**he Happy Naive here specifically refers to those who are mentally and physically challenged because of certain mental disorders.

Here you see a special bakery sitting at No.16 Dajianyin Alley, Shanghai Road. It is a quiet place located in the downtown of Nanjing. Its name is Amity Bakery.

For 11 years, Amity Bakery has been training “The Happy Naives” (“The Happy Naive” refers to people who are mentally and physically challenged because of certain mental disorders) on baking skills, so that they can make a living with a job here. As the Help-the-disabled Day of 2018 is approaching, we would like to invite you to take a closer look on this special social enterprise, and listen to the wishes of those “Happy Naives”.



△ Amity Bakery



The bakers in Amity Bakery always speak highly of these special workers, and always care for their needs. In the picture, Shu Chunyang, one of the trainees, is being taught on how to pour bread sauce under the instructions of the baker in Amity Bakery.

After finishing their half-day work, our special baking assistants can enjoy their lunchtime. Today the canteen serves shrimps, pork soup, as well as mangoes, which are their favorites.



△ daily work of the Happy Naives

They routinely have a one-hour break after lunch, during which they can enjoy chatting with each other or simply rest for a while in the lounge. In the picture, Huang Wenhui (right, 1) together with Zhou Jian (right, 2) and Ni Yajuan (left, 2), are listening to Shu Chunyang (left, 1) 's description on eating watermelons. In their eyes, everything is so fresh and interesting, and everyone is so kind and warm-hearted.

At 1:00PM, they start making cookies. Making cookies is not an easy job, especially when they need to fulfil the requirement of their teachers. Even for star workers like Huang Wenhui and Zhou Jian, it takes them a lot of time for training and practice so as to become two cookie-making “masters”. They two often teach people who visit Amity Bakery to experience the fun of making cookies. Because of this, they are very proud of themselves.

### **The wish of Ni Yajuan who likes to share her thoughts, and the wish of Shu chunyang who is quiet**

Because of the special health conditions, these “happy naives” lacks physical power and endurance compared to ordinary people. They need to drink some water and take a short break from time to time. But sometimes, they focus too much on their work that they forget to take the break. As a matter of fact, the bakers and teachers of Amity

Every morning they arrive at Amity Bakery at 8:00AM. After putting on work clothes and washing hands, they are ready for a whole day's work.

This morning, their task is to make breads. For bread baking work, they usually work as assistants for professional bakers in Amity Bakery, doing work like whipping eggs, washing baking trays, etc. For safety reasons, Amity staff would avoid any access by “Happy Naives” to cooking knives and baking ovens.

Though mentally and physically challenged, these workers are more careful and attentive in their work than any ordinary. Just as the picture shows, Ni Yajuan and Huang Wenhui are carefully brushing breads with egg. This is an indispensable procedure before putting breads in the oven.



Bakery sometimes remind them to drink and rest for a while for the sake of their special health conditions.

The wish of Ni Yajuan who likes to share her thoughts, is the same as that of Shu chunyang who looks quiet. They both want to go and see the outside world, even though they do not really know how big this “outside world” is.

### **The wish of Zhou Jian, star trainee in Amity Bakery**

Zhou Jian is the star trainee of Amity Bakery, and also the inspiration of Amity Bakery’s logo. He wishes to keep working in Amity Bakery and take care of other trainees, “as a brother would do”, he described. “I really enjoy myself here, and have gained a sense of achievement.”

### **The wish of Hui Hui, a music fan**

Huang Wenhui enjoys listening to music with her cell phone during breaks. She loves all kinds of songs, no matter who the singer is. All her wish is to be accompanied by music all the time. Though she is a little shy, Huihui can be easily amused by others. When she smiles, her round and blushed face looks so adorable.

Considering the inconvenience of heavy traffic jam during rush hours, they finish their work early at 4:00PM. Before going home, they will wash baking ovens, egg-whipping tools, and other equipment and put them in the right order.

Their daily work is simple. However, it takes them more efforts than the ordinary. Though mentally and physically challenged, these “happy naives” have been trying to prove that they can live and work as the ordinary people do. We believe once provided with more job opportunities, more of them can realize their simple but happy wishes.

May 20, 2018 is the 28th National Help-the-disabled Day in China. This year’s topic is “To complete the building of a moderately prosperous society, and never leave any people with disabilities behind”. This topic aligns with what the Amity Bakery always pursue – to encourage the society to care for the people with disabilities, create a loving atmosphere, provide job training and opportunities for them, so that they are able to make a living, have a job equally, and enjoy a meaningful life with dignity.



△ Brushing egg to the bread



△ During the one-hour break, Huang Wenhui (right, 1) together with Zhou Jian (right, 2) and Ni Yajuan (left, 2), are listening to Shu Chunyang (left,1) ’s description on eating watermelons

## Everyone for charity, but with science

Today, Internet tools, as well as Internet thinking, have become indispensable elements in our social life. We use these elements to learn, to explore and to communicate, and eventually to develop our own thinking and make our own judgement.

And this phenomenon has brought great changes to the philanthropy sector. The wide use of remote-communication tools has enabled lower costs for communication and faster information transmission. Due to the changes, people find it much easier to turn to the Internet for help. Also, the public can know about their conditions by personal connections through social media, as well as by Internet searching. As a result, they can directly reach to those in need and help them with cash or by wire transferring, without the assistance of other people or organizations. Quite a lot of people regard this as “the purest charity”, due to its directness, convenience and efficiency.

However, is this always the fact? Rumors or even scandals in relation to modern charity happened from time to time on newspaper headlines... The cases have something in common: they are all live examples of direct and fast notice and help from the public, but receiving doubts, arguments and even anger of the masses in the end. What's worse, people who initially support charity may eventually run away from it, with a conclusion that “we cannot count on charity any more”, not to mention those not yet having any experience in the area of charity, who are less likely to give charity one chance in the future.

So, what may be the reason?



△ Fang Jun (right)

As far as I am concerned in these cases, the problem is caused by the lack of a third party, which is called “social organization”. The Charity Law of the People's Republic of China provides that no individuals shall raise any money in public for any philanthropic projects. However, the law does not ban individuals from turning to the public for help in case they have difficulties. In my opinion, even though the law does not prohibit any help-seeking behavior, it in no way means that this can be regarded as the most reasonable choice.

On one hand, the Internet does eliminate the boundary of communication in terms of both time and space. However, if developed online, the trust between individuals and the public tends to be limited and fragile, because the two parties have no connections in reality. In the circumstances, if anything negative or uncertain happens later on, it will surely result in tension and doubts in the public. Eventually, there will be no trust between them.



On the other hand, individuals who fall into emergency can ask for financial help, then someone from the public, who reads the information and is keen to help, can directly transfer money to help-seekers' personal bank accounts. In this specific circumstance, the individuals seeking help may have no experience or knowledge in project management or financial management, and may not even know how and when to update information of the detailed use of charity funds. As a result, the information afterwards cannot be updated continuously and regularly. If the public, especially the donors, fail to know where the donation goes and what changes have been made, they will gradually lose trust in both those people in need and charity as well.

This vicious circle can end up in the despair, chagrin and even odium of the masses, who are initially warm-hearted and optimistic in the area of charity. Further, the individuals in need, as well as their families, may be exposed by media, and unable to live a normal life and get the support they need.

In my perspective, if any social organization like Amity can participate as “a third party”, these vicious circles will no longer exist.

First of all, a philanthropic organization can connect different resources with relevant departments, and find out “who are in need” and “what do they really need” by on-the-spot visiting, demand researches and so on. Based on the answers to the two questions above, the organization can then design “how to fulfill their needs”, which is the detailed content of a project. The early-stage intervention is difficult for an individual to put in practice.

Moreover, any operation by a philanthropic organization shall be in compliance with certain rules and procedures, which means during a philanthropic project, the allocation of any fund must be subject to applicable regulations and procedures, rather than “unconditionally”. Individuals must

hand in certain proof materials and progress reports in order to get the funding of the next round. This undoubtedly forms some extent of restraint and supervision, which can help ensure the safety of funds. In all, the involvement of professional staff of a philanthropic organization to promote, help and supervise these individuals to complete relevant procedures and update information about fund use, including the scope and progress of fund use, allows more trust from the public to keep supporting the project and in turn, those in need can then get enough support.

Also, from the perspective of work division, professional staff in a social organization are equipped with professional knowledge and sound practices, so they have the ability to make information feedback such as financial disclosures and project progress reports. Just as a saying goes, “let the professionals do the professional works.” They can make better use of materials and information provided, with both efficiency and high quality. And thanks to this work division, people who need help can save time from unfamiliar paperwork and focus on the improvement of their normal life.

“Everyone for charity, but with science”. We hope to provide easier access to philanthropy, to promote charity as a lifestyle, and to encourage more people to get involved in the philanthropy work. However, we still want to emphasize that even though philanthropy is based on “love of human beings”, certain systems and regulations must be ensured by qualified organizations. In conclusion, philanthropy of course should have boundaries and limits, but cooperation and a clear work division cannot be ignored. Otherwise, by only simple enthusiasm and warm hearts, nothing can be achieved.

Fang Jun  
Director of Amity Way Fundraising Team

## Qiu Zhonghui elected as Amity Foundation's Chair of the Board



During the fourth meeting of the third board of the Amity Foundation that took place on April 18, 2018 Qiu Zhonghui was elected the Chair of the board of Amity Foundation by unanimous consent. In total, more than 20 people, including Amity's board of directors, board of supervisors and Amity leadership participated and presented the meeting.

In light of China's Charity Law, the board elected Mr. Qiu Zhonghui the Chair in an open, transparent and democratic election. Therefore, Mr Qiu became the second Chair of the board since the establishment of Amity Foundation after the late Bishop Ting, the founder of Amity Foundation. After the election, Mr Qiu expressed his gratitude for the trust and support of the board members and supervisors. He stated that he sensed the heavy historical responsibilities as the chair of the board and would work together with

the board in a concerted effort and strive to create a better future.

During the meeting the Board approved Amity's work plan and financial budget for 2018 and gave advice on Amity's work and future development. Special reports on Amity's latest achievements in social services, as well as religious engagement in social welfare were broadly discussed and appreciated.

Zhao Long, consultant to the board of Amity Foundation, emphasized that the establishment of the Amity Foundation followed China's Reform and Opening Up 40 years ago. He believes that Amity's future development will continue with China's Opening Up. Thereby he cited President Xi Jinping during the Boao Economic Forum: "China's open door will not be closed — it will be only be opened wider,"



## Amity and Changzhou Church team up to promote Social Services

**O**n April 28, the Amity Foundation and the Changzhou Christian Church officially signed an agreement to establish the 'Amity Changzhou Christian Chongshan Fund'. Amity's General Secretary Mr. Qiu Zhonghui, Deputy General Secretary Mr. Chu Chaoyu, representative church leaders of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Prefecture-level city of Changzhou, as well as local government officials, participated in the founding ceremony.

The fund, which is jointly sponsored and established by the Amity Foundation and the Changzhou Church aims to promote the development of social services of Christian

churches in the region and contribute to social and economic development of the southern region of Jiangsu Province. The fund will support the standardization and efficiency to provide services for people in need.

This fund has been the fifth special fund established by the Amity Foundation and local churches and the first special fund on a municipal level in Jiangsu Province. The fund's management committee consists of 15 members. Qiu Zhonghui was elected as the general adviser of the fund. Chu Chaoyu and Liang Huaping were elected as the General directors of the management committee.



△ Participants of the inauguration ceremony of the 'Amity Changzhou Christian Chongshan Fund'



△ Qiu Zhonghui is signing a special fund cooperation agreement with local church leader Liang Huaping of the Changzhou Church

## Second Chinese-German interfaith dialogue takes place



△ The German delegation is visiting Amity headquarters in Nanjing

**O**n 10 and 11 of May, 2018, the second Chinese-German interreligious consultation 'Different Religions, Common Future' was held in Shanghai. About 50 representatives of both countries and from different religious, political and academic backgrounds participated. Mr Qiu Zhonghui, Chair of the Board and General Secretary of Amity and Li Xue, research fellow attended the consultation.

The meeting was jointly sponsored by the CCC&TSPM, China Religious Culture Communication Association, Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD), and the

Association of Protestant Churches and Missions in Germany (EMW). A first previous consultation was held in Hamburg in May 2016.

The consultations are an effort to promote the common development of the two countries through religious exchanges and cooperation, and to foster friendship between the Chinese and German people. "We want to exchange about the Chinese government's endeavor for the Chinese Church to sinicize," explains Christoph Anders, director of the EMW.



The China Ethnic Newspaper reports that Rev. Gao Feng, president of the CCC, underlined in the opening ceremony, that the consultation is a good platform to improve exchanges and cooperation between different religions. He made clear, that although the Chinese church promotes sinicization of Christianity, it does not deny its ecumenism.

Xiao Hong, deputy secretary-general of China Religious Culture Communication Association, welcomed the willingness to strengthen religious talks between the two countries and affirmed the importance about reaching consensus and putting the consensus into actions. Representatives of the German side reviewed the historic examples of development and challenges of Protestantism, Catholicism and Islam in Germany. They pointed out Germany's promotion of multicultural acceptance, the efforts of multi-religious dialogue and practice of variable development.

Chinese representatives emphasized the importance and inevitability of sinicization of religions in China. They showed their perspective of the historical heritage of the five major religions, religious ethics and their social adaptation in the new era. They emphasized the principles of avoiding conflicts, enhance dialogue and exchange about religious ethics.

After the consultations in Shanghai, the German delegation visited Nanjing. Secretary-General Qiu said in his welcome address:

*"We live in a diversified world today. Never in a time in history, has there been such a strong need for mutual understanding and cooperation to take the challenges in a world which is undergoing unhistorical transitions and changes."*

*SDG 2030 "No one left behind" has united the world under the theme of sustainable and inclusive development. As faith and faith-based organizations, it's our born-responsibility to provide shelter to the homeless, to give care to the disabled, to extend support to the marginalized, and to promote peace and justice through empowering the people.*

*Embedded in a multi-religion and multi-culture society, Amity has learnt to share and progress with different religions and ethnic groups through working together. We found that harmony with people of different beliefs is a natural result when we strive for the common goal of serving the society and benefiting the people."*

The following day, members of the delegation visited the Jinling Union Theological Seminary, the Amity Foundation and the Amity Printing Co. Ltd.



△ The German delegation during a visit at the Amity Printing Ltd.

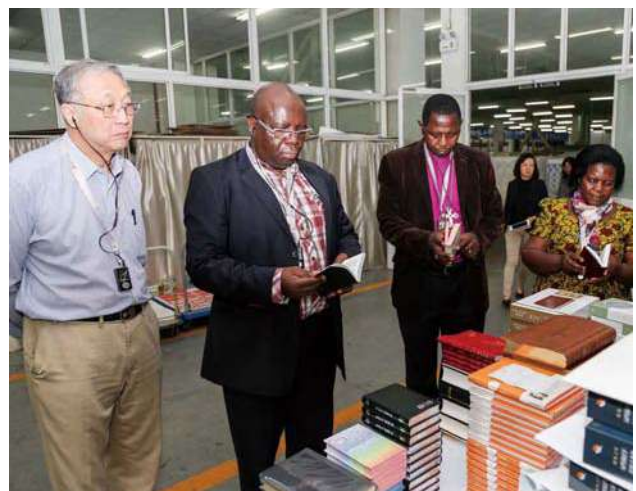
## African delegation visit Amity Printing



**T**he Archbishop of Uganda Rev. Stanley Ntagali led a delegation of eight people to visit the Amity Printing Company on May 24, 2018.

The delegation was attended by representatives of the national Bible societies of Uganda, Kenya, South Africa and Singapore.

After a visit to the printing factory, the delegation and Amity leaders exchanged general information about each others organizations and work. General Secretary Mr Qiu Zhonghui emphasized Amity's aim to support more people in need in African countries in the future.





## Love in Wheelchairs project launched in Huai'an



△ Brian Funk, team leader of Joni and Friends (left)

On May 24, the Amity Foundation and Joni and Friends (a US based NGO focusing on services for people with disabilities) launched its 'Love in Wheelchairs' project with churches of Huai'an City in Jiangsu province. Pastors, government officials and representatives of Amity and Joni and Friends attended the launching ceremony for the wheelchair distribution project.

Zhu Xiaobo, the deputy mayor of Huai'an, expressed his cordial gratitude in the name of the city government to the Amity Foundation and Joni and Friends. Brian Funk, team leader of Joni and Friends, shared the story of Joni. Joni was paralyzed at the age of 17 due to an

accident. At her final recovery after years of depression, she founded Joni and Friends.

'Love in Wheelchairs' ministry has the purpose to support people with reduced mobility and give them hope. Gu Chuanyong, deputy chairman of the board of Amity Foundation, pointed out that the Amity Foundation and Joni and Friends helped to distribute over 1531 wheelchairs in Jiangsu province. An amount of 814 wheelchairs have been already donated to Huai'an city during the last three years. Furthermore, Amity and Joni and Friends are striving to build up the capacity of church communities to organize their own diaconal work and ministry for people with disabilities.

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The Amity Foundation is an independent Chinese voluntary organization founded in 1985 on the initiative of Chinese Christians to promote education, social services, health, rural development, environmental protection, disaster relief, and poverty reduction in the underdeveloped areas of China. Amity projects have benefited more than ten million people both at home and abroad.

The Amity Foundation has more than 80 full-time staffers at its Nanjing headquarters. Hundreds of volunteers work with Amity all over China. The Amity Foundation receives funds from partners abroad as well as in Hong Kong and mainland China.