

Amity Outlook

No. 29
July - September, 2019

**We are under the
same sky**





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Published by the Amity Foundation
Printed by the Amity Printing Co., Ltd.

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ON THE COVER:

2019 Anhui qualifying game of Amity Football 1+1 Project.
By 2019, Amity Football 1+1 project has been carried out in 30 schools across Jiangsu, Anhui and Qinghai provinces.



We are under the same sky



On the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, Amity Foundation was awarded the "Exemplary Organization for National Unity and Progress", which is the third consecutive time that Amity received the honor from the State Council.

Over 30 years of ongoing service

Amity Foundation, established in 1985, shifted its focus of poverty alleviation work to the west of China in 1993. Since then, with the support of government policies and from local partners and all walks of life, Amity has continued combating poverty in the poverty-stricken areas of middle and western areas, especially those areas where ethnic minorities gather. In nearly 200 underdeveloped regions, targeting 30 ethnic minority groups, Amity

input nearly RMB 2 billion in rural communities development, environmental protection, health care, education and orphan support and protection of traditional culture, benefiting nearly 10 million people.

In the process of serving ethnic minorities, Amity collected quite some useful experience, such as providing ethnic minority communities with more and sustainable living resources to improve the overall living standards, training community leaders to promote community governance, and respecting the uniqueness of each ethnic group while supporting exchanges among different groups.

We have one core principle that Amity's practice shall be based on and integrated into the local traditional culture. For example, since 2008, Amity has operated to protect minority traditional culture in Lingyun County, Guangxi Province. A large number of trainings and wonderful protection activities on minority traditional culture raised the confidence and cohesion of ethnic minority groups, which in turn drives the economic and cultural development of these areas.

Stay true to our mission for over 30 years

Understanding and respecting the local culture and customs, which is a natural and inherent thing of ethnic minority groups, has always been the first step in carrying out Amity's work. Any so-called standardized knowledge and everything from the perspective of "outsiders" are inadvisable. We see these inherited "local knowledge" plays an important role in community governance, community ecological protection, and traditional cultural protection, and enables local experience in promoting Amity's Integrated Rural Community Development Project.

Nearly 35 years of project experience tells Amity that, behind all poverty is the result of multiple factors. Lack of knowledge, lack of skills, health risks, poor information, and lack of spiritual life all have direct or indirect impacts on poverty. Only with a balanced development of the economy, society, culture, education, health and psychology can it be possible to solve the problem fundamentally and to promote a healthy development of rural areas.


Because the driver for rural development comes from the subject itself and external support is always temporary, in Amity's practice, the failure of many development projects is largely due to the lack of community participation. We believe human development is at the core

and Amity projects are people-oriented. Making full use of rural resources, exploring the potential of every villager, promoting the development of the entire community from multiple aspects, and preparing communities' ability to cope with difficulties and challenges all contribute to the sustainable development after the close of Amity projects.

Participatory management is Amity's concept in the project implementation. Villagers are the main body of local community development and management, and also the direct beneficiaries. Only by mobilizing villagers to participate in the decision-making and management of project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, can we develop the community's resilience. In addition, experts and government also participate in Amity projects, which can provide professional advice and funds. More importantly, through the participatory approach, collaborative among the government, experts and villagers further facilitate the innovations in policies, systems and methods. This is truly the "Amity experience" after decades of rooting in the western rural and minority areas.

President Xi Jinping pointed out at the Commendation Conference for National Unity and Progress that The pluralism and unity of the Chinese nation is a legacy from our forefathers and a huge advantage for China's development.

Living in the new China, different ethnic groups share the same dream, mission and development rights. Because of the passion, Amity people is always there, no matter in mountains, across rivers, or over gravels.



General Secretary

Special Attention



She is like our mom

Six years ago, Cai Kang, a hearing-impaired man, was diagnosed with acute lymphoma. The only hospital in Nanjing that could provide chemotherapy for the disease was reluctant to accept and cure Cai Kang, because Cai Kang and his wife, Wu Rui, both has hearing impairment but chemotherapy usually requires immediate and smooth communication. Wu Rui, who was expecting a child soon, was so anxious about her husband.

"Shall I ask Zhu Junfang for help?" thought Wu Rui. "Maybe have a try."

Zhu Junfang, a hearing person, is a volunteer with 40 years of experience as a sign language interpreter. Hearing about Cai Kang's difficulty, Zhu Junfang rushed to the hospital to help with the communication. She said she was willing to provide guarantee and company for Cai Kang during the treatment. Finally, the hospital agreed to accept Cai Kang. In addition to medical treatment, Zhu Junfang found that during Cai Kang's sick leave, the company Cai Kang worked for did unreasonable deductions to his wages because of his sickness. Through consultation, arbitration and litigation and other ways, Zhu Junfang fought for Cai Kang's rights. "They can't hear.. and usually can't speak. Many of them have to accept the unfair treatment." Said Zhu Junfang, feeling distressed. "If I don't speak out for them, how can they fight for themselves?"

Zhu Junfang, aged 64, has been working as a volunteer sign language interpreter at the Nanjing Association of the Deaf and Hard Hearing since 2003. She provided support

to families with hearing-impaired members in medical treatment, rights protection and family mediation. She has been awarded as "Friend of the Blind and Deaf in Jiangsu Province", "Excellent Individual in Disabled Work in Jiangsu Province" and "Outstanding Volunteer in Nanjing".

"Ms. Zhu is just like our mom", Cai Kang used sign language to show us his gratitude towards Ms. Zhu.

Today, life of the family is recovering. Cai Kang's six-year-old son Le Ping has started primary school life. Zhu Junfang is more than happy about the family.

Years of assistance has given Zhu Junfang a deep understanding of the deaf community. However, she also has worries and concerns: "some people would think that deaf people just can't hear but everything else is fine. Every time I hear something like that, I feel annoyed - why don't you try plugging your ears for a day?"



△ Zhu Junfang (lady in red) has worked as a sign language volunteer since 2003

Is “Inclusion” as smooth as expected?

Apparently, we have taken more care of people with challenges. We now have Chinese Braille and special sidewalk for the blind; we have wheelchair accessible passage for people with disabilities; and people with hearing impairment now can “hear” the world through language training, sign language news, communication APPs specially designed for them.

We are glad that our society is paying more attention and providing more support to the people with hearing impairment, whose lives are therefore getting more convenient and whose social status is therefore improving.

However, are we good enough? If you look into the details, you will discover that most existing facilities and services are constructed from the aspect of the hearing people. We actually are helping them to get into our world rather than we going into their world. Their real needs are not actually taken care of.

With the help of sign language volunteers, several people with hearing impairment described to us the difficulties in their real life:

“In news broadcasting, the screen for sign language is usually very small and is hard to recognize. The presenter’s expression is quite simple too, which sometimes impact our understanding.”

“Because we can’t hear, and they (people who can hear) don’t know sign language, it’s still hard for us to get well with

colleagues who can hear. For example, when we have dinner, the hearing people and us usually sit apart.”

“It is extremely difficult for us to see the doctor. Because we cannot communicate smoothly with the doctors about professional medical concepts. So, we prefer not seeing the doctor until getting very sick.”

Some hearing people also realize this problem of “one way” effort. Mr. Chang Kaiyu, a lawyer from Nanjing Legal Aid Center who helps Kang Cai to protect his rights together with Zhu Junfang, told us that, when dealing with cases involving people with hearing impairment, it’s challenging to collect evidence, maintain information, or communicate about the cases. “The root lies in inefficiency of communication.” Said the lawyer.

The facts show that, an equal and successful “inclusion” between people with hearing impairment and hearing people needs not only “bringing them into hearing people’s world”, but also “hearing people going into their world”.

But this is not easy. Sometimes, it’s difficult even in a “family”, the smallest unit in the society.

“Some of them are not even accepted in their family because their relatives don’t learn sign languages but only hope the deaf member to try to approach them,” said Li Mengjiang, the chair of Jiangsu and Nanjing Associations of the Deaf and Hard Hearing and a partner of Amity foundation. “After a long ‘one way’ effort, many of the people with

hearing impairment don't recognize or become unconfident in their language and culture,” Li Mengjiang said bitterly. “I give you a typical example: you will find quite some couples with hearing impairment would choose to send their babies with no hearing difficulties to hearing families, where the children might not recognize or accept their deaf parents. You sometimes even find them stopping their parents from using sign language in the public, being afraid that others may know their parents cannot hear.”

Li Mengjiang has a simple wish, that is, the family of the people with hearing impairment make efforts to learn sign language, to have the deaf accepted at least in their own families.



△ Without help from people knowing sign language, it is difficult for lawyers to understand the hearing impaired

Amity Foundation working towards "two-way inclusion"

From "one-way effort" to "two-way inclusion", Amity Foundation underwent a long-term exploration.

In 1987, Amity Foundation cooperated with the Nanjing Deaf-mutes School to establish the Amity Rehabilitation Center for Children with Hearing Impairment, providing hearing rehabilitation and oral training courses for the children.

In 1995, Amity Foundation introduced the concept of "bilingual deaf education", which fully affirmed the independence and integrity of "sign language" as a language and fully respected the deaf culture. The project carries out bilingual deaf education in special education schools in five cities in Jiangsu Province. In 2006, the pilot project was expanded to Sichuan and Guizhou Province.

Both projects achieved good results at that time. However, Amity Foundation found that the "one-way effort" in which people with hearing impairment would take the initiative needs change. A two-way approach is imperative.

In recent years, Amity Foundation launched the "Amity Cultural Studio for People with Hearing Impairment", which aims to "push the hearing people to go into the world of people with hearing impairment". According to Zhou Bo, director of the social welfare team of Amity

Foundation, one important aspects of this project is to offer elective courses on sign language in a number of universities in Nanjing since 2011. "Sign language is the core of their culture, learning sign language is an effective way to get into their world." In Zhou Bo's opinion, university students, with strong learning ability and progressive thinking, can become the "pioneer" for the promotion of the deaf culture.

Shen Gang, deputy secretary general of the sign language committee of the Chinese Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, has been participating in this project of Amity since 2015 by being responsible for the sign language courses at Nanjing Normal University. In his opinion, the course does not aim at making the students master sign language, but to make the student to understand the deaf community and culture - at least the concept that "sign language is an independent and complete language".

"I didn't make any expectation, but the students surprised me!" said Shen Gang. "Firstly, I found most students starting from zero recognize the independence and integrity of the sign language. Secondly, many students started to provide voluntary sign language translation service in quite some occasions for the group with hearing impairment. And many students began to tell their friends and relatives about sign language and deaf culture so that more people could know about this group."

Lv Menghan, a physics student who selected the sign language course this semester, feels lucky. In her opinion, people with hearing impairment should have the same rights and abilities as normal people. However, hearing impairment become an obstacle. "It is too bad. But by learning sign language, I can go into their world and thus get the chance to help them."

In addition to sign language courses on campus, providing and training sign language volunteers to provide company and translation services for people with hearing impairment during medical treatment and legal aid are also aspects of the Amity Cultural Studio of People with Hearing Impairment. As you already know, Zhu Junfang and Cai Kang are the volunteer and beneficiary of this project respectively.

The presence of volunteers on various occasions not only helps people with hearing impairment to be included in this society, but also sets as a model for common people to realize the importance of "going into the world of people with hearing impairment". Dai Manli, a sign-language teacher at Nanjing Normal University of Special Education, believes that sign language translation are still urgently needed by the people with hearing impairment, despite the emergence and improvement of technological products such as "iFLY Hearing" and "voibook" to help with the communication difficulties.

"We hope more hearing people will learn sign language and understand the deaf culture." This is the voice of many people with hearing impairment.



△ Current rehabilitation trainings and bilingual education for the hearing impaired both need continuous one-way effort from the hearing impaired



△ Sign language courses for the hearing students at Nanjing Normal University

A world without the hearing impaired is not a complete world

Dai Manli heard that a National Dictionary of Sign Language was going to be published. In Dai Manli's opinion, this dictionary, the very first of its kind, reflected the great emphasis of the government and the society on people with hearing impairment and their culture. This, she believed, served as another leap in the social inclusion between people with and without hearing impairment.

Step by the hearing people into the world of people with hearing impairment has brought some changes in the social psychological aspects.

"In the past, when we got on the bus, passengers who saw us using sign language would move their bags from back to the front and cover the bags with their hands. Yes they thought people with hearing impairment were thieves." Li Mengjiang, chair of Jiangsu and Nanjing Associations of the Deaf told us with a smile. "No this no longer exist. Today, when people see us using sign language, they'll step away friendly, fearing they are blocking our view and interfering our communication." Many people with hearing impairment agree with Li Mengjiang about this change.

Why did people have the stereotype that people with hearing impairment are thieves? It stems from the lack of communication. Professor He Xiaoxing from Nanjing University has made detailed study and analysis on the

deaf community from the social perspective. In one of his articles, he gave an example:

At a barber's, all the barbers could charge RMB 15 for a hair-cutting service, except for Zhang, a barber with hearing impairment who could only charge RMB 5. For long, this inequality made him in a stance to prove his working ability. Later, he was tripped by fraud people and committed crime.

He Xiaoxing concluded that unstable income and lack of survival skills and employment opportunities were the major factors to cause criminal offense from the people with hearing impairment. The fraud group usually uses "a good working opportunity" as a bait, to trick people with hearing difficulties to commit crimes for them. Then those who have already committed a crime would take 'recruitment' as the reason to 'pull' other deaf people 'into the mire', resulting in a seemingly high rate of 'group crime' of people with hearing difficulties. That's why the public would have the stereotype that 'the deaf = thieves!'

The stereotype, further lower the acceptance of people with hearing difficulties in the job market, which further results in more crimes by them.

Barriers are thus caused by poor communication, and finally forms a negative cycle.

Today, the escalation of two-way inclusion and the development and update of a variety of facilities and services for people with hearing impairment have brought them a more convenient life and better self-presence in the world of hearing people and have won recognition and respect for them. The hearing people start to understand that the difference between them and the people with hearing impairment is simply languages, just like the Chinese use Chinese, while the British use English. As long as people understand each other's languages, communication and cooperation become effective and efficient.

“People with hearing impairment don't view themselves as being disabled. Hearing impairment itself doesn't necessarily mean pain. However, their pain comes more from discrimination and bias from the hearing people's world and the unilateral thoughts based on these discrimination and bias.” He Xiaoxing wrote. “The world of the people with hearing impairment is a complete world. We just have different languages and different cultures. The nature of the problem is not physical defects, but the culture difference.” 11 years ago, He Xiaoxing raised his view.

“The world of the people with hearing impairment is a complete world.” Because hearing people are taking steps towards the world of the people with hearing impairment, this sentence is being understood and experienced by more and more people.



△ Zhu Junfang sets up a dancing team for the hearing impaired

Amity Stories



Stories of Little Football 1+1 Players

Story of Ding Yufei – “Short hair suits me!”

Ding Yufei is an 8-year-old Yi ethnic minority girl studying in Nanjing Jiangbei New District Taishan Mountain Primary School. Her football training started purely by accident. The coach once worried whether she would keep on playing. But Yufei changed the coach’s mind: however hard and intensive the training they have every day, she has never been absent and practiced hard. On the other hand, Yufei is a smart girl good at time management. While her classmates are having a breaks from study, Yufei often uses the spare time to finish homework. In this way, football won’t hold up her school work or rest.

At the beginning of her football journey, Yufei had got beautiful long hair with lovely hairstyles. However, as the training was upgrading, she found her ponytail easily affect running. “It affects my play!” To everyone’s surprise, Yufei shortened her hair! The coach and her teammates were moved and they very much admired the decisive girl.

The outstanding football girl with short hair performs even better on the football field. Now she is the head of the Female Football Team in her grade!



△ Ding Yufei

Story of Chu Bohan – “Self-discipline is a gift!”

With tanned skin and a strong body, this handsome boy comes from the central region of the Dabie Mountain, Qianshan County of the City of Anqing. His name is Chu Bohan. Bohan is clam, quiet, self-disciplined and concentrated. While a training under the burning sun at 36 °C may be difficult for everyone, Bohan keeps training and follows the strictest standards.

Now, Bohan is the lead player of his team. This doesn't make him arrogant, but enable him to be more self-disciplined. During a Football League among all schools of Anqing, his calf was injured. Bohan didn't give up and preserved through match. With an indomitable spirit, Bohan is named as an “Excellent Athlete” in the city.



△ Chu Bohan in a competition of Football 1+1

Chen Mengqi- From a spectator to a star

Chen Mengqi is a student at Longkang Farm Primary School in Huaiyuan County, Anhui Province. We first met him at the 2018 Qinghai Invitational tournament. He was a goalkeeper at that time. In the early October of Qinghai, it began to snow. Mengqi wasn't used to this, but he managed to be ready for the match.

Mengqi was the youngest player in the match. For the five and six graders, the proficient techniques make them confident. But Mengqi, as the youngest player, always stayed quiet and shy in front of the elder players.

In fact, Mengqi wasn't selected to the school team at the very beginning. As a big fan of football, he would come to the field, sit aside and watch the team's everyday training. He was even not on the bench. The coach noticed this little spectator and decided to let him in a training team. Mengqi couldn't keep up at all. When he found there was a long way to go, he doubted himself and wanted to give up.

"Not everyone is gifted, Mengqi. Try harder and strike back!" the coach, a meticulous man, discovered Mengqi's back-down and encouraged her

"Hi! Nice to see you guys again!" When we met Mengqi again in 2019, to our surprise, the boy became self-confident and outgoing. "I'm no longer a goalkeeper," said Mengqi excitedly. "I am a striker now!" Watching Mengqi back and forth, jumping and running on the field, we were impressed by his performance. It's not difficult for anyone to imagine how hard-working Mengqi did during the one year's time.

Now, Mengqi has been the leading player in the team. In addition to his own trainings, he spent quite some spare time to help the new members. In July 2019, Mengqi, as a representative of primary school players in Anhui Province, Mengqi took part in the national football summer camp. His outstanding performance sent him into the best array of the 7th camp. The national on-campus football final was waiting for his attendance.

The "Football 1+1" children are going on their journey towards football dream under the program. On this journey, persistence, struggle, happiness and gains are also on the way together. The program enable their endeavor to lighten dreams and make them more energetic on this way.



△ Chen Mengqi (second from right)

Doctor's benevolence

I was worried. None of us was medical professionals, so we couldn't decide what medical supplies and medicines were the most needed, neither could we made demonstration or explanation to the villagers.

Huayuan Church was carrying out a Health Pack project, which would be supported by the Amity Foundation. The team needed a medical worker to give advice on the content of the health pack and to explain to the villagers on the spot. There were no medical professionals in the church, so we started to look for a volunteer.

Some church members remembered that a medical worker did come to the church before, but it seemed that she was not a believer because she hadn't come back for a long time. In April, when a church member visited a sick member in North County Hospital, she suddenly came across the doctor! The member was excited and talked to the doctor about the project and invited her to work as a volunteer. The doctor promised with great pleasure.

The doctor worked a lot during the preparation, helping the team on arranging for the health pack. Two days before she came to distribute health packs, she told the church priest that she had a colleague who would also be happy to help. "Moreover, my colleague speaks Miao ethnic dialect!" The priest was overjoyed! The village where we were about to distribute health pack was a Miao ethnic minority village. Almost all the elderly in the village could speak Miao dialect only. A doctor who could speak Miao dialect on the spot would better help Miao villagers receive health packs and understand drug use instructions.



On the day of handing out health packs, the two volunteer doctors, standing in the middle of the crowds, no doubt became the most popular people on the spot. Consulting about medical knowledge, asking about proper use of drugs, and taking blood pressure tests... villagers took the chance to receive health support. The doctor who spoke Miao dialect were surrounded by elderly villagers. She explained in details how to use electronic sphygmomanometers and to identify normal and abnormal blood pressure values.

The two volunteer doctors had been busy for three hours but villagers were still reluctant to leave. "Well, even if the doctors stay for the whole day, they won't be able to finish. Haha!" Said the villagers. "Yes, we were tired. But the volunteering work brings us sense of worth," said the two doctors. "We had a profound understanding of the phrase 'doctor's benevolence' today." Volunteering work made them feel different from regular work in hospital.



"If there are similar social services in the future, please let us know and we would like to participate!" Said the doctors.

No matter busy or not, love is the language of all people. There are many people around us who would like to love others by contribution. By providing platform and cultivating in suitable time, we believe the flower of love will be able to blossom.

We are family

I Bu Yuanxiu, a 64-year-old woman, lived in the suburban countryside of Zhijiang. She lived a lonely and hard life as her husband passed away a few years ago, her only son died in a car accident in 2016, and her daughter-in-law got married with a man later. She was the only one left in the family.

In October this year, she got sudden abdominal pain. Difficult to move, she had to call her neighbor to send her to the hospital. After inspection, the doctor confirmed that her uterine cancer was advanced. Living a poor and miserable life, she had no money to receive cancer treatment, but could only go home.

After fellow workers of Zhijiang Church learned about Bu Yuanxiu's situation from the her friend who came to the church activities, they immediately came to visit her. When the fellow workers went into the cold narrow room of Bu Yuanxiu, they found that she lied on the broken wooden bed, moaning bitterly. Watching the skinny old woman curling up in her blanket, everyone was quiet. It made people painful.

Later, with the help of the volunteer team, fellow workers bought new blankets and medicines for Bu Yuanxiu, and helped the elderly clean up her room. Frequent visits brought Bu Yuanxiu great comfort and new hope. After many visits, gradually, she became willing to join in the activities of the church. During the activities, she even made new friends. The elderly said, touched and grateful, "Thank you all. Thank you for making this project, which made me feel like family again, especially in this last moment of my life."



Amity News



International girls education project launched by Amity in cooperation with the UNHCR



On July, the Amity Foundation officially launched the "Girls' Education" project by raising fund on Tencent Charity platform. This is the first project of Amity in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to support the education of displaced refugee girls. As part of UNHCR's global education program, this project aims to benefit 3,750 displaced girls from four African countries and help them return to school. UNHCR will carry out the project in Africa with the funds raised by Amity.

Back to March, the Amity Foundation and the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Beijing to promote future cooperation in humanitarian relief.

According to the UNHCR report "Stepping up - Refugee Education in Crisis", 3.7 million refugee children are out of school. Compared with the global average level of education, the education of refugees, especially girls, is even more worrying.

Opening ceremony of Amity Kenya Office held in Nairobi



On August 9, 2019, the Amity Foundation held its unveiling ceremony of the Amity Kenya Office and the Amity Printing Kenya Co., Ltd. in Nairobi. The ceremony was attended by nearly 50 guests, including Amity's leadership and honorary guests. Among them were officials, representatives from the economic sector, NGOs and churches. Amity's presence in Kenya builds a bridge for China-Africa exchanges and contributes to the social and economic development of Africa.

During the opening ceremony Amity's General Secretary Ms Ling Chunxiang pointed out that since 2006, Amity Printing has printed Bibles in 15 local languages for Kenya and has worked with Bible Society of Kenya for many years. Citing Bishop Ting, she emphasized that "The Bible unites us". Ms Ling also invited friends from Africa to Nanjing on November 11 to participate in the printing of the 200 millionth Amity Bible.

Guo Ce, counselor of the Chinese embassy in Nairobi, expressed warm congratulations and best wishes on behalf of the Chinese Embassy in Nairobi. Meng Wei, representative of the Kenyan China Economic and Trade Association (KCETA) pointed out the importance of corporate social responsibility and expressed his hope to cooperate with Amity in Kenya in the future.

Further speeches were given by General Secretary and CEO of the Bible Society of Kenya, Mrs. Elizabeth Muriuki and Dr. Bright, Deputy Director General of the All Africa Church Association. After the establishment of an African office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Amity office in Kenya will be a second presence of Amity on the African continent.

The 10th Amity International Conference on Autism held in Nanjing



On September 22nd, the 10th Amity International Conference on Autism and the Academic Annual Meeting of Autism Rehabilitation Committee of the Jiangsu Association of Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons was held in Nanjing. With a theme of “Technology Integration, Intervention Optimization”, the conference attracted more than 200 attendees including experts, practitioners and researchers around the world.

Mr. Peter Au Yeung, Chief Executive Officer of Heep Hong Society, Ji Bengui, Director of the Rehabilitation Division of the Jiangsu Disabled Persons' Federation, Zhang Ge, Chairman of the Association of Persons with Psychiatric Disability of the Jiangsu Disabled People's Federation, Yao Hui, Deputy Dean of Nanjing Brain Hospital, He Wen, Deputy General Secretary of Amity Foundation spoke at the opening ceremony of the conference.

This conference invited experts in autism from the United States, Hong Kong and the Mainland China to exchange their views. Aiming at introducing and promoting evidence-based and practical intervention technologies, the conference was committed to combining technologies, improving national interventions for children with autism, tic disorder and special needs, while promoting the improvement of their family service capabilities.

Hong Kong Government's Disaster Relief Fund approved grants to assist flood victims



On July 19, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government approved a grant of HK\$4,542,000 from the Disaster Relief Fund to the Amity Foundation (Hong Kong) for the relief of people affected by floods in Pingle County, Ziyuan County, Rong'an County and Sanjiangdong Autonomous County in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and Ji'an County in Jiangxi Province. The funds were used for purchasing rice, cooking oil, blankets and household hygiene kits to ensure the daily livelihoods of the 5,207 flood-affected families in Guangxi and Jiangxi after the disaster.

On August 20, Amity Foundation (Hong Kong) received another HK\$3,009,000 grant from the Disaster Relief Fund of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government for the relief of flood victims in Nepal. The funds were used to support approximately 3,880 families in five severely affected counties in Nepal. Each affected family received 25 kg of rice, 4 kg of lentils, 1 hygiene kit, 2 tarpaulins, and 1 solar light.



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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.