

# Amity Outlook

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**Amity's emergency  
response on "two fronts"**



# Contents

## Interview

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02 Amity's emergency response on "two fronts"

## Special Attention

---

08 Volunteer-based localization in Amity's flood relief response

## Highlight

---

12 Amity receives 1.04 million single donations on "99 Giving Day"

## Amity Stories

---

13 A wish for my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday  
17 They need my love as I need theirs

## Amity News

---

20 Kick-off ceremony of Amity Torch Program in Cambodia  
22 Amity responds to Henan flooding  
28 Amity launches e-invoice system for donations  
29 Amity Philanthropy Valley staff awarded "Best Caretaker for Elderly in Nanjing"  
31 Harley Davidson riders relaying coffee for COVID-19 frontliners in summer heat





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**ON THE COVER:**

Amity's local partner relocates villagers affected by the Henan floods using a lifeboat provided by Amity. These affected people had difficulty walking as their legs were immersed in floods for long periods of time.



## Amity's emergency response on "two fronts"



Ling Chunxiang

General Secretary  
The Amity Foundation

**T**his summer was busy and unforgettable. While heavy storms and floods hit Henan in central China, Nanjing in the east witnessed an outbreak of dozens of COVID-19 cases. The Amity Foundation, headquartered in Nanjing, rose to respond to the Henan flooding while supporting medical staff to fight against COVID-19 at the same time.

On August 13, the Secretariat of the China Foundation Forum (CFF) interviewed Ling Chunxiang, General Secretary of the Amity Foundation, on its work on "two battlefields". Ms. Ling shared the emergency response mechanism of Amity as well as issues on its staff and task allocation.

**CFF:** 2021 marks the 36th year of practice for Amity. As one of the first foundations in China that have been participating in disaster relief, Amity has experienced many types of disaster relief. Compared with the past, what kind of judgments and decisions did Amity make on Henan flooding? What was special about your operation?

**Ling Chunxiang:** The Henan floods were indeed different from the past. In the past, during the rainy season, floods often occurred in the Yangtze River and Huaihe River areas. The Henan floods are more sudden. In addition, communication in the affected area was interrupted for a long time, which blocked the timely transmission of information on disaster and loss. So Amity's initial judgment on the disaster was based on three aspects.

First, Amity has over 30 years of experience in disaster relief, especially on floods. Second, the unusual rainfall in the area was very likely to cause floods. Third, after the temporary restoration of communication in some areas, we learned about the situation and damage on the ground from media reports and local partners. Based on these three aspects, we made an initial judgment on the disaster in Henan, and assessed that it might be a major flood disaster.

Therefore, on the evening of July 20, Amity launched our Level-2 disaster

response. Then, we collected information, carried out need assessments, communicated with fundraising platforms, and made project preparations. Right on the second day, we launched the project on Tencent Charity platform, Alipay Charity platform, and later on many other platforms to raise funds from the public. On the morning of July 21, we held a meeting on Henan flood relief coordination to delegate work and responsibility among teams, such as need assessments, procurement, fundraising, and communication. Right at that time, Nanjing had an outbreak of dozens of COVID-19 cases. As the government adopts a zero-tolerance policy on the pandemic, we in Nanjing were under travel restrictions. So Amity sent employees from branch offices outside of Nanjing to Henan. The first team with arrived in Henan on July 22. Later 4 more people went for reinforcement. This was our fastest response with the largest number of rescue members over the years.

The Henan floods were quite unique. Covering a large area, with a long duration, the floods caused great loss of life. High water level persisted in many areas of Henan Province. Coupled with a lack of relocation measures in advance, there was a huge demand for search & rescue and emergency life assistance. Compared with Amity's past disaster relief operations, its Henan response has six special features.

Firstly, the amount of funds contributed by Amity to Henan flood relief was the largest in all its flood relief efforts over the years. In particular, funds raised for Henan floods from Internet platforms was much higher than that for the southern China floods last year. Secondly, severe flooding occurred simultaneously in cities and rural areas. That's why more funds, staff and resources were required. Thirdly, water and power outages and market supply interruptions made it difficult to assess needs. The need for instant food among those affected was significantly higher than during other natural disasters in recent years. Fourthly, due to complicated conditions such as unpredictable water levels, it is difficult for non-professional rescue teams to quickly reach the core disaster area, while there are not enough professional teams to cover all disaster areas. In addition, the underwater environment is usually complex and the equipment is easily worn out. Fifthly, the flooding coincided with COVID-19 control measures due to an outbreak of around one hundred cases in Nanjing, which had an impact on Amity's personnel allocation, logistics and disaster relief work. Lastly, from the perspective of Amity, our work was greatly affected by the dual elements of Henan floods and COVID control travel restrictions that took place almost at the same time. But sending out colleagues from our offices in other cities and close cooperation with nearly 30 local partners finally enabled Amity to respond to the floods and carry out the relief work.

**CFF:** *Can you please talk about Amity's cooperation with the Internet public fundraising platforms this time? How did you effectively mobilize the projects and put them into action?*

**Ling Chunxiang:** From the early morning of July 21, we launched our online fundraising plans on platforms such as Tencent Charity, etc.. These online platforms, in total, helped us raise nearly RMB 20 million for Henan flood relief, which constituted the main source of funds for Amity's



flood response. The amount raised online this time was the largest among Amity's previous flood fundraising.

Amity was able to raise such a large amount of fund online from the public because we have extensive experience and professionalism on disaster relief and was among the first foundations that responded to the floods. When we launched our fundraising plan online, the public appreciated and supported our quick response. On the other hand, during daily operation, because of our routine projects we maintain very close cooperation with online fundraising platforms. So when it comes to emergency response, we go through all the communications and process smoothly and fast.

The fact that our employees in Nanjing were unable to go to the front line due to COVID control measures had a certain impact on our implementation of emergency relief. That's why we were cautious in fundraising during Henan relief, especially when it came to project budget and the feasibility of implementation. If we had not exercised control over fundraising budget based on feasibility, I think we could have raised much more in light of the demand and the public's enthusiasm.

Project implementation and transparency are two important factors for projects raising funds online. If, after any online fundraising is launched, there is no timely implementation and update of the project, adverse effects may come. For Amity, high-frequency project updates during emergency response is a must on all fundraising platforms and social media channels. Meanwhile, we inform the public and donors of the actual needs on the ground during our disaster relief work, so that everyone sees what has been done, what is being done and what can be done. Therefore, on the one hand, we have teams working on fundraising; and on the other hand, the project teams and local partners are assessing needs, making judgment and proceeding with procurement for implementation.

In this way, foundations, fundraising platforms, the public, and donors have been linked in the same mechanism for interaction and cooperation. And in our opinion, timely information disclosure and updates and feedback in emergency response are even more important than the feedback for regular projects, because they can better reflect the execution capability of an organization, and can thus enhance public trust.

**CFF:** *When dozens of COVID cases were detected in Nanjing, many districts of Nanjing were under strict control according to China's zero-tolerance policy. Did the control hinder Amity's work? How did Amity deal with it? Now, it seems that emergency response has become a norm. Do you have any suggestions for China's foundations, especially small and medium-sized foundations which account for the vast majority, on the establishment of emergency response mechanisms?*

**Ling Chunxiang:** The outbreak in Nanjing, although in small numbers, may occur in any city of China, so we should treat epidemic prevention as a routine work.

Due to COVID control measures, Amity's work faced quite some challenges. We had about 10 employees under home quarantine because they had traveled to the Lukou International Airport, where most cases were found. There are also a few employees who were quarantined due to the reasons of their communities or family members. Of course this had an impact on our work. To eliminate further uncertainty, Nanjing headquarters decided not to send employees to the front line in Henan. Instead, we dispatched employees from Amity offices in other cities to Henan. In addition, we coordinated and cooperated with nearly 30 local organizations to implement the project.

For small and medium-sized foundations in China, I have the following suggestions on the emergency response mechanism:

First, close cooperation with local social forces. It is necessary for social organizations to include in their routine work the cultivation of and cooperation with local social forces and carry out community governance and social development advocacy with the participation of local residents and villagers. There are many ways to join in the relief work, not everyone needs to go to the front line.

Second, advocacy of volunteerism and service spirit during routine work. For daily work at the grassroots level, social organizations can encourage the participation of local residents in social governance and social development, and nurture volunteerism and service spirit among them. When the government and social forces are unable to take care of the needs of every village and every group, mutual assistance and rescue were very necessary.

Third, cooperation with large foundations with extensive experiences. The vast majority of foundations in China are small and medium-sized and most do not deal with disaster relief on a routine basis. Cooperation should be a practical way of participation.

Fourth, play to your strengths. Small and medium-sized foundations have their own strengths. For instance, many of them are capable of mobilizing social resources or good at post-disaster reconstruction. In this case, why not carry out tasks in areas you are specialized, rather than rushing into emergency rescue work?

Fifth, establishing emergency response mechanisms. With internal response and external cooperation and response mechanisms established, work can be carried out immediately after mobilization. Social organizations, with more tentacles reaching the grassroots level, are more flexible to play to their strengths.

Sixth, emphasizing the importance of disaster reduction, prevention and preparedness mechanisms. The improvement of social awareness and capabilities on a routine basis is also a must. We call on the entire society, including companies, media, and the public, to support disaster reduction and prevention and post-disaster reconstruction, in addition to emergency response.

# Volunteer-based localization in Amity's flood relief response

**O**n July 23, Liu Hongpeng, the founder of Tongxinyuan social service center located in Hebi City, and his colleagues joined the Amity Foundation's Henan flood relief response. Several villages near the city were flooded since last June. In this article, Liu reflects on the collaboration among local organizations, their volunteers, and Amity, and how a localized response benefits all the stakeholders.

"They fully understood how busy the staff at the front line is, so they rarely put any pressure on us. But on the other hand, they were always ready to offer support. The team members from Amity Foundation are all warm-hearted. They care for those in need and are efficient in what they are doing. After receiving all the information from me and assessing the different needs under different circumstances, the Amity team members immediately arranged the shipment and transportation of supplies. During that time, their support met the immediate needs of the villagers after that horrible disaster," explains Mr Liu about working with Amity.



◀ Liu Hongpeng (second from left) brought a number of generators, emergency lighting equipment, instant noodles and other supplies to Huangzhuang Village in Xun County



After having a good first impression of working with Amity, Liu Hongpeng worked closely with Amity staff at the supply transit depot once it started to operate. Through the transfer station, the Amity Foundation cooperated with local social organizations, organizing disaster relief logistics timely and efficiently. Liu believed that this model of cooperation was sustainable and effective “We are familiar with the local circumstances, and we can take the responsibility for assessing the needs and keeping close contact to all the stakeholders, while Amity is responsible for fundraising and procurement of supplies. Then we work together during the distribution and transportation process. Together we work perfectly in this way!”



▲ Volunteers team up to manage the relief at the Amity transit depots



▲ Boys volunteer carries water bottles from a truck

Liu appreciated in particular the spirit of Amity staff and volunteers at the transit depots. “They are particularly hard-working, and not delicate at all! The weather was extremely hot these days. Regardless, the Amity rescue team still participated in the loading of supplies, as well as the procurement of supplies, registration, transport, etc. They always worked so diligently, during the hot weather and covered with sweat like raindrops.” According to Liu Hongpeng, the Amity staff were not afraid of hardship and fatigue, inspiring the volunteers from other organizations. “Volunteers did not know each other, but in the transit depots, we all worked together just like strings twisted into a strong rope.”

At the transit station, Liu Hongpeng met a couple from Shandong province. They were very busy volunteering there for nine whole days. During the days, the husband drove to the countryside to deliver supplies and the wife helped to carry relief supplies along the way. A child wrote down on the front of their car said the sentence: “I wish the driver a safe journey”.

## Special Attention

→ Volunteer-based localization in Amity's flood relief response



'Pragmatism' is another word that Liu Hongpeng mentions describing Amity. "I've come across many public welfare organizations, but it's rare to find one as effective and pragmatic as Amity! Sometimes Amity set up distribution points at a village, resettlement site or the rescue team distributed the supplies directly. In this way, villagers could receive the supplies as soon as possible. I think this way is quite good because the disaster struck suddenly, and we were not prepared beforehand. With complex traffic conditions, we had to deliver large amounts of supplies within the limited distribution time."

Liu Hongpeng believes that the adjustment of working approaches did not only ensure the efficiency of the distribution of supplies, but also enhanced the collective decision-making and self-management capabilities of villages and communities. "These methods actually reveal that Amity members indeed care about the feelings of the people in need."

"I also have met some unprofessional charity organizations before, which often disregard the actual situation during project implementation. Their only intention is to take photos and post them online. They did help us with the loading and unloading of supplies, transportation, etc. But they only took them to pose for pictures. But Amity staff has never done this during the whole process. They never intentionally told people where these supplies were from, but only shoot a few times during the project implementation without affecting others."

Liu Hongpeng has been committed to public welfare for more than 10 years. He has won awards and honors due to his commitment to public welfare. However, dealing with the sudden flood at the doorstep, Liu still found himself a little unprepared. "Fortunately, we could cooperate with the Amity Foundation, which has inspired us in terms of our own working philosophy, methods and details. Thank you, Amity! Later, I also checked the website of Amity Foundation, learning that Amity has been working in many fields of public welfare for years. I hope there will be more opportunities in the future to work together with Amity," said Liu Hongpeng with great expectation.



# Amity receives 1.04 million single donations on “99 Giving Day”

**D**uring the ten-day “99 Giving Day” event, an annual public charity campaign in China, the Amity Foundation joined forces with 231 partner organizations, 100 caring enterprises and 1.04 million individual donors, raising funds for 366 projects involving education, community development, environment protection, as well as services for orphans, the elderly and people with disabilities.

Over the course of the “99 Giving Day” event, Amity made appealing and educational video clips encouraging netizens to participate in charitable giving.

Amity has participated in the “99 Giving Day” event for seven years in a row, and has broken record after record in internet-based charitable giving. The highlight of this charity event lies in bringing out the kindness from the public with innovation, technology and compassion, channeling it into doing good for society.



*This is a story narrated by Zhou Yemiao, a beneficiary under the Amity Orphan Fostering Program. Yemiao and her younger sister lost their parents and grandma. Grandpa was the only person supporting the family. Now, with the help from the warm-hearted donors of the Amity Orphan Fostering Program, burden for grandpa was very much relieved and the sisters are able to pursue their dreams.*

# A wish for my 18<sup>th</sup> birthday

Our school is far away from home, my sister and I live on campus, leaving our dear grandpa staying at home alone with his dog. His daily life totally depends on himself. A call from my sister and I would make him more than happy. Although he misses us so much, all he replies on the phone is always: "Don't worry about me. Just focus on your study. " What a traditional elderly gentleman!

Our grandpa is 69 years old. Despite being illiterate, he gave me a beautiful name: Miao. "Miao" in Chinese means seedling. In the eyes of my grandpa, if the seedlings grow well, there is hope in life.



▲ Grandpa depends on himself and my sister and I can only help him when we go home on holidays



## *"If only their parents were still alive..."*

In our mind, grandpa and grandma are our parents.

When I was four years old and my sister was still a baby, our parents left us one after the other. We lost our parents but fortunately our grandparents didn't give up on us. They, in spite of their old age, worked every day in the crop fields. With their little earnings, they brought us up. During hard times, grandpa even did several part-time jobs at the same time, and one day he came home tired and coughed blood out of his mouth...

I still remember once when I was a little child, I had a fever at night. Grandma woke me up, sat me on Grandpa's tricycle, and we rushed to the hospital. I felt hot in my grandma's arms. I don't know if it was due to my fever or because my grandma was holding me tight. I remember hearing grandma's thumping heartbeat. Grandpa was breathing hard as he rode the tricycle. Grandma whispered to grandpa several times: "Watch the road. Don't hurt her..."

In the hospital, they watched me all night. Every several minutes, they touched my forehead to see if I still had the temperature. I also heard grandpa whispering to grandma, "If only their parents were here..." Grandma sighed deeply. After recovering from the fever, I often thought of what my grandfather said, and I couldn't help feeling sad. They were blaming themselves for not taking good care of me and my sister. However, in fact, in my mind, they are super humans!

On one windy, cold and foggy winter morning, Grandpa insisted on taking me to elementary school by bicycle despite the cold weather. When we started, I sat in the back seat of the bicycle and felt him shivering from the cold. I hugged him tighter, hoping to give my body warmth to him so that the hoarse wind would not get into his body penetrating his thin clothes. However, instead of taking care of himself, grandpa asked me: "Feel cold? Hold on. I will speed up." After we arrived, I saw hoarfrost on his eyebrows and mustache. He must be feeling very cold! My eyes turned wet. I felt heartbroken. Grandpa smiled at me and patted my shoulder with his hand frozen to purple: "Hurry up, don't be late for school." Then he got on his bike and rode back.

The image of Grandpa's back that day impressed me a lot. Whenever I had any difficulties or setbacks, the image in my head would get me through. I often told myself: "I will study hard and work hard, and give back to them when I grow up."



▲ My grandfather is illiterate, but he often tells us education can change one's destiny

## *"Come back to visit me when you have time"*

Grandma didn't wait until we could give back.

Two years ago, grandma suffered a brain hemorrhage and passed away suddenly. It was a huge blow to Grandpa. For a long time, the old man was too weak that even a little wind would cause him a fever. My sister and I cared about his sorrow, but we didn't know how to make him feel better. What we could do was taking care of all the house chores and farm work every time we went back home for vacation. Cooking, washing, cleaning, farming... My little sister, who has been our little princess since childhood, behaved maturely like an adult overnight.



▲ My little sister (middle) was an outgoing girl. She became gloomy after grandma passed away

In fact, the death of my grandmother also hit me hard. For a long time, I could not calm down myself and I think so did my little sister. Our family stayed silent for quite a while.

"I know you guys are sad, yet you still want to help me. We all have to accept that she is gone and will never be back. The three of us should restart our

journey. Go, girls! Study hard and try to go to the university. Don't worry about me. I will take care of myself. As long as you are well, I will be fine."

Grandpa also reminded me that our entire family have received a lot of help from outside. So I should cheer up and live up to this goodwill.

"You will go to the university, go to work, and get married. If I am still alive then, please come back to visit me when you have time. This will be the greatest gift for me."

I burst into tears. That was the only time I cried in front of Grandpa after Grandma passed away.



▲ My family has been supported by many people. In addition to financial support and daily necessities, there were volunteers who came to visit us regularly. Since 2015, I joined the Amity family and became a beneficiary of the Amity Orphan Fostering Program



## *"I want to thank the world"*

On the day before the start of my twelfth grade (i.e. the year before the college entrance examination), I cooked a meal for grandpa. "This is the most serious cooking you've ever made, sister," said my sister. Yes, it was serious. In fact, since my sister and I started this year's semester, we would have very few opportunities to go home and have dinner with our dear grandpa. I actually was sad to make that meal.

However, I didn't expect that grandpa gave me a huge surprise at the dinner table.

The end of August was my birthday. Grandpa always remembered that. That day, he, carefully and even a little bit embarrassedly, took out a birthday cake with an 18-shaped candle from the bedroom. Just like the morning he rode me to the school when I saw hoarfrost on his eyebrows, I suddenly realized that my grandfather, who had always been introverted and calm, was learning to care for me in my Grandma's way, which was much more straightforward and warm. I understand that Grandpa wanted to make me feel that Grandma was still with us.



I was touched. This was the first time I had such a formal birthday, which I would never forget. I closed my eyes and made my birthday wish. Will my wish come true?

When I closed my eyes, those moments of tears and laughter in the old days came up into my mind. There were smiles on Grandpa's face when I was tutoring my sister at home; there were candies in my hand given by my sister telling me to relieve my pressure; and there was the gentle touch on my head by my teacher upon my apologies after I played tricks on her.

***At the age of 18, I want to thank the world for the ups and downs in my life, as well as all the strength and power I've received along the way.***



▲ I love my family, forever

◀ My 18th birthday wish: Grandpa stays healthy; I pass the college entrance examination and am admitted to my dream university; my sister makes progress in her studies

# They need my love as I need theirs

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## *Knowing Amity Bakery*

Liu Liquan first met a group of "special children" in 2007. It was 15 years ago that, at the recommendation of a friend, Liu Liquan came to work at Amity Home of Blessings. "I had never been in contact with a group of people like them before. I definitely lacked understanding of them." In Amity Home of Blessings, Liu Liquan's job was to help the kids with learning difficulties to train using their hands.

**2** 021 is the 14th year of Liu Liquan working at Amity Bakery. Recalling her first visit to Amity Bakery 14 years ago, the 67-year-old lady sighed with emotion, "In the beginning, I couldn't accept it."

Using hands to accomplish tasks may seem simple to many, but poses a big challenge for children with mental disabilities. "Many of them have no way to communicate normally or understand the teachers."

Therefore, Liu Liqun often had to teach them through a hands-on approach. "Hmm... they sometimes smell not so good as they take lots of medicine and their mental disabilities cause difficulties on maintaining regular hygiene. This was the biggest challenge for me at that time." Said Liu Liqun.

"But I am not a person who is afraid of challenges. I'm already here, so I have to adapt to and overcome the problems." Liu Liqun's resolution was to be more patient in getting along with the children. A year later, because of her excellent work and reputation, Liu Liqun was transferred to Amity Bakery.

### *Special vs Vocational*

Trainees in Amity Bakery were outstanding students carefully selected out of Amity Home of Blessings. Kids in the Bakery usually do not have serious problems, but their mental ability is lower than that of average children of the same age. "The problems I encountered in Amity Home of Blessings eased, but

they are not completely gone."

After entering Amity Bakery, the first thing Liu Liqun did was to teach the trainees how to dress. "The work at the Bakery requires accurate dressing of working clothes, hats and other accessories, yet most of the trainees couldn't put on suits on their own." So Liu Liqun started from scratch, teaching them step by step how to put on their working clothes. "When I teach you, I do and you follow. Then we are done, right? But they are different. They have to be taught for several weeks or even months." Liu Liqun deeply understands that patience is key with these special children.

In addition to daily life, Liu Liqun also takes care of the trainees' work. "Our products made by the trainees will be sold. That's why every product has its quality requirement. Work in Amity Bakery is a serious job." The Bakery employs professional bakers to train the staff about baking skills. "But you know their abilities are very limited. Every skill needs to be taught

again and again." Due to their disabilities, some trainees may be unable to continue working or behave emotionally unstable.

"In the beginning, I chose to stay by their side and teach them every single step myself. When they are tired, then I will let them have a rest." However, the trainer opposed this approach. In the trainer's opinion, although these children need extra effort and attention, they still need to be professional in their work. As a result, Liu Liqun began to be more strict in her training approach.

"I decided to treat them more strictly during work, to make up for that in life." These lovely kids impressed her a lot. "There was a kid who was really difficult to communicate with. It was a headache to train him to squeeze cookie dough. We showed him how to do it over and over again but he just couldn't make it. A year later, he finally was able to squeeze a full plate of cookie dough! For me, it's like stones are blooming!"





▲ Liu Liqun (first from left) and the kids are on the city wall of Nanjing

## "I can't leave"

Getting along with these kids requires not only patience, but also careful observation. The other day, a trainee came to talk to Liu Liqun. "He could not express himself very well. He just kept waving his hand but could not complete a sentence clearly." Instead of trying to understand the trainee, Liu Liqun tried another way: "you look excited, because Chinese New Year is coming?" The trainee shook his head. "Hmm... then are you happy because you are going to see your family soon?" He still shook his head.

In order not to disappoint him, Liu Liqun contacted his parents. She was delighted to hear about the story: one of the trainee's relatives got married, and his father brought him home to help arrange the wedding scene, which made him very happy. After learning about the story, Liu Liqun immediately talked to the trainee to share his joy. "At times like this, it's really important to understand everyone's emotions."

Moreover, Liu Liqun has to keep a close eye on any relationship among the trainees, "If they have too much close contact or get

along badly with each other, it is my responsibility to notify their parents and intervene as soon as possible if necessary." Liu Liqun's support, observation and guidance form a protective net for the trainees.

In these 14 years, Liu Liqun has always believed that sincerity will pay back sincerity. "I love them, and they love me. They need me, and I need them."

Whenever Liu Liqun takes a leave due to illness, the kids send voice messages to her on WeChat: "We miss you so much", "wish you a speedy recovery", and "hope you will come back soon". In the hearts of the trainees, Liu Liqun is like their mother as she is supporting, helping and caring for them all the time.

"You may think I have done a lot as I bring support and care for them, but actually they give me a lot in return, too. Because of them, I have a better understanding of the definition of love."

# Kick-off ceremony of Amity Torch Program in Cambodia



On the morning of September 3, the Amity Torch Program held a donation ceremony in Battambang Province, Cambodia. The ceremony was attended either online via Zoom or in-person by representatives of the Amity Foundation, Life with Dignity (LWD) Amity's local Cambodian partner, Alibaba Charity Foundation, the China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), local authorities from Cambodia as well as students, parents and teachers of participating schools. The Amity Torch Program in Cambodia supports 310 students from poor families in Cambodia and provides them

with scholarships to help them continue their studies. At the same time, the project provides anti-epidemic kits and learning kits to help children protect themselves from Covid-19 while studying.

LWD Executive Director Sopheap reviewed the pragmatic cooperation between LWD and Amity in rural areas of Cambodia since 2019. In respect of Amity Torch Program, he said: "The school materials and financial resources showed the kindness of the people of China to care for rural Cambodian Children through the Amity Foundation and LWD. This connection reveals that the Chinese and Cambodian people are close to each other. Even though we might be physically far away from each other, our minds and hearts are still connected".

She Hongyu, Associate General Secretary of the Amity Foundation, introduced Amity's international projects in 23 countries around the world. The Amity Torch Programme alone provides support to around 5000 students in eight developing

countries including Cambodia. She pointed out the project's purpose: "We sincerely hope that the donation made by individual ordinary Chinese people will help the Cambodian children to continue learning while keeping good hygienic routine and learning habit to study in a safe, caring and loving environment. It is our strong belief that no one should be left behind in our strive for the sustainable development of all people." And she also expressed her wish to the kids "that when you grow up, you will become great contributors to the construction and modernization of Cambodia, future ambassadors of Cambodia China friendship and contributors of the community of shared future."

Meng Siyu, Associate General Secretary of Alibaba Charity Foundation further introduced that starting in 2020, Alibaba Charity platform has assisted Amity Torch Program in raising funds for educational assistance to eight developing countries. So far, the project has raised a total of RMB 5.014 million in donations from 72.85 million

Alibaba users. The program has provided assistance to 4,576 students. She further wished on behalf of Alibaba that every kid enjoys a happy and healthy life and that every family embraces a more promising future. Chen Bin, a representative from the CNIE highly appreciated the cooperation between Amity and Alibaba, which enabled the implementation of Amity Torch Program across the world. In his opinion, "every piece of donation in the project not only represents the kindness of Chinese people, but also conveys our sea-deep friendship with Cambodian people". He also emphasized that CNIE will continue to support Chinese NGOs to strengthen exchanges and cooperation with Cambodian civil society. After the speeches, LWD staff distributed school supplies kits, anti-epidemic hygiene kits, and incentive scholarships in cash to the primary school students and their parents.





# Amity responds to Henan flooding

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**A**s in an unusually active rainy season, Henan Province was hit by storms since July 20. 73 rainfall stations in Henan Province recorded historical extreme rainfall. Heavy rain caused serious floods across Henan Province, resulting in hundreds of casualty and millions suffered. In addition to human casualties, million hectares of crop and infrastructure was destroyed, leaving million people in need for life-saving emergency supplies.

The Amity Foundation responded immediately by launching a disaster relief response in the early morning of July 21 and dispatched the first team to Henan for rescue on the 22nd.

Later teams of Amity staff from different offices were dispatched to the disaster areas and closely observing and assessing the situation. Relief supplies were provided according to the needs of the communities and local organizations which were directly affected and involved in the rescue and relief work. The diverse emergency relief supplies didn't only include daily necessities as water, food, sanitation, disinfection and temporary shelter items, but also machinery that supported infrastructure, logistic and rescue operations as boats, pumps and generators.

In addition to online fundraising from the vast public, caring companies and overseas partners, on August 9, Amity was granted 7.969 million HKD from the Hong Kong Disaster Relief Fund of Hong Kong SAR government to provide emergency relief to the flood victims in Henan province. The grant was used to support 18,800 families (around 56,400 beneficiaries) with emergency supplies in 2 cities and 2 counties, which were severely affected by the natural disaster.

It was worth highlighting that Amity carried out innovative work plans based on the local situation. Up to July 24, some areas in Xinxiang and Hebi city were still inaccessible due to traffic interruption caused by the deadly floods. With the help of Amity local partners, Amity Foundation established two transit depots in Xinxiang and Hebi. With the transit depots, large quantities of supplies had been delivered from different places to the warehouses. After road traffic resumed, Amity immediately delivered the supplies.

In addition, Amity worked closely with local communities and organizations, relying on numerous volunteers supporting Amity's transportation and distribution of the emergency supplies. Alone in the two transit depots in Xinxiang and Hebi, through which Amity is channeling relief supplies to the affected regions, more than 300 volunteers contributed their time and energy to support the logistics and help the people in need.

While the Amity Foundation continues to distribute emergency relief supplies to people living in temporary shelters and in affected areas, Amity staff also worked for transitional resettlement, post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.





On July 21, local social work organizations in Henan participated in the packaging and transportation of Amity supplies



On the afternoon of July 21, Amity's Henan partners started supplies procurement work



On the evening of July 21, local supermarket employees joined "Amity Volunteers Team", helping to pack disaster relief supplies

On the afternoon of July 22, 4,800 bags of milk, 10,000 cups of instant noodles, 1,000 bottles of disinfectant, 50 summer quilts, 200 boxes of ham sausage, 100 pairs of rubber shoes, 300 boxes of bread, and 100 raincoats were delivered to Xinzheng City, Henan Province. Community residents and volunteers helped unload and distribute the supplies



On the afternoon of July 22, four marine engines were donated by Amity to Zhongmu County to be used for rescue boats to relocate affected people







On July 23, volunteers were unloading 103,200 boxes of self-heating rice delivered by Amity to Zhengzhou, Luoyang and Xingyang in Henan. Suffering from water and power shortage due to the floods, local people welcomed self-heating food



On July 24, relief food and supplies were delivered to Cuimiao Town, Xingyang, Henan Province



The people were very happy to receive the charity relief supplies



Many local partners gave strong support to Amity's relief actions



From July 24th, Amity set up transit depots in Xinxiang and Hebi and established a system for supplies management. The depots received strong support from volunteers and guaranteed rapid delivery to the disaster-stricken areas right after transportation restored





On the afternoon of July 25, Amity staff and volunteers were working on the information of the outbound supplies at Xinxiang transit depots



Amity's local partner were relocating affected villagers using a lifeboat provided by Amity. These affected people had difficulty walking as their legs were immersed in floods for long periods of time. The use of lifeboats greatly improved the efficiency of evacuation process and ensured their safety. In addition, lifeboats were also used to transport relief supplies to meet the needs of the disaster-stricken people



On July 28, a batch of food and living supplies from Amity was delivered to Zhoudian Village of Xuchang City, helping the villagers in the local resettlement site



On the afternoon of July 28, villagers in Dongxuzhuang Village of Hebi City were receiving family relief kits. The kit included thin blankets, raincoats, umbrellas, washbasins, moisture-proof mats, flashlights, soaps, disinfectant sprays, towels and other daily necessities, which could support local families during the transition period



On the evening of July 29, working staff and volunteers sat together for a simple meal after a busy day at the Amity transit depots





On the evening of July 29, the weather forecast showed that it would rain again in Xinxiang. In order to prevent the supplies in the transit depots from getting wet, Amity staff and volunteers rushed to work overnight, covering supplies with moisture-proof mats



In late July, local rescuers expressed their gratitude to Amity that the life jackets and rescue boats donated by Amity improved their rescue efficiency and safety



The words of encouragement and blessings on Amity's supplies truck warmed the people in Henan



On August 2, after a batch of Amity supplies arrived at Shinaimiao Village of Hebi City, which was severely affected by the flood, the villagers expressed their gratitude and sent a thank-you banner to the Amity transit depot



During the operation of the two Amity transit depots, Amity received strong support from more than 300 local volunteers. These volunteers were common people, including teachers, real estate agents, students, housewives, truck drivers, social workers, etc



**O**n July 1, the Amity Foundation officially launched its electronic invoice system for donations, issuing the first e-invoice for charitable donation in Jiangsu Province. Amity therefore became the first social organization in the province that has a working e-invoice system for donations.

E-invoice has many advantages. It is standardized and issued in real-time, ensuring data accuracy while improving social organizations' efficiency and transparency in terms of cost and information disclosure.

公益事业捐赠统一票据 (电子)					
UNITED INVOICE		DONATION FOR		PUBLIC WELFARE	
财政部监制					
票据代码: 310001		票据号码: 0000015001		校验码: 000000	
文税统一社会信用代码: *****014		纳税人识别号: 000000		开票日期: 2021-07-01	
项目编码 Code	项目名称 For Purpose	单位 Unit	数量 Amount	标准 Standard	金额 (元) Total amount
PJ120210701 22001691331 1	山区建校	元	1	1500000	1,500,000.00
金额合计 (大写) In Words: 壹佰伍拾万元整 (小写) In Figures: 1,500,000.00					
实物种类 (Material Objects): 外币种类 (Currency): 其他 (Others):					
收款人 (Receiving Person): 孙琳 复核人 (Verified by): 焦菲 收款日期 (Receiving Date): 2021-07-01					

# Amity Philanthropy Valley staff awarded "Best Caretaker for Elderly in Nanjing"

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**O**n September 9, a member of Amity Philanthropy Valley Nanjing Amity Care Home was awarded the title "Best Caretaker for the Elderly in the city of Nanjing".

Ever since she joined Nanjing Amity Care Home in 2014 to work as a caretaker, Wang Jing has always adhered to the concept of "serving the elderly, enriching life". As leader of her team, she has focused on providing professional and family-like services for the elderly, and gained the confidence and trust of both the elders and their families.

Patient and professional, Wang has learned over the years to communicate well with families of the elders, while working closely with doctors.

In 2019, Granny Wang came to Nanjing Amity Care Home after her family was unable to take care of her after she suffered a fracture. Also suffering from dementia, she constantly forgot about her fracture and tried to get up and move. Upon arriving at Amity Care Home, she became nervous very easily and would press the call bell frequently.

Knowing of her special needs, Wang consulted the doctor and adjusted the service plan, arranging more rounds and a special staff member to take care of the granny. In addition, they made a rehabilitation plan to help train her walking, while giving timely feedback to the family on her progress.

After three months of rehabilitation program, the granny managed to stand up and walk with the help of a walking device.

During the first round of COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the care home was closed to visitors. Wang stayed with the seniors during the lockdown and took charge of the disinfection work at the Nanjing Amity Care Home. Additionally, she coordinated the communication with families of the residents, maintaining an orderly operation at the care home.

When she heard about the news of her award, Wang Jing said she would carry on with her work and treat every senior with "patience, care and warmth", looking after these "old kids" for as long as they stay at the care home.





# Harley Davidson riders relaying coffee for COVID-19 frontliners in summer heat

As the city of Nanjing was carrying out its second round of PCR testing in late July, a member of the local Harley Owners' Group was deeply moved by the medical staff working under scorching summer heat in their full protective gear, and wanted to help.

Ji Yangyang, who has lived in Nanjing for more than a decade, learned that Amity is working with Weigang Dairy. He reached out to clients of boutique coffee shop owners across the city and organized a campaign to send cool drinks to the frontline medical workers.



After consultation with his fellow riders and Amity, the riders group offered to help the shop owners deliver iced coffee. More than 20 Harley riders joined. Ji would check the number of drinks and venues in advance before sending out the riders for delivery. For ten days in a row, the Harley riders, donning black, were seen riding across the city, delivering the cool drinks to healthcare workers and volunteers.



"During the peak, there were more than 600 cups (a day). Other times, there were four to five hundred cups," Ji said. "A lot of test sites don't have air conditioning. Healthcare staff have to wear protective suits all day, so iced coffee could really be some help."

When the group completed the mission, they would joke with each other, saying they could now draw a map of boutique coffee shops in Nanjing.



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### Headquarters

71 Hankou Road, Nanjing 210008,  
Jiangsu Province, China  
Tel: 86-25-83260800  
Fax: 86-25-83260909  
E-mail: [amitynj@amity.org.cn](mailto:amitynj@amity.org.cn)  
Website: <http://www.amity.org.cn>

Bank Details:  
The Amity Foundation  
Bank of China, Nanjing Xuan Wu Sub-branch  
16 Hong Wu North Road,  
Nanjing, Jiangsu, PR China  
A/C #: 5105 5820 9952

### The Hong Kong Office (HKO)

13/F Ultragrace Commercial Building  
5 Jordan Road Kowloon, Hong Kong  
Tel: 852-27238011  
Fax: 852-23662769  
E-mail: [amityhk@amityfoundation.org](mailto:amityhk@amityfoundation.org)  
Website: <http://www.amity.org.cn>

Bank Details:  
Amity Foundation, Hong Kong  
Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corp.  
238 Nathan Road  
Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR, PR China  
A/C #: 127-5-017372

### International Office in Geneva

150 Route de Ferney, P.O. Box  
2100, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 22 791 6502

### Amity Office in Africa

Near Western University College,  
back of AMCE, Addis  
Ababa, Ethiopia

### Amity Kenya Office

A-block-A8, Canaan apartment,  
Matumbato road, Upper Hill  
district, Nairobi, Kenya