## St Andrew's Church GLOBAL PARTNERS



# **CENTRE FOR REFUGEES**

Helping Refugees Live with Dignity and Hope

For the past 30 years, Christian Action has relentlessly sought the well-being of over 250,000 refugees in Hong Kong. Today, as the first and only drop-in service, the Centre for Refugees fills a vital gap in humanitarian welfare by providing emergency shelter, food, education, counseling and community support to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

**Basic Humanitarian Needs:** includes the provision of necessities such as emergency housing, basic domestic items, milk and diapers for infants and toddlers, and small cash grants for those in need; a food programme, serving 3 meals a day; medical referrals and other services

**Education & Training:** includes support for children's education and learning, as well as public health and continuing education opportunities for adults (e.g. language and vocational skills training)

**Psychosocial & Mental Health:** includes counseling and therapy; youth development activities; women's well-being and empowerment groups; and various recreational and social activities.

**Outreach & Advocacy:** includes community awareness presentations; clientcommunity engagement sessions; and engagement with with refugee advising committees, governments and statutory bodies in the APAC region.



Hong Kong is home to more than 10,000 refugees from across the globe some of whom have witnessed first-hand the horrors of war, genocide, torture, and other unthinkable acts of violence. Among them are single mothers, unaccompanied children, and victims of trauma; their lives torn apart with little hope of returning home without serious risk of violations of their human rights including torture or even death. In Hong Kong, they are stranded and struggle to meet their basic needs for shelter, food, and healthcare, and without the permission to work, find themselves destitute and powerless in one of the world's wealthiest cities.

Every month, we serve over 500 refugees from a database exceeding 4,000.

#### IN 2014: 18,401 hot meals served, 16 times a week 8,565 people reached through outreach activities at schools, churches, corporate organisations, and other communities 4,540 casework and advocacy on behalf of clients 4,423 attendances facilitated to various classes and activities 526 512 nights of emergency shelter provided trauma counseling and therapy sessions 229 referrals made to secondary medical and dental 226 new individuals and families registered facilities 79 children provided with financial support to 79 babies and toddlers provided with milk powder attend school and diapers

#### St Andrew's Church Winter Clothes Collection for refugees and asylum seekers

Share your gently used clothes to refugees and asylum seekers in this winter. It may include: Winter jackets, jumpers, sweaters, shoes, new underwear and socks, shirts/t-shirts, trousers, dresses, scarves, mittens, hats, children and baby clothing, etc.

#### All sizes - adult, teen, child, baby - welcome!

#### Donated clothes will be accepted on the specific dates and times listed below ONLY.

Collection dates:

1. 28 November 2015 (Saturday), 9am – 5pm (Cars are allowed for drop off purpose only) 2. 29 November 2015 (Sunday), 9-7pm

(Cars access NOT allowed)

#### St Andrew's Church Winter Clothes Distributions for refugees and asylum seekers

Many hands are needed to sort and distribute the clothes to men, women, youth and children. Please email mission@standrews.org.hk and indicate the time that you are available to help.

**Date:** Dec 1-4, Tuesday – Friday

**Time:** Morning session: 10am – 1:30pm Afternoon session: 1:30pm – 5pm

Venue: 1/F Old vicarage

### **GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE**

#### **CEDAR Barefoot Walk 2015 – Walking with Nepal**



Nepal 7.9 magnitude earthquake destroyed numerous homes. CEDAR Fund along with local partners have begun the post-disaster community rehabilitation and reconstruction work, including rebuilding schools and homes, providing counselling for post-traumatic stress and training for disaster risk reduction, carrying out farmland restoration work as well as protecting vulnerable children and preventing human trafficking.

There is a lot we need to do, the road to rebuilding Nepal is long and challenging, and we need you to walk with us on this journey.

Goal: Raising fund to support post-disaster community development projects in Nepal
Event: Walking barefoot, experiencing poverty, raising funds
Date: Dec 5, Saturday
Time: 3pm – 6pm
Form of participation: As a group, family or individually
Meeting point: United Christian College
(11 Tong Yam Street, Tai Hang Tung, Shek Kip Mei, Kowloon)

For more details: https://cedarfundeng.wordpress.com

### **GLOBAL NEWS UPDATE**

#### International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church in November

Today's greatest untold story is that more than 100 million Christians worldwide face persecution for their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Daily Christians in countries such as Eritrea, Nigeria, India, Pakistan, Sudan and Sri Lanka face imprisonment, violence and even death.

Churches from all over the world now pray together annually, usually the first two Sundays of November, for the millions of fellow Christians who suffer harassment, torture, imprisonment or even death, simply because of their beliefs.

The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church gives us the privilege of joining together with over half a million churches in 150 countries to pray for the suffering church. It plays a vital role in encouraging and strengthening the persecuted church.

Let us unite in prayer for the persecuted church, in the spirit of oneness that Christ commanded: 'For, if one suffers, we all suffer.'

FATHER WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE THEIR RELIGION OR BELIEF IS UNDER THREAT TODAY. WE ASK FOR YOUR PROTECTION, ON THE OFTEN HOSTILE ENVIRONMENTS THEY LIVE IN. PLEASE SHIELD THEM FROM THE VIOLENT WORDS OR ACTS OF THOSE WHO OPPOSE THEM. WHEN THEY ARE FEARFUL, MAY THEY KNOW THE COMFORT AND PEACE OF YOUR HOLY SPIRIT. IN JESUS'NAME.

### St Andrew's Church Prison Ministry: Fundraising Walkathon for Kun Sun Association

Praise the Lord! Twenty members from SAC participated in the Prison Ministry Walkathon on 23/10/2015. We raised HK\$50,000 for Kun Sun Association "KSA"!

An ex-inmate gave a touching testimony of how his life has been transformed by God! Particularly how he felt God's love through the Prison Ministry volunteers. Now he's enrolled in a theology course and has decided to become a minister! So that he can dedicate his life to serve the Lord. This was a great encouragement to us to continue this ministry even though it can be challenging at times!

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the people who support so generously that KSA can continue to build God's kingdom in prisons and bring hope to the hopeless! Together we can shine the light of Jesus in the darkness and make a difference to HK society!

Helen Tang, Prison Ministry Volunteer







