

Way In Network Inc 2021 Annual General Meeting

President's Report

Dear Way In Ladies

We are entering into the final year of 2019-2021 committee term. During these two years, no one could foresee the global pandemic – COVID 19 and subsequent lockdowns which have a significant impact to our normal life.

We have been quiet, however please do not confuse quiet for inactivity. Our work supporting at-risk vulnerable women, children and aged has continued unabated.

Donation of anti-epidemic medical supplies to China, Hong Kong

The outbreak of Coronavirus began in Wuhan China and spreads rapidly and instantaneously across the world. There was an acute shortage of medical protection essentials such as protective goggles, medical masks & protective clothing.

Although members of Way In Network are now in Australia but we have never forgotten our homeland, hometown – China and Hong Kong. Therefore, in a short period of time, it was resolved by the committee to raise anti-epidemic funds for the purchase of medical supplies to donate to Wuhan medical staff and masks to the elderly in Hong Kong.

While supporting the Chinese and Hong Kong compatriots, we also considered the needs of Australia. Without affecting the local supply, we eventually purchased following supplies by coordinating with friends from various parties and through special channels to: -

- (1) Wuhan, Hubei – to the front-line medical teams of six hospitals belong to Wuhan No.1 Hospital and Huangshi Women and Children Hospital.
- (2) Hong Kong – protective masks to the elderly people for free in the traditional public housing area through officers of elected councillor office.

Donation of anti-epidemic medical supplies to Health Share NSW

The spread of COVID-19 pandemic also became severe in Australia, more confirmed cases were reported every day. To support local community, Way In sisters arranged a donation of 240 protective goggles to Health Share NSW for medical staff to use in the covid testing centres.

Journey of Wellness Xmas Charity Dinner 2020

With the Covid 19 pandemic, we can no longer take for granted a lot of things such as socialising, staying together and sharing. Friend or families are forced apart.

With the easing of the Covid situation in NSW, Way In Network and ACMA Charitable Trust have efficiently organised this event to reconnect our members and friends.

This event not only promoted healthy eating but also raise funds for two worthy causes which supported medical research as well as those senior citizens who have been impacted by Covid 19 shutdown.

MITO Foundation– a research organisation of Mitochondrial Disease for prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cures for such disease, as well as support to patients and carers.

Counterpoint Multicultural Services – this Sydney city centric organisation has a long history of supporting seniors from multi-cultural backgrounds including Chinese as a huge portion. They have a centre in Redfern for activities and support to seniors mostly under poverty. With recent Covid 19 lockdown, seniors are more confined physically and in demand of more necessities too. The fund was to support Counterpoint for a project to conduct visits to this senior group with gifts of their daily necessities.

We were very honoured to have our key speaker Dr David Mann PhD Dietitian to give us the topic of how to enhance health, beauty, and boost our immune system through good diet. A special menu of wellness of the event and has been prepared by the Master Chefs of Zilver Bondi Restaurant.

2021 Way In Network Member Network Dinner

On 31 March 2021, Way In members had a networking event sponsored by the newly opened Ni Hao Bar.

Founder & Honorary President of WIN – Dr. Helen Sham Ho shared her story about her initiative to establish a platform for migrant background women in 1992; to build a support network for the migrant women during their early settlement in Australia. Helen so proud of Way In ladies have integrated into the mainstream society and made record of contributions to the Chinese & broader Australian communities through social activities and charity work. Way In Network has evolved into a well-known and trusted charity organisation amongst the local community.

President Annie Tang JP, Past Presidents Mrs. Florence Chau JP, and Ms Linda Tang JP (Honorary Advisors), together with Vice President Jessie Xiao, Felicia Hon, Daisy Lam also shared their stories about their motivation to join as a member of WIN and their pride for having the opportunity to be involved with the charity path with all WIN ladies.

It was a great night for long term members and new members to be connected.

2021 Way In Women's Empowerment Series – Safety Awareness Forum

Way In Network has planned to host a series of Women Empowerment seminars and the first of such series was held on Wed, 16th of June 2021, it focused on the importance of women's safety in our daily life.

The seminar was proudly supported by NSW Police Force, and the venue was proudly sponsored by Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Sydney (HKETO, Sydney), at The Peak, Level 5, Hong Kong House, 80 Druitt St, Sydney.

The following key personnel from the Sydney City Police Area Command presented on the topics of anti-racism, domestic violence, sexual assault, and preventative measures & reporting to ensure general women's safety:

Catherine Kolokitas - Leading Senior Constable, Domestic Violence Liaison Officer

Samantha Sukkarieh - Multicultural Community Liaison Officer

Further welcome speeches were made by Ms Winnie Chan, director of HKETO in Sydney and Acting Superintendent Paul Dunstan went on to explain how the local Sydney City Police Area Command placed great priority in ensuring the safety & respect of women in society, as well as general safety of the local resident & business community.

The forum has successful held before the long lock down in NSW in June. Even with the indoor social distance restriction, we have great participation of Way In Members, Australia Shunde Women's group and Sydney Waratah Lions.

2021 Way In Women's Empowerment Series – A Date with Spring

Members of Way In Network had a Zoom Party on Sunday, 19 September 2021. This zoom party was also one of the series of Way In Women's Empowerment. Due to the lock-down, members could not meet face-to-face for more than 3 months. Thanks very much to Nicole He to initiate this zoom party and as our MC host and Mandy for the coordination of this event.

The spring brings a new beginning and make our heart singing. It was a fantastic opportunity that everyone could catch up via zoom and sharing how to stay home with a happy and healthy lifestyle.

Our senior vice president Jessie Xiao has invited Philip from Kippo Salon to join our party and sharing especially useful tips for hair caring & styling.

She also invited Alex, the manager from Christian Dior Cosmetics Bondi Westfield to share with skin care and make-up tips.

We also had our internal guest speaker, our secretary Rosanna Ng Physiotherapist, to showcase a 10-minute fitness or relaxation session.

Also, our general affair officer Lisa Harris has prepared a power point presentation with her exceptionally beautiful orchids, sharing with us the planting tips for different category of orchids.

It was a happy and successful Zoom Party; all the attendees enjoyed the precious moment of e-gathering during this special time. Thanks again for the efforts of all the above members and friends.

Participation & Support

Throughout the year, members of Way In Network have participated the following community activities or sponsoring the charity events: -

- 2021 Multicultural Women's Reference Group Morning Tea with the Governor General, His Excellency David Hurley & Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley (Our senior VP Jessie Xiao is a member of the Multicultural Women's Reference Group)
- AGCF Thanksgiving Charity Luncheon
- Launch of Australasian Medical Service Coalition
- ACJC CNY Racing Carnival Fundraising for Women Foundation
- ACCF Chinese New Year Dinner
- Haymarket Chamber of Commerce CNY 2021
- SSMRF 2021 Michael Tynan Challenge Charity Race Day
- Lion Club of Sydney Waratah 15th Anniversary Fundraising Dinner
- ACMA Charity Karaoke Night fundraising for CanRevive & Northern Sydney Region Youth Services
- CanRevive 26th Anniversary Fundraising Dinner

Appreciation

On behalf of Way In Network, our greatest appreciation to Philemon Lam FCA for providing independent audit report to our annual financial report. Thanks to Brenda Xiao to coordinate with the accounting information.

I would also acknowledge the unfailing support behind the scenes; our dedicated secretariat team Rosanna Ng & Faith He and our treasurer June He. Also, thanks for the significant support from the Vice President team - Jessie Xiao, Felicia Hon, Daisy Lam and Public Officer Eugenia Lieu. The dedication and contribution from our committee members and continued great support from all Way In members.

Last but not the least; thanks to the guidance support from our Founder, Honorary President Hon. Dr Helen Sham-Ho OAM JP, our Honorary Advisors Florence Chau & Linda Tang

A big welcome to our new members and let's all continue to embrace our charity mission together.

Annie Tang JP
President of Way In Network 2019-2021