

# Door to Door Visit for Distressed Community

By the Documentary Volunteers & Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital Home Visit Team

Many Hualieners struggled with their daily lives after the earthquake on Feb 6, 2018. In response, Tzu Chi Foundation initiated a door-to-door visit on Sunday, Feb 11, mobilized 52 Jing Si Abode dharma masters and 712 volunteers, divided into 4 regions, 100 routes to visit

1,020 homes. Among the teams were 57 staff and their families from Hualien Tzu Chi Hospital (HTCH) and Tzu Chi Medical Foundation, delivering gifts of comfort to the homes in Fuxiang St., Guofu Vil., neighboring the hospital and Tzu Chi University (TCU).



Head Nurse Chang Hsin-Ling (2nd right) comforts a crying disaster survivor.



Jing Si Abode Master De Chen(3rd left), HTCH Supt. Lin Shinn-Zong (4th left) and senior Tzu Chi medical volunteer Yen Hui-Mei (1st left) visited a restaurant in Fuxiang St. during their door-to-door visit after the earthquake.



Cardiologist Chang Huai-Ren (in white) delivered a gift of blessing.



On the morning of Feb 11, volunteers from Hualien, Taipei, Yilan, Taitung, Kaohsiung, Tainan, China, the U.S., and Singapore, as well as the members of the Tzu Chi Foundation, Tzu Chi Education Foundation and Tzu Chi Medical Foundation all assembled in Hualien Jing Si Hall, in preparation of the door-to-door visit. Accompanied by dharma master De Chen, HTCH Supt. Lin Shinn-Zong, the hospital team walked across the Zhongyang Rd. And begin the visit

to the families in Guofu Vil., hoping to bring to them a stabilizing and comforting presence.

Located on Fuxiang St., the home of Mrs. Chan, a patient who went through an operation recently and was in the process of rehabilitation, did not suffer much damage. She had her television turned to Da Ai channel to keep track of the follow-up on the earthquake. Supt. Lin was concerned with her recovery. Mrs. Chen from Vietnam had never



**Vice Supt. Wang Lih-Shinn (in white) handed over a red envelope and the Master's letter.**



**HTCH nursing dept. director Chang Shu-Chuang(center in left photo) invited nursing staff to join the home-visits to comfort Hualien citizens.**

experienced earthquake in her lifetime. This came as a shock to her. She was afraid to sleep on the 2nd floor, and was keen to return to Vietnam. Master De Chen placed a buddhist beads on her wrist, while senior medical volunteer Ms. Yen Hui-Mei comforted her unsettled mind and invited her to the Jing Si musical next day. A 78-year-old lady who was a regular volunteer in the Jing Si Abode was frightened by the earthquake, Vice Supt. Wu Ping-An and senior medical volunteer Ms. Su Zu sang the song “My Grateful Heart” to deliver their blessing.

TCU Prof. Liu Yu-Hsing was grateful for the home visit of the hospitals vice supt. Chen Tsung-Ying. While cleaning the roof-top water tank last August, Prof.

Liu accidentally fell and injured his left collarbone. He ended up wearing a clavicle brace for half a year and was unable to lift his left arm. He considered surgery, but that would require a full anesthesia, so he consulted Chen Tsung-Ying on the risks of the operation. As an anesthesiologist he gave Prof. Liu his professional opinions on the operation. Vice Supt. Wang Lih-Shinn met coincidentally met the family of his patient during the home visits. Mr. Yeh, the patient, had been living in the ICU for over two months. Vice Supt. Wang delivered a red envelope of blessings and wisdom to Mr. Yeh’s father, wishing that his son could pull through his illness and recover.

The breakfast shop on Fuxiang St. frequently delivers breakfasts to many

units in the hospital. Orthopedist Yeh Kuang-Ting's unit is one of them. The funny thing was that he had no idea where the shop was, and it was during the home visit did he pay his first visit to the shop. One of the employee's sister was his patient. Yeh Kuang-Ting asked her to send his greeting to his patient. Mr. Chung was a patient of HTCH who suffered from arrhythmia. Dr. Yeh took the man's pulse and found it to be shallow. Mr. Chung's water tower, gas barrel, and two motorcycles fell during the earthquake. After replacing the water tower, he shared

his water with his neighbors. The team admired his generosity, and reminded him to drink more water.

Teacher Yin was a retired instructor from Hualien Normal University Affiliated Elementary School, the instructor of Dr. Shih Ting-Han, the eldest son of Nursing Department Director Chang Shu-Chuan, and is the daughter of former Chia-Ming Primary School Principal Yin. Dir. Chang delivered the red envelopes and a letter from Master Cheng Yen as signs of solicitude, and Teacher Yin received it with gratitude. Nursing Department Deputy



**Supervisor Su Fen-Lan (mid) and the volunteers deliver blessings to the entire family. letter.**





**During the home visit, one of the families was the home of a hospital staff. Dr. Yeh Kuang-Ting (right) is reading Jing-Si Aphorism with children who is afraid of the earthquake.**

Director Chung Hui-Chun visited a total of 29 families in Guofu 22nd St. One of them was a government employee who just returned home from his service at one of the shelters. They greeted each other and prayed for a peaceful world.

As the sky began to drizzle, Nursing Department Deputy Director Yeh Hsiu-Chen walked into the home of an elderly couple. “The closet fell, the television fell, and the altar was out of place,” the husband said. He was afraid to sleep at home after the earthquake. The 70-year-old wife added, “I can’t sleep, can’t eat...” Deputy Director Yeh held her close with a huge hug and said, “take a deep breath, and relax.” She instructed the wife to take

deep breathes while massaging her back and comforting her heart.

The leader of the team 19 Sister Teng Shu-Ching visited a home care nurse who used to serve in HTCH. After the earthquake, she and her family drove around town for three hours, fearing for subsequent aftershocks. Her 11-year-old daughter reminded her, “you should be helping at the hospital, you are needed there.” That was when she remembered that she was, in fact, a nurse. She rushed to the hospital and supported the ER staff, and visited her patients’ homes afterwards. Dentist Lee Yi-Pang brought his wife Cheng Ya-Jung, his 9-year-old son Lee Cheng-En and many Tzu Chi volunteers to deliver the Master’s blessing and the red envelopes to a mosque and a local Indonesian shop. The shop owner and his Indonesian employees were pleasantly surprised by Tzu Chi’s home visits, and agreed in unison that they would attend the Jing Si musical that same day afternoon and pray for world peace.

HTCH stood its ground after the earthquake, and its staff spent their off-days paying home visits with Tzu Chi volunteers and the abode masters to deliver blessings to the disaster victims, putting into action the motto of the hospital, “Safeguarding Life, Health, and Love”.