



# Douliu

**Medical Staff Bring Warmth in Winter, Rolled Up Sleeves to Build a Home for a Tzu Chi Care Recipient**

**December 3-6, 2021**

The Wei family, who lives in Pingli, Changning District of Douliu, suffered

from insomnia due to the house that could collapse at any time. Medical staff from Douliu Tzu Chi Hospital, Tzu Chi Foundation Construction Office, and Yunlin Tzu Chi volunteers took the initiative to assist the Wei's households to repair their houses. Everyone humbled themselves, rolled up their sleeves and brought their children to join the force, bringing a warm breeze in cold winter.

Douliu's community Tzu Chi



**Douliu Tzu Chi Hospital cooperated with the Tzu Chi Foundation Construction Office and Yunlin Tzu Chi volunteers to repair houses for care recipients.**

volunteer, Lai Wenxuan, received a call for help and felt distressed about the Wei family's living environment. Because of the COVID-19 epidemic prevention period, she asked the family to turn on the mobile phone for the initial video interview, and then immediately contacted a social worker to discuss the feasibility of repairs. After a follow-up evaluation and the consent of the owner and the district officer of Changping, the renovation project was approved through a visit in September. Chen Wenliang, a senior specialist from the construction office of the Tzu Chi Foundation, went to the meeting many times, just to make sure that the Wei family would have a safe and comfortable home.

The construction officially started on December 3, 2021. Under the leadership of Supt. Chien Rui-Teng, the medical and nursing team and the volunteers cooperated with the professional guidance of the construction office, and contributed to the spirit of teamwork. The old walls in the house were cleaned and new paint was applied, creating a clean and bright house, no longer worrying about water leakage. The safety was also greatly improved.

Chen Wenliang, a senior specialist in the construction department of Tzu Chi Foundation, said that the Wei family's house is at least fifty years old, and the structure was made of bamboo. Because

of water leakage for many years, the bamboo has corroded and rotted, causing the beam structure to break in many places, and there is a danger of collapsing at any time. Therefore the team decided to completely update the roof structure. The repairs on the roof were completed by a professional team, and the colleagues and volunteers assisted in cleaning steel plates and moving building materials. The renovated house can be used for another 50 plus years.

Supt. Chien Rui-Teng said that taking advantage of the weekends, many colleagues took their children to participate in this meaningful activity, so that the children can see their blessings, inspire love and compassion. This meaningful event allowed everyone to



**Supt. Chien Rui-Teng (middle) is grateful for this opportunity, joining with the hospital colleagues to walk into the community to show love.**



**The repaired roof is expected to last for more than fifty years.**

donate their time, money, and love to help those in need. This is a kind of good and meaningful event for many people. I am very grateful to have this opportunity to show love for the community and jointly achieve the repair and decoration of this poor family's house.

Cai Huiwen, a colleague of Douliu Tzu Chi Hospital, said that in the process of giving, she took the opportunity to eradicate the unpleasant parts of her heart, so that her heart could be more settled, allowing her to continue to work hard to move forward. Rehabilitation Physical Therapist, Huang Keming said: "In the cold winter nights, when everyone is sleeping with a warm quilt at home, there are some people who may not be able to stay warm at night, and have to endure the bitter cold wind. Taking this opportunity to bring my family members to learn and give. I also brought my children to understand the sufferings of the world during this weekend."

"We often hear that Tzu Chi volunteers help poor families repair their houses." Weng Lijun, an outpatient

clinic head nurse, said, "Once here, I'm surprised! It seems like a simple job, but I didn't expect every minute detail. Whether it's removing screws, cleaning steel plates and sticking to them. Volunteers would teach us how to do it! We admired their physical strength, work attitude, and way of doing things."

Joined with her family of 4, head nurse Zhang Yaping went into the house to check the leaking roof. "The Wei family lives in this leaky house to endure cold raining days and poor soundless sleep, worrying about safety. My family is happy to help."

"When I was in elementary school and middle school, Tzu Chi's aunts and uncles came to help us even to this day. When I was young, my father had to take care of my mother and me. At that time, Tzu Chi aunts and uncles gave us a lot of warmth. It was really nice to have them, and I am very grateful." In her spare time, Wei made pineapple cakes and beauty chores to subsidize income for the family. She wished in the future, she will have the ability to help others.