

主席獻辭 Chairperson's Message

潘兆童

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The Hon. Mr. Justice
POON Siu-tung



我作為善導會執行委員會主席，回顧這一年多的工作，實是充滿喜悅。這個角色為我提供了多方面的觀點與視角，使我能夠更全面地了解社區的需要，賦予我一份深遠的使命感。我深感榮幸並珍惜這個機會，能夠帶領這家服務如此全面且人性化的機構，團隊上下一心，與各界攜手協力，回應社會的各種需求和挑戰。

As the Chairperson of Executive Committee of SideBySide, reflecting upon the past year's work fills me with great joy and a profound sense of purpose. This role has provided me with a multidimensional perspective and insights, enabling me to better serve the needs of our community. I feel honored and cherish the opportunity to lead such a comprehensive and people-oriented organisation like SideBySide, where the team works together and collaborates with various sectors to respond to the diverse needs and challenges of society.

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在去年底舉行的第65屆週年大會上，善導會品牌重塑計劃下的新品牌形象首次亮相。全新的形象有助公眾留下深刻的印象，同時反映本會與時俱進的精神，透過不斷進步以適應瞬息萬變的社會步伐。我們期望能讓大眾更認識善導會的工作，同時鼓勵大家成為我們的品牌大使，一同參與和實踐善導會「自在共融」的理念。

本會的服務範疇廣泛，包括更生同行、精神健康、職能發展、社區教育、多元共融及社區連繫。在過去的一年多裏，感謝團隊的努力，以無比的熱情和專業精神，不斷提升服務的質量和範疇，通過各種多元化計劃和項目，為社會提供了實質的幫助和支持。

社會康復及預防犯罪一直是善導會的核心工作，本會一直致力為不同年齡、不同背景的人士提供全方位服務。由被捕一刻開始，經歷漫長的司法程序，我們的法院社工為有需要人士提供多元支援，包括法律諮詢和心理輔導等；在囚期間，我們的團隊定期探訪懲教院所，提供生涯發展和就業輔導等服務；在獲釋前，我們就家庭重聚、就業準備和住宿需求等多方面為更生人士安排合適的服務和轉介；並在獲釋後，協助他們適應社會生活，陪伴走過更生之路，提供適切跟進及支援。

During our 65th Annual General Meeting, we proudly presented our new brand identity under the rebranding project. This exciting initiative has given us a fresh image that resonates with the public, at the same time reflecting our progressive spirit as an organisation that is constantly evolving and adapting to the ever-changing society we serve. With our new image, we hope to leave a lasting impression to the public and encourage everyone to become our brand ambassador to inspire others and join us in embodying our mission of "Everyone deserves to belong".

Our service scope is extensive, including social rehabilitation, mental wellness, competency development, community education, cultural inclusion, and community connection. Over the past year, I am grateful for the team's efforts in continuously enhancing the quality and scope of our services with unwavering enthusiasm and professionalism. Through a variety of diverse programmes and projects, we have provided substantial assistance and support to society.

Social rehabilitation and crime prevention have always been the core work of SideBySide. We are committed to providing comprehensive services to individuals of different ages and backgrounds. From the moment of arrest through the lengthy judicial process, our court social workers offer diverse support to those in need, including legal advice and psychological counselling. During the period of incarceration, our team regularly visits correctional facilities, providing services such as career development and employment counselling. Prior to release, we arrange appropriate services and referrals for rehabilitated individuals in areas such as family support, employment preparation, housing assistance. After release, we assist them in adapting to social life, accompanying them on their path to rehabilitation, and providing appropriate follow-up and support.

我們亦深深明白，更生人士的家庭成員，包括未成年的子女，面對着各種生活的改變，亦承受着沉重的壓力。家庭是社會的基石，家人在整個更生路途中的角色舉足輕重。我們致力透過提供多元化的支援服務，陪伴家庭克服困境；當中「藍巴士賽馬會結伴成長計劃」的新一階段已於二零二三年三月啟動，承接上一階段的經驗，我們繼續完善服務，如：院所親子中心、囚友家長小組、家長遙距課程等。我們亦推行「沿途『友』您計劃」，為曾接觸司法程序人士及其家屬提供精神健康支援。

本會一直以循證為本而創新互動的方法，推動預防犯罪工作。始於2007年的「模擬法庭·公義教育計劃」一直深受學界歡迎，承蒙民政及青年事務局青年正向思維活動資助計劃資助，為期兩年的「**模擬法庭·公義教育計劃 2023-2025**」將於2023-2024學年展開第一年度計劃。計劃會以「模擬法庭」作為核心工具，為參與的中學生、大專生及社區青年配對執業律師或大律師作為法律導師，在訓練過程中，循序漸進帶領青少年理解司法系統，建立對法律的尊重。

在後疫情時代，社會對精神健康服務的需求不斷增加，特別是在壓力倍增的學生群體中，這些情況日漸累積並對社區產生了深遠的影響。因此，我們開展兒童精神健康支援，將「小家屬」的心理健康作為我們的主要關注之一。校園是小朋友的另一個「家」，我們和香港救助兒童會合作，在小學推行社交及情緒學習，推出「**『童』感同行社交及情緒學習計劃**」，配合香港本地文化及教學體制，於課堂內以活動教學及體驗模式，協助學生加強社交及情緒學習的能力。

We also deeply understand that family members of rehabilitated individuals, including children and youth, are facing various life changes and bearing immense pressures. Family is the cornerstone of society, and the role of family members throughout the rehabilitation journey is crucial. Therefore, we provide all-rounded supporting services to accompany families in resolving and overcoming difficulties and challenges. The new phase of the “**Blue Bus Jockey Club Together We Grow Project**” was launched in March 2023, building upon the experiences of the previous phase. We continue to improve our services, including parent-child center in correctional institutions, support groups for parents of inmates, and remote parenting courses. We have also implemented the “**Along Your Way Program**” to provide mental health support for family members of remanded, incarcerated individuals, and ex-offenders.

SideBySide has always been committed to evidence-based and innovative approaches in promoting crime prevention. The “Mock Trial Justice Education Project”, which began in 2007, has been highly regarded by the academic community. With the support of the Funding Scheme for Youth Positive Thinking Activities from The Home and Youth Affairs Bureau, the two-year “**Mock Trial Justice Education Project 2023-2025**” will commence its first-year programme in the 2023-2024 academic year. The project will pivot on “Mock Court” as a tool, pairing participating secondary school students, tertiary students, and community youth with practicing solicitors or barristers as legal mentors. Through a progressive training process, the programme aims to guide young participants in understanding the judicial system and fostering respect for the law.

In the post-COVID times, there has been a continuous increase in the demand for mental health services, particularly among student groups who are experiencing amplified stress. These accumulating circumstances have had a profound impact on the community. That is why we have made it one of our primary focuses to support the mental well-being of children from the families we serve. Schools serve as a second “home” for children, and we have collaborated with Save the Children to implement **social and emotional learning programmes within primary school campuses**. Our programmes are designed to align with local culture and the educational system in Hong Kong. Through activity-based teaching and experiential learning approaches in the classroom, we aim to assist students in enhancing their social and emotional learning abilities.

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晚年抑鬱情況越趨普遍，我們致力為受情緒困擾的長者提供全面的支援和關懷，關注他們的心理健康和生活素質，並展開了「賽馬會樂齡同行」及「數碼精齡」兩項與時並進的服務計劃，為長者提供全面的支持和陪伴，實踐老有所為的精神。

對康復者而言，復元之路漫長且反覆，過程中可能遇到很多的困難和挑戰。我們因此推出了「導航計劃」，透過醫社協作，為輪候、居住或遷離中途宿舍的精神復元人士提供過渡性支援，幫助他們逐步融入社會。此外，我們還引入了**動物輔助介入**，通過與動物建立連結，提升精神復元人士的心理健康和幸福感。

我們也非常重視照顧者的角色和貢獻，照顧者是精神復元人士的重要支撐，但同時自身亦承受著不少壓力。我們為照顧者提供多方面的諮詢及輔導，以抒緩他們的身心壓力。善導會同時積極發展**朋輩支援服務**，為精神復元人士及其照顧者提供情緒支援，促進復元的進程。朋輩支援員並藉著分享他們的自身轉化經歷，增加公眾對於心理健康的認識，建立共融健康社區。

青年人是社會的未來，然而，他們亦是面對無比挑戰的一群。我們透過青年培育及創業服務，致力扶助弱勢青年（更生青年、邊緣及受監管青年）的生活。我們為弱勢青年及多元族裔青年提供職涯規劃、評估和各種學習活動，致力以創新方案應對有關青年貧窮和社會孤立的挑戰，冀能扶持他們走出困境。承蒙香港交易所慈善基金資助，我們推出「**CASH – 青年創意理財互動空間**」，目標協助9至35歲的弱勢青少年，建立良好財務目標及增加財務管理的知識。

The prevalence of depression among the elderly is increasing, and we are committed to providing comprehensive support and care for emotionally distressed seniors. We focus on their mental well-being and quality of life, and have launched two progressive service programmes: “**JC JoyAge**” and “**IT Elderly Live Flourishing Project**”, aiming to provide holistic support and companionship to seniors.

For persons in mental recovery, the journey can be long and challenging, with setbacks along the way. We have introduced the “**Lighthouse Project**” with an aim to enhancing medical-social collaboration and offering transitional support to individuals in the process of waiting for, residing in, or transitioning out of halfway houses, helping them gradually integrate into society. Furthermore, we have implemented **animal-assisted interventions**, forging connections between individuals in mental recovery and animals. This approach aims to enhance their mental well-being and sense of happiness.

In addition, we highly value the role and contribution of carers. Carers are vital pillars of support for persons in recovery, but they also face significant pressures. We provide carers with comprehensive consultation and counselling services to alleviate their physical and mental stress. SideBySide is also actively developing **peer support services** to provide emotional support for persons in recovery and their carers. We equip suitable persons who had experienced in mental challenges to serve as peer supporters. Through sharing their own transformation experiences, peer supporters help to increase public awareness of mental health and foster the development of an inclusive and healthy community.

Youth are the future of society; however, they are also facing immense challenges. Through our youth empowerment and entrepreneurship service, we put great efforts to make an impact on the lives of disadvantaged youths. We provided career planning, assessment, and various learning activities to rehabilitated youths, at-risk youths, and those under custody, as well as ethnically diverse youths. We strive to address the challenges of poverty and social exclusion through innovative solutions, aiming to accompany them in overcoming difficulties and moving towards a better future. Thanks to the support from HKEX Foundation, we have launched the “**CASH – Youth Financial Smart Planning Interactive Space**” programme. The programme aims to assist disadvantaged youth aged 9 to 35 in establishing sound financial goals and increasing their knowledge of financial management.

在過去的一年，我們推出的多元化服務廣泛回應了社會的需求，成果令人鼓舞。「同你心同你行」是善導會的品牌短語，同理心和包容性是推動着我們前進的堅定承諾。我們深信，每個人無論處境如何，都應該有所歸屬，實現自在共融的社會。

我很榮幸能夠與善導會團隊並肩同行，實踐使命為社會帶來正面影響，也為着我們不斷進步的潛力感到振奮。在此，我代表善導會向每一位善心人致以衷心的感謝，包括本會的委員、同工、企業夥伴、義工和支持者，你們的支持與付出是不可或缺的。

讓我們繼續攜手轉化生命，讓社會不一樣。

In the past year, the diverse range of services we have introduced has effectively addressed the needs of society, yielding encouraging results. At SideBySide, our brand message resonates deeply within us: "Understanding. Unwavering." We firmly believe that everyone deserves to belong, regardless of their circumstances. It is this unwavering commitment to compassion and inclusivity that drives us forward.

As we look ahead, we are inspired by the positive impact we have made together and the transformative potential that lies within our grasp. Our dedicated team, volunteers, partners and supporters have been the pillars of our success. On behalf of SideBySide, I extend heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. Your support and dedication are indispensable.

Together, let us continue to transform lives and make our society different.