# 130th Anniversary of Tung Sin Tong Charitable Society

## **Founding Objectives**

The Tung Sin Tong Charitable Society was founded in 1892. At that time, the Chinese merchants in Macao and abroad was seeking to realize the self-salvation of the Chinese people. With the support of 2,494 local and overseas donors, 407 "advocates" elected representatives to form 46 "incorporators", and they then submitted an application to the Government to establish the organization. With the purpose of "Serving the world together whole-heartedly, welcoming all people with benevolence", Tung Sin Tong inspire people to serve the underprivileged and those in need with solidarity.

#### **Social Assistance**

Over the course of its 130-year history, Tung Sin Tong has provided welfare services in the form of donations of clothing and food distribution, disaster relief, care for women and children, coffin donation and funeral arrangement. Since 2014, "Exchange Vouchers" were issued to materials collection cardholders to facilitate the needy to exchange for rice and other daily necessities at the partner supermarkets, and gave out holiday presents on festive occasions. Tung Sin Tong also makes excellent use of the "Ho Kam Yung Foundation", which was established with the goal of helping those who have impairments and related organizations, as well as those who may have unforeseen hardships.

#### **Medical Services**

Traditional Chinese medicine has been the core of Tung Sin Tong's free medical services since it was founded, and it has continued to expand its diagnosis subjects and service point. With the establishment of two clinics and a Chinese medicine pharmacy, Tung Sin Tong first extended its services to the Islands District in 2018. The Wa Bao Chinese Medicine Clinics and Pharmacy in Taipa were moved to Great China Plaza and inaugurated in June 2022 in order to improve the medical services. Since then, Tung Sin Tong has developed to include five clinics and two pharmacies in the Macao Peninsula as well as Islands District, offering services in Chinese internal medicine, orthopedics (Tit-ta), acupuncture, physiotherapy, western medicine in general and dentistry, etc.

#### **Free Education**

To provide education and foster potential, Tung Sin Tong founded the Tung Sin Tong School for the poor in 1924. The school initially had 60 boys enrolled as an old-style private school. Since the 1990s, there has been a free education system in place with kindergarten, primary, secondary, and adult education, a variety of initiatives have been being put in place to help students in moving to success.

## **Free Nursery Services**

In 1976, Tung Sin Tong opened the first nursery in Toi San, offering 100 places for working families. Between 1979 and 2013, four additional nurseries were opened in various districts, providing a total of nearly 1,000 places.

## **Elderly Services**

In 2012, the Tung Sin Tong Chinese Pharmacy established the Acupuncture and Physiotherapy for the Elderly, to offer acupuncture and physical therapy services to the

elderly. In 2013, the Chui Tak Kei Memorial Building of Tung Sin Tong opened the first elderly activity center. In February 2022, the Activity Center for the Elderly was established in San Kio to offer a range of activities for the elderly.

## Thanksgiving Day

Since 2019, Tung Sin Tong organizes the "Thanksgiving Day" annually to report to the community members, who have long supported the charitable work, of the donation achievements and to update the public about the most recent developments of the Tung Sin Tong through opening the facilities and various means, such as performances, guided exhibitions, and games.

## **Future**

Tung Sin Tong will continue to innovate alongside societal advancement and serve the public as needed to embody the tradition of Chinese charitable culture.

Tung Sin Tong Charitable Society Translation: NextVector Consultants Ltd.