



A Brief History of the Zonta Club of Kowloon – Club No. 0816

Chartering of Zonta Club of Kowloon Zonta Club of Kowloon (“the Club”), the second Zonta Club established in Hong Kong, was chartered on 7 November 1977 under the sponsorship of Zonta Club of Hong Kong. The successful formation of the Club was attributed to the hard work and devotion of the then Regional Representative Mrs Karen Loh and Area Director Mrs Vera Waters. The Club had 20 charter members headed by Charter President Madam Barbara Fei and the Charter Ceremony was held at the Crystal Ballroom of Holiday Inn, Hong Kong.

Membership Member numbers have grown from 20 charter members in 1977 to 47 (including 3 honorary members) at the end of the biennium of 2012-14.

Meetings We used to meet on the 4th Thursday of each month except August and December for Club discussion. We also organize public affairs meetings from time to time and invite guest speakers to speak on current issues of the community.

Club Board and Committees For most of its history the Board comprised the President, 1st & 2nd Vice-Presidents, Treasurers, Recording & Corresponding Secretaries, Directors, with Board Members usually chairing the Committees responsible for the operations and services of the Club. Our Committee structure mostly adopts the model as guided by ZI.

Social Service and Advocacy Projects We have supported numerous community projects through partnership with service organizations that will benefit women in distress, the elderly and underprivileged, the handicapped and victims of abuse. Our major service partners include:

- Against Child Abuse
- Agency for Volunteer Service
- Asia Women’s League
- Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women
- Caritas Hong Kong
- Child Development Matching Fund
- HK Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council
- Hong Kong Society for the Aged
- Hong Kong Student Aid Society
- HK Women Doctors Association
- Hospital Authority
- International Social Service HK
- Les Beatitudes



ZONTA 九龍
CLUB OF 崇
KOWLOON 德
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL 社
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

- Children's Cancer Foundation
- Correctional Services Department
- Harmony House
- Helping Hand (Chak On Elderly Centre)
- Hong Chi Pinehill Village
- Hong Kong Abilympics
- Hong Kong Cancer Fund
- Hong Kong Council of Social Service
- Hong Kong Red Cross
- Mary Cove Centre
- St Barnabas Society and Home
- St Joseph's Home for the Aged
- Stewards
- Tung Wah Group of Hospitals
- Tz'u Te Home for the Aged
- SKH Lady MacLehose Centre
- Yan Chai Hospital
- Youth Outreach
-

Some of the notable projects since our inception in 1977 include:

- * In the late 1970's and during the 1980's, donations were made to various charitable organizations including St Joseph Home for the Aged, Jockey Club Chak On Care Home and Hong Kong Youth Organization Centre.
- * In the early 1990's, we established Yan Chai Childcare Centre and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Children Centre.
- * In 1996, we donated \$1 million to Hong Kong Abilympics to support the disabled and sponsored \$250,000 for a series of TV programmes on women health.
- * During the biennium of 2005-06 and 2007-08, we donated \$250,000 each to the following long-term projects:
 - Caritas for the Self Employment Project to help unemployed women in Shamshuipo
 - Harmony House WeIN – Women Empowerment Initiatives for the Women Empowerment Project to help the victims of domestic violence.
 - Stewards Zonta Club of Kowloon Women Empowerment Support Centre to help
 - Unemployed women in Shatin to set up their business.
- * A donation of computers and accessories was also made to 'The Hang Out' youth centre of Youth Outreach at Sai Wan Ho in 2008.
- * During the biennium of 2010-12, we sponsored several major projects including:
 - "Instill Hope and Promote Care in the Community" project of Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre in Shaueiwan.
 - Donation of \$500,000 to Child Development Matching Fund ("CDMF") for the award of Zonta Club of Kowloon Scholarships to over 100 underprivileged children; Title sponsor for CDMF's fund raising "Sing for the Next Generation Concert" in 2011 and "Whole Town Sing-Along" in 2012



- A sponsorship of \$134,000 was provided to Caritas for the “Hope for Teenage Mother Project” to help teenage mothers who are planning to resume work or study in their near future
- * In 2013-14, the following projects were committed:
 - A funding of \$300,000 was provided to the Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women for a series of educational and art programmes to help advocate “ZontaSays No to Violence Against Women”
 - A donation of \$58,000 was made to Caritas Evergreen Home for the purchase of medical equipment for the elderly
 - A sponsorship of \$100,000 was made towards the project on HPV Vaccination to provide free HPV vaccination to about 70 underprivileged girls aged 9-18 years in Shamsuipo district.
- * We have also worked with the Correctional Services Department to provide services to women inmates over the past years including sponsoring training courses, "Re-provisioning of Parent-Child Centre" at Tai Lam Centre for Women and setting up a Music Room at LoWu Correctional Institution.
- * Other projects included “Respect the Elderly & Achieve Family Harmony Project, donation of \$100,000 to Sichuan Earthquake Victims in 2008 and donation of equipment and educational toys to enrich the Library at Mary Cove School/Centre at Aberdeen.

Z and Golden Z Initiatives Apart from supporting social service projects, our Club has also established Golden Z Clubs in universities and Z Clubs in secondary schools to nurture young women and leaders for our next generation through the award of scholarships & bursaries, and organizing youth development programmes such as Mock Debate in the Legislative Council, Volunteer Training Workshop and Leadership Training Programme. There are two Golden Z Clubs in the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Lingnan University and six Z Clubs in Maryknoll Convent School, Marymount Secondary School, Belilios Public School, Pui Ching Middle School, Queen Elizabeth School and QESOSA Tong Kwok Wah Secondary School.

Fund Raising Our first fund raising programme “First Anniversary and Charity Ball” was held on 26 November 1978 at Holiday Inn Crystal Ballroom. Since then, different variety of fund raising activities were organised every one to two years including charity ball, charity walk, sports academy, gala premiere of opera and movie shows and musical performances.

District and Area Activities The Club has actively participated in various District and Area



activities. In the 10th District 17 Conference held in Hong Kong in 1999, our Club was represented by Ms Teresa Pong as Co-Chair of the Conference. In the 17th District 17 Conference held in Hong Kong in 2013, our Club was represented by Ms Winnie Teoh, District 17 Governor of 2012-14. In the 20th District 17 Conference held in Hong Kong in 2019, our Club was represented by Ms Irene Ho, President 2018-20, with Ms Winnie Teoh, Chair of Closing Dinner, Ms Agnes, Chair of Welcome dinner and Ms Anna Kwong, Chair of Memorial Service. Other members holding International/District/Area titles include Ms Anna Kwong, Past International Director and Past District 17 Governor, and Dr Choy Yuen Chung, Area 2 Director 2016-18, Ms Janice Chan, Vice Area 2 Director-elect for 2014-16, and Ms Julianne Doe, District Secretary 2018-20.

ZI Foundation In each biennium, the Club has supported the Foundation through our Club donation and members' individual and club contributions.

District Awards The Club has also supported the Young Women in Public Affairs Award and Jane M Klausman Women in Business Scholarship programs of ZI for many years by funding local awards. One of our nominees for the YWPA award in 2002-03 Miss Yu Oi Ting was selected as one of the top-10 candidates at district level. In 2012, our JMK Scholarship nominee Miss Sun Meng was selected as the district winner. In 2013, our Club's "Hope for Teenage Mother" project was awarded the District 17 Service Award. In 2019, the Club received two District 17 Governor Awards, namely the Best Centennial Local Service Projects Award and the Centennial Fund Raising Generous Club Donor Gold Award.

(update in Nov 2019)