

## **China Everbright Charitable Foundation Volunteer Team Visits Special Child Care Centre**

On 25 January 2013, a volunteer team from China Everbright Charitable Foundation, made up of 15 China Everbright Limited (“Everbright”) employees, went to the Heep Hong Society’s Chun Shek Centre in Shatin in the New Territories. The team visited children with special needs, who were undergoing professional teaching and treatment at the centre. The children were suffering from a variety of conditions including autism, Asperger syndrome, dyslexia and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (“ADHD”).

The visit was part of a programme to offer children with special needs more opportunities to interact with people and learn the correct attitude and etiquette for getting along with others. At the same time, the volunteers got to know the children better and were able to promote harmony in the community.

To prepare for the visit, Everbright invited tutors from the Heep Hong Society to brief the volunteers and provide professional training that would teach them the skills needed to interact and communicate with the children. On the day of the visit, under the leadership of Tsang Sui Cheong, Frederick, Everbright’s chief risk officer, the volunteers took part in a sing-along, played interactive computer learning games, gave social communication training and shared refreshments with 15 special needs children aged two to six. China Everbright Charitable Foundation donated two iPad tablets to the centre to help the children learn more effectively using computer education software.

After the visit, all the volunteers said that they enjoyed the time spent with the children and parted with great reluctance. Not only did the activity enable the children to learn communication and interaction skills, but it also demonstrated that society cared for them. Through the visit the volunteers learnt more about children with special needs and many of them hoped to visit the centre again to see the children.

Since its foundation in 2008, China Everbright Charitable Foundation has devoted its resources to contributing to the society. Other than supporting social community affairs through donations and sponsorship, the foundation also encourages Everbright’s staff to engage in community service and give a helping hand to those in need by volunteering. More details can be found on the “Corporate Social Responsibility” section of the company’s website.

### **Introduction to the Heep Hong Society**

Established in 1963, the Heep Hong Society is a non-profit social service organisation providing professional training and treatment services to children with learning and developmental problems, including autism, Asperger syndrome, dyslexia and ADHD, from birth until the time they enter junior secondary school. The Heep Hong Society now has over 30 service units, including 14 special childcare centres, 12 early education and training centres, five parent resource centres, a healthy kids nursery school and a supportive learning project. Each year it helps over 6,000 families.

