

## **"Project Companion", a charitable project sponsored by Everbright, provides training and support following the Kunshan incident**

In 2012, China Everbright Charitable Foundation and Social Workers Across Borders jointly established "Project Companion", which aims to provide crisis management and counselling training for post-disaster support to social workers in mainland China. Over 500 people have benefited from "Project Companion" in the past two years. The project has been welcomed by local academic institutions and social service organisations, and gained support from local governments.

On 2 August 2014, an explosion caused by dust killed 71 people and injured nearly 200 in Kunshan, Jiangsu. Immediately after the incident, Social Workers Across Borders provided four days of on-site training, focusing on the skills required for emergency intervention, admission visits, companionship, grief counselling and more. Both local government employees and members of the community actively supported and participated in the training.

Since 2004, Social Workers Across Borders has provided emotional and spiritual support to victims of many natural disasters, including the 5.12 Wenchuan earthquake, the Qinghai earthquake, typhoons in Taiwan, flooding in the Philippines, and a major fire in Shanghai.

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### **Everbright Charitable Foundation**

Since 2009, the Everbright Charitable Foundation has sustainably sponsored a number of social service projects including: “The Everbright Project”, jointly launched with Caritas Family Crisis Support Centre to provide community services targeting Hong Kong’s middle class; “Project Companion – Professional Social Workers in Greater China Scheme”, jointly established with Social Workers Across Borders to train professional social workers in the Mainland; “Everbright Teachers’ Heritage Discovery Tour” organised by Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers to provide Hong Kong teachers travelling opportunities to the Mainland China cities for experiencing and learning China culture and history, as well as many other charity programmes.

For details, please visit: <http://www.everbright165.com/CorporateSocialResponsibility/CECF>

### **Social Workers Across Borders Limited**

Social Workers Across Borders Limited (SWAB) is a humanitarian care organization established in 2006 in Hong Kong. They focus on providing emotional and spiritual support for victims of nature disasters and developing social work projects. Their long term services are mostly stationed in Mainland China at the moment. It is an independent organization irrespective of political affiliation, race, religion or nationality. They share the belief of “Borderless Humanity” by organizing voluntary services of professional social workers for communities and victims suffering from disasters.

<http://www.swab.org.hk/>