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P I N G & A M Y C H A O  
F A M I L Y F O U N D A T I O N

## Chao Foundation and Transparent Fish Fund Grant \$32,075 to Support Underprivileged Mothers and Children in East Asia

**Social Worker Support Project and Smart Mom Program Will  
Help Families in Gansu and Hong Kong**

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**LOS ALTOS, Calif.**—Chao Foundation and Transparent Fish Fund are pleased to announce a new grant of \$35,075 to Changing Young Lives to support left-behind children in Gansu, China and underprivileged mothers in Hong Kong.

Changing Young Lives will use \$19,325 of the grant for the Social Worker Support Project, which supports left-behind children in Dahu, Gansu. They will use \$15,750 for the Smart Mom Program, which promotes family cohesiveness for underprivileged mothers and children in Hong Kong.

### **Social Worker Support Project**

Gansu is one of the poorest provinces in China and is highly dependent on agriculture. The rapid development in China has spurred a large number of rural residents to migrate from their hometown to urban areas for better jobs and income opportunities. The children who have been left in the hometown with a caregiver (most of the time, their grandparents) are identified as left-behind children.

The locals in the town of Dahu, Gansu, are of the Dongxiang ethnic minority and have their own language. In one of the villages, 93% of the children have been left behind. Since these children are confined to the village, they lack goals and life direction.

The Social Worker Support Project aims to directly support the psychosocial wellbeing of 90 left-behind students at 2 schools. The social workers in this pilot project will provide counseling services and other tailored extra-curricular activities in the school curriculum for a year, helping the students improve self-confidence and increase their motivation to learn.



### **Smart Mom Program**

In Hong Kong, underprivileged mothers who live in impoverished districts are greatly in need of psychosocial support to improve their personal wellbeing and family relationships. Many of them live on government subsidies because they are new immigrants with no education, low income, and little social skills. These hardships affect not only themselves, but also their children.

The Smart Mom Program provides various meaningful activities, such as computer and cooking classes for self-enhancement, parenting workshops for life-long learning and mutual support, and parent-child play sessions to help improve parent-child communication skills.

The grant for this program will benefit at least 100 mothers with children under the age of 12 who live in Pak Tin Estate and neighboring districts. New arrival mothers and single mothers will be prioritized. The participants will be equipped with practical skills and a social support network to enhance their family lives.

### ***About Chao Foundation***

*Chao Foundation was founded in California's Silicon Valley in 2005 by Ping and Amy Chao. The foundation was established to fund nonprofit and public welfare initiatives that (1) improve children's health in developing countries; and (2) nurture a spirit of philanthropy among the younger generation in China and of the greater Chinese Diaspora. While the Chao Foundation is based in the Bay Area and has local projects, many of its programs focus on developing countries in East Asia.*

### ***About Transparent Fish Fund***

*Transparent Fish Fund is a 501(c)(3) US nonprofit organization founded in 2011 in Palo Alto, California, established exclusively for charitable purposes to connect credible East Asian NGOs with individuals from the West. The greater mission behind this work is to foster a sustainable long-term NGO culture in East Asia, and in doing so, spread a global spirit of philanthropy.*

### ***About Changing Young Lives Foundation***

*Changing Young Lives Foundation reaches out to underprivileged youth to enhance their lives through educational, developmental, and psychosocial programs, which are provided free to beneficiaries. Their learning center is located in the Shek Kip Mei, Sham Shui Po area, which is the poorest district in Hong Kong. They have also rebuilt and maintained 21 schools in mainland China.*

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