

Mr Chris Yeung Wai-kee

Mr Chris Yeung is the founder of Silver Lining Foundation. The contributions of Mr Yeung and his wife, Lydia, to the alleviation of poverty as well as their assistance of disabled people and vulnerable groups have created a legend in charity work.

In 1998, Mr Yeung emigrated to the US with his family. In 2003, he became a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer, living in Silicon Valley and working in the field of computer technology. In 2005, he moved to Nanning, Guangxi in mainland China with his family to start his charity work, giving up his comfortable and secure life. The problems he had to overcome were the warm weather, language differences and his children's education, apart from the uncertainties in fundraising. With his determination, optimism and passion for charity work, Mr Yeung resolutely embarked on his poverty relief work in the mountainous areas of Nanning with his first donation of \$1,000, and \$700,000 of seed funding from fundraising.

The Silver Lining Foundation led by Mr Yeung is characterised by an empathy for humanity. It is dedicated to helping poverty-stricken people in mountainous areas, with the goal of improving the education and health of children there and providing them with daily necessities. The motto “inspiring lives with lives” is what he has lived by and put into practice. With his sincerity and love for mankind, he helps orphans and the destitute, hoping that their lives could be improved and their futures be changed. More importantly, he wants to restore dignity and hope in the lives of those marginalised in society, thereby spreading truth, goodness and beauty in humanity.

Emphasising the idea of “walking together” in his poverty relief work, Mr Yeung never gave up on impoverished children. The idea of “togetherness, rain or shine” is powerful and appealing, and has helped his team develop further while benefiting more people in need. In 2007, two years after moving to Nanning, the Silver Lining Foundation was officially established and the Silver Lining Studio was launched. In 2008, emergency medical funds were set up to provide proper and timely treatment for children suffering from cerebral palsy and other disabilities. In 2009, the Silver Lining Foundation was registered as a charity in Hong Kong. In 2011, the Silver Lining Caring Centre started to operate officially.

Mr Yeung is particularly concerned about the lives of orphans in Nanning. When he worked for World Vision, he was overwhelmed by compassion for the plight of children being abandoned by parents due to physical disabilities or destitution. Since then, orphans have become the focus of his poverty relief work. He hopes to provide a home for orphans to help them grow. The caring centre provides family care to the abandoned children. In each “family”, the foster parents are responsible for the upbringing of six children, so that the children can feel the warmth of family and bonding. This arrangement enables the children's psychological and emotional growth. There are nine families in the caring centre, fostering a total of 54 children. In addition to this family-based care, the centre also provides financial assistance to orphans under the care of their relatives, so that they can have access to education, which is one way of improving their lives in the long run.

Since 2009, the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center and Training School began to provide free rehabilitation for children suffering from cerebral palsy. It is meant to relieve the financial burden of parents and prevent

them from abandoning their children, thus alleviating the orphan problem in society. The organisation also started a Special Education Class to provide training to school-age children. In 2012, the rehabilitation centre expanded in order to help more children with special needs. The centre uses conductive education — through task analysis and rhythmic intent — to improve children's motor functions and teach them life skills.

Mr Yeung is a frontline leader in his work for the poor and the vulnerable. He goes to remote mountain villages regularly to visit aided families and schools, in order to understand the needs of schools there and offer necessary assistance. In 2009, Mr Yeung began to pay closer attention to impoverished students from these mountainous areas. In 2010, the centre launched assistance programmes for seven mountain schools. In 2014, funding was provided for mountain schools to build student bathrooms and develop recreational activities, improve student dormitories, and install facilities such as electric fans and computers, benefiting 6,238 students. In the same year, the Silver Lining Caring Centre was established to organise weekend extra-curricular activities for children whose parents had left them behind to work in cities, helping them to grow up with care and guidance.

Mr Yeung hopes that the help offered to orphans and invalids can eventually make them independent and strong. He and his wife set up a handmade accessories workshop for those who received support to make and sell crafts such as crystal ornaments, so that they could earn a living. Some orphans, after they grew up, would come back to serve as tutors, continuing the mission of helping people in need. Moreover, some former beneficiaries have become self-reliant and started their own families, and are now living a wonderful life.

It has been 11 years since the project was launched with a \$1,000 donation in 2005. Mr Yeung's team of two — with the couple as founders — has rapidly grown to nearly 70 people. Behind their success is a heart of humility and gratitude. Mr Yeung considers spiritual wealth to be more important than material prosperity. It is this empathy and compassion for the suffering of others which has impelled him to seek welfare and improvements for orphans and the destitute, helping those in dire straits, and putting into practice his philosophy of “inspiring lives with lives”.

Mr Yeung said, “when you do what you most want to do during the most capable time of your life, you are living a wonderful life.” In line with this view, he also hopes those he has helped can improve their livelihoods and live a wonderful and brilliant life.

Mr Chairman, for his dedication to the charity work of helping the poor and the weak, as well as his contribution to aiding orphans and funding and improving education in mountainous areas, may I present Mr Chris Yeung to you for conferment of an honorary fellowship.

Chinese citation written and delivered by Professor Grace Lau

楊偉基先生

楊偉基先生是雲彩行動的創辦人，他和太太麥燕鳳女士對貧窮、殘疾和弱勢社羣的付出，成就了一個慈善事業上的傳奇。

1998年，楊先生舉家移居美國。2003年，他考獲微軟認證專家頒發系統工程師資格，居於矽谷，任職電腦科技界。2005年，楊先生捨棄舒適、安穩的生活，舉家遠赴南寧，開展慈善工作。克服的不只是天氣酷熱、語言殊異和子女教育等問題，還有籌措經費的未知之數。憑藉堅強的意志、樂觀的態度和對慈善事務的熱誠，楊先生拿着第一筆捐獻：一千元，以及籌款得來的七十萬元起動基金，毅然開展在中國廣西南寧山區的扶貧工作。

楊先生領導的雲彩行動，有着人文關懷的理念。致力援助山區的赤貧階層，以改善大山孩子的教育、健康和生活的所需。「以生命改變生命」的宣言，體驗楊先生身體力行的生命格言。本着真誠和人類的大愛，幫助無依無靠的孩童和貧困者。他希冀受助者的生活得以改善，生命得以改變。更重要的是重建生命的尊嚴和盼望，這就是真善美的發揚。

楊先生在扶貧助弱的工作上，強調「同行」的理念，對貧苦孩童不離不棄。風雨同路的觀念，具感染力和感召力，令同路人的團隊日益壯大，使貧困者受益。2005年，楊先生舉家赴南寧。2007年，正式成立雲彩行動和開設雲彩工作室。2008年，開設緊急醫療基金，為腦癱、殘障等病童提供及時援助。2009年，在香港註冊成立雲彩行動。2011年，雲彩關愛中心正式啓幕。

楊先生特別關注南寧地區孤兒的生活。他在世界宣明會工作時，目睹福利院中，因殘障和家境赤貧被父母拋棄的孤兒之苦況，心生憐憫。孤兒便成為楊先生扶貧助弱工作的主要對象。楊先生希望能給孤兒一個家，助其成長。關愛中心，就是以家庭模式助養無依的孤兒。每個家庭有六位小孩，由代父母照顧，令孤兒在成長中，感受家的溫暖，使他們在心智和情緒上能較健全地成長。關愛中心有九個家庭，共照顧五十四位孤兒。除以家庭模式照顧孤兒外，中心亦資助有親人照顧的孤兒，令他們有接受教育的機會，以及改善生活。

雲彩特殊兒童教育中心在2009年起，開始資助腦癱孩子的康復醫療費用，從而減少父母因沉重負擔而欲放棄照顧孩子，避免造成社會上有更多孩子被遺棄，並開展特殊教學班，讓適齡的孩子有機會接受教育及訓練。2012年，腦癱康復中心擴建，幫助更多有需要的病童。中心採用引導式教育：透過習作分析及節律性意向，誘發兒童的運動機能，及引導兒童學習日常生活所需的技能。

楊先生在扶貧助弱的工作上，擔當領導者及前線工作者的角色。楊先生定期深入山區，探望受助者的家庭和學校，從而了解山區學校所需，並提供協助。2009年，楊先生開始關注山區學校的貧困兒童。2010年，中心在七所山區學校展開資助項目。2014年，為山區學校提供資助，增設學生浴室、康樂活動，並改善學生宿舍，安裝電風扇、電腦等設施，受惠的學童達6,238人。2014年，更成立雲彩兒童成長家園，為留守兒童舉辦周末課餘活動，以關愛和輔導，助留守兒童成長。

楊先生希望透過對孤兒、病弱者的幫助，最終能夠令受助者自立、自強。楊先生和楊太太透過設立手工工場，讓受助者製作和售賣手工製品如水晶飾物，以賺取生活費用。此外，亦有孤兒成長後，回來當助教，延續助人之任。更有受助者自力更生，建立家庭，活出精彩的人生。

由2005年，以一千元捐獻開始，至今十一年，楊先生的團隊，亦由他和太太二人，以創辦者的身份開始，擴展至接近七十人，發展不可謂不迅速。成功的背後，卻有着一顆謙卑和感恩的心。楊先生視心靈的富足，比物質更為重要。就是這顆能感受別人苦難的悲憫和同情心，推動楊先生為孤兒、為赤貧者謀福利、謀改善，實踐救困扶貧，「以生命改變生命」的理念。

楊先生認為：「在生命中最有能力的時候，做最想做的事，就是活得精彩」。本着這個理念，亦希望受助者透過受助，改善生活，活出精彩、燦爛的人生。

主席先生，為表揚楊偉基先生對扶貧助弱慈善事務的熱忱，以及對救助孤兒、資助和改善山區教育的貢獻，本人謹恭請閣下頒授榮譽院士銜予楊偉基先生。

中文贊辭由劉燕萍教授撰寫及宣讀