



傳媒報導
Media Report

今個冬天不再冷

居于大澳的梁拉婆婆，每逢冬天，當北風從海邊吹進屋子，梁婆婆每次洗澡便要忙碌一番，因為她家？沒有熱水爐。透過聖雅各福群會「電器贈長者」計劃，她剛獲增熱水爐及電水壺，為今年的嚴冬添上絲暖意。

94歲的梁拉是獨居長者，大半生都在大澳棚屋度過。10年前她透過社工協助搬到大澳龍田邨公屋居住。由於沒有太多儲蓄，加上唯一的女兒中風入住老人院，梁婆婆只依靠綜援金過活。大澳冬天的溫度比市區低，而且梁婆婆過往住近海邊，寒冷刺骨的海風不時吹進屋內，冬天特別難熬。

梁婆婆家中一直沒有安裝熱水爐，要用水煲煲水洗。經過社工轉介，梁婆婆參加了聖雅各福群會「電器贈長者」計劃，日前終於獲贈電熱水爐及電水壺。梁婆婆從社工手中接過電水壺時臉上露出笑容，回答問題時卻顯得十分害羞，只懂笑，說：「我已經很老了，連自己幾歲都忘記了，我現在好似傻傻咗咁！」

聖雅各福群會「電器贈長者」計劃由2002年開始推行，服務對象為60歲以上、領取綜援金的獨居長者。該計劃沒有得到任何資助，只靠捐獻品轉贈老人或用聖雅各福群會的捐款來購買電器用品。

「電器贈長者」計劃的負責人陳炳麟稱，現在最需要的是電熱水爐，「因為它比其他家電器都要昂貴，最便宜的低壓電熱水爐也要千多元。」他指近年因為個案的增加，需要獲贈的電器用品數目亦逐年上升。

欲捐出電器或直接捐款的市民，可致電8107 8324與聖雅各福群會聯絡。



This winter cold no more

Ms Leung Lai, a resident of Tai O, saw bathing herself an ordeal when the northerly wind blows in her house in winter since she did not have a water-heater. She was just given a water-heater and an electric thermos flask from St. James' EAE Program. Those appliances will bring warmth into her living quarters in the midst of this cold winter.

The 94-year-old Ms. Leung lives by herself. She spent most of her life in Tai O scaffold houses. She moved to the Lung Tin Estate in Tai O through the help of a social worker 10 years earlier. Ms Leung lives on the CSSA Scheme because she has little savings and her only daughter lives in an elderly home after a stroke. Winters in Tai O are colder than in urban areas. Besides, she lives near the sea. When the chilly sea wind blows into her unit from time to time, Ms Leung finds the winter days particularly hard to bear.

Ms Leung could not afford a water-heater. When she needed a bath, she boiled water in a kettle for that purpose. She applied to St. James' EAE Program by referral. She received an electric water-heater and an electric thermos flask a few days earlier. Ms Leung smiled as she took over the electric thermos flask from the social worker. She was shy in answering questions. She just kept on grinning, "I'm very old. I don't even remember how old I'm. I'm so pleased that I'm lost for words."

The EAE Program of St. James' was set up in 2002. It targets at serving the elderly who are 60-year-old and above and who live alone and receive the CSSA Scheme. The EAE Program does not receive any government subsidy. It operates on donated items or public donations to purchase electrical appliances. Mr. Chan Ping-lun, officer in charge of the EAE Program, disclosed that the Program is badly in need of electric water-heaters. "They are more expensive than other electrical appliances. The cheapest low-voltage electric water-heater costs over a thousand dollars." He went on to say that as the number of cases had increased in recent years, the number of electrical appliances given away also increased.

If you are interested in donating electrical appliances or making a cash donations, you are welcome to dial 8107-8324 to get in touch with St. James' Settlement.

梁婆婆接過電熱水壺後，歡喜非常。
Ms Leung is extremely pleased to take over the electric thermos flask.



義工的話

Volunteer's Remark

多謝

善長及街坊的幫忙

我叫錢嘉欣，在《電器贈長者》計劃做探訪義工，轉眼間差不多已經三年，當中真是感受良多，發覺貧困無依長者得可改善生活，實有賴大家熱情參與的結果。

首先在探訪過程中，遇我們不能到訪爽約的長者時，很多大廈管理員因知道那些長者出入家居的時間及行踪，如到附近公園閒坐或老人中心參加活動，因為得到他們的幫忙，而可令我們輕易地找到忘記了約會的長者，使我們不再用上門探訪審核。

很多長者的鄰居亦會提供一些資料，使我們更能掌握長者的困難及需要，如協助溝通，講解長者的生活情況，以助我們作出適切的判斷。

最近遇到一個個案，我們送出了一部電視機給一位患有長期病患者的長者，可惜因他的居所缺乏電視接收天線，致電視機不能運作，而要令義工將電視機拿起！大家知道那部電視機對那位獨居長者有多重要嗎？每當他病發時，他只能坐在一間40呎的房中，拿着呼吸機坐上18小時以「活命」時，對伯伯不但是一種精神折磨，而且日常生活更是孤寂無聲。

幸好得到一位善心人士捐款支持，助我們可購買電視機天線、接收排骨、放大器、安裝費用等支出共一仟多元；很高興當我們往元洲街一間店舖，聘請師傅安裝時，該店的老板原來她也同樣喜歡幫助人，當了解了我們的服務和長者的情況後，只是收了我們一點安裝費用，以示對我們的支持和對長者的一份心意和關懷。

因為得到她的幫助而令我們可以把剩餘的善款，幫到更多有需要的人，也因為她的鼓勵，而令我們有更多的動力去幫助別人。所謂聚沙成塔、匯川成河、當所有自己覺得微不足道的力量加在一齊時，其實大家更可幫助了很多很多無助老者，所以我也藉此多謝每位熱心朋友的幫忙，祝大家生活愉快！



Thanks

to the Donors and Neighbours

My name is April Chin. I have been a volunteer visitor of the "Electric Appliances for the Elderly" Program for almost three years. This has given me a lot of revelations. I realized that improvement of the livelihood of the poor, lonely elderlies really relies on the participation of the whole community.

First, during my visits, when some elderlies had forgotten about the appointment and gone out, most of the watchmen would know about their whereabouts and would help us to locate them easily, such as in parks or elderly centres, so that we wouldn't need to make a revisit.

The elderlies' neighbours would also be able to provide information which enabled us to know more about their needs and difficulties, such as by helping them to communicate or explaining their living conditions to us, so that we can make suitable judgments.

There was a recent case in which we gave out a TV to an elderly who suffered from chronic diseases. However, because he didn't have an antenna in his home, the TV didn't work, and as a result the volunteer had to return the TV to the centre. But do you know how important the TV was to the old man? Every time he felt sick, he had to stay in a 40-square-foot room, sitting in his chair for over 18 hours with a respirator. This was not only a suffering for him ... he was all so lonely!

Fortunately, someone made a donation to support us to buy an antenna and an amplifier for the old man, and also to pay for the installation fee, totally over \$1,000. We were so happy that when we went to a shop in Yuen Chow Street to hire a mechanic, the shop owner also showed us support by charging only a nominal fee after learning about our service and the elderly's situation. She was also a person who enjoys helping others.

Because of her help, we saved the money to help others who were also needy. And with her encouragement, we became even more motivated to help others. We realized that the tiny contribution of each helper can add up to a great force, which can then help a lot of poor, helpless elderlies. I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every donor and helper – wish you all the best!

「多謝店主的幫忙，鼓勵我們為長者服務。」
年青的錢嘉欣說。

"Thanks to the shop owner's help, which motivated us to work even harder for the elderlies," said Chin Kar Yan.