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Press Release

200 Participants Join Walk for Vision 2014 HKSH Village Volunteers Stepping up Momentum in Volunteering

(17 March 2014 – Hong Kong) Over 200 participants joined Walk for Vision 2014 held on 16 March (Sunday), the annual fund-raising event of Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital (HKSH). This year, a total of HK\$358,000 was raised for a renovation project of Ronald McDonald House (RMH) to support the families of children with serious illness.

Walk for Vision, organised by HKSH Village Volunteers, is mainly supported by hospital staff, their families and friends. Dr. Allan ZEMAN, Member of the Clinical Governance Committee of HKSH, gave full support of the event and officiated at the kick off ceremony together with Dr. Walton LI, Medical Superintendent of HKSH, Dr. Joseph CHAN, Deputy Medical Superintendent and Chairman of HKSH Village Volunteers, and Ms. Iris WONG, Executive Director of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Hong Kong (RMHC-HK).

Dr. Walton LI noted that, "Quality in Service Excellence in Care" is the service motto of the hospital. While the hospital is committed to providing medical excellence to patients, it also cares for the community and needs of the underprivileged. The funds raised at this year's walkathon will support the renovation project of RMHC-HK in providing a new children's play area, a more comfortable dining area and family lounge for families to better take care of children with sickness during their temporary stay at Ronald McDonald House in Shatin.

Starting from HKSH, the 11-km walkathon route passes through Sing Woo Road, Tai Hang Road, Wong Nai Chung Gap Road and Violet Hill, routing back to HKSH. About half of the participants teamed up in a group of four to take part in the Circle Rally of about 3.5 km at the timed section. Support was also rallied from the hospital's partners and friends including School of Nursing of The University of Hong Kong, Department of Surgery of the University of Hong Kong, Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Limited and GE Healthcare Limited who sent teams to run for a good cause.

In its sixth year, Walk for Vision has raised over HK\$3 million to support various medicine-related organisations. At the ceremony, Ms. Priscilla YU, board member of Ronald McDonald House

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Charities of Hong Kong, thanked HKSH Village Volunteers for the generous support and received the cheque together with Mr. Ryan HUI, from Dr. Joseph CHAN and Dr. Ava KWONG, wife of Dr. Walton LI, Medical Superintendent of HKSH.

HKSH Village Volunteers Going from Strength to Strength to Care for the Community

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr. Joseph CHAN, Deputy Medical Superintendent of HKSH and Chairman of HKSH Village Volunteers, said: "Over the past few years, our volunteer team has grown in size with more than 200 staff joining in the team, while we are also expanding on the scope of services we provide – apart from fundraising, our volunteers also serve the needy with our expertise."

The volunteer team also marks a new era of service with a new service logo which shows volunteers serving the community hand in hand. "Our volunteer team will serve with six main programmes targeting for different sectors of the community, including "HKSH Health Buddies" for Tung Chung families, "HKSH Health Talk" for schools and the community, "HKSH Dementia Friends" for dementia patients and "HKSH Trekkers" supporting various fundraising objectives, such as Oxfam's Trailwalk and Green Power Hike, etc.," said Dr. Chan.

Meanwhile, HKSH has been awarded Caring Company logo again in 2013/2014 by The Hong Kong Council of Social Service for its sustained CSR (corporate social responsibility) participation.

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About Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital

Hong Kong Sanatorium & Hospital is one of the leading private hospitals in Hong Kong. With the motto Quality in Service Excellence in Care", the Hospital is committed to service the public as well as promoting medical education and research.

About HKSH Village Volunteers

Established in April 2009, the HKSH Village Volunteers, which consists of HKSH staff members, doctors, nursing students, alumni of the School of Nursing and retired staff, has been taking part in

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various community and fundraising activities in order to promote the health and wellness of people in Hong Kong through care and love. Two main fundraising events are the annual Walkathon "Walk for Vision: and "Operation Santa Claus". In recent years, more volunteer programs and services have been developed such as "HKSH Dementia Friends", "HKSH Health Talk", and "HKSH Health Buddies" programmes. Collaboration organisations include Ebenezer New Hope School, Ripple Action, Enlighten and St. James' Settlement.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities of Hong Kong®

Ronald McDonald House is the cornerstone project of Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC), which is a not-for-profit making organization. The House offers a temporary shelter for families with seriously ill children. Only a 4-minute walk from the Prince of Wales Hospital in Shatin, the House provides comprehensive facilities including 22 bedrooms, kitchen, library, computer room, dining room as well as an isolation suite specially for child after bone marrow transplant operation. Nearly 70% of children are cancer patients. Apart from just taking care of their own children, the families staying at the House also support each other to pass over the stressful time of medical treatment. This "home-away-from-home: provides assistance with full of love and care. RMHC will develop more programmes that improve the health and well-being of children.

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Photos:

1. "Walk for Vision" organised by HKSH Village Volunteers this year raises funds for RMHC. The kick-off ceremony was held at the entrance of Li Shu Fan Block by Dr. Walton LI, Medical Superintendent of HKSH, Dr. Joseph Chan, Deputy Medical Superintendent of HKSH and Chairman of HKSH Village Volunteers, Dr. Allan ZEMAN, Member of the Clinical Governance Committee of HKSH, Ms. Iris Wong, Executive Director of RMHC and members of Hospital Management Committee.





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2. (From left) Dr. Ava Kwong, wife of Dr. Walton LI, Medical Superintendent of HKSH and Dr. Joseph Chan, Deputy Medical Superintendent of HKSH and Chairman of HKSH Village Volunteers, presented the cheque of pledged donation of HK\$\$358,000 to Ms. Priscilla Yu, member of the Board of Directors of RMHC-HK and Mr. Ryan Hui.



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HKSH Village Volunteers shout cheers for the participants of Circle Rally at the Violet Hill









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Volunteers and Winners of Walk for Vision 2014 4.



5. HKSH Village Volunteers mark a new era of service with a new service logo.

