

The Goal of True Education

Bringing character education to Hong Kong and China

We Caught Him...

Zack is a regular at the HOPE worldwide Centre for Kids. He comes in for homework tutoring, goes on educational outings, and occasionally participates in special programmes. Sometimes Zack hangs out at the centre, playing with the toys on the shelves.

One day, we caught him...doing something right.

Zack was not only putting the toy he was playing back in its place, but he also saw that someone else had left a toy lying around. Zack picked up the toy and returned it to its proper place.

Often it is the little things that reflect a person's character. When Zack was first coming to the centre, we would not have expected this from him. Zack has learned what it means to be responsible.

Creating Changes

Responsibility is one of the "Six Pillars of Character" we work on instilling into the children who come to our centre. The other five are trustworthiness, respect,

caaring, citizenship, and fairness. By supporting HOPE worldwide, you are bringing the Character Success Education Programme to the underprivileged in Hong Kong and China. In 2009, we became a coalition member of Character Counts!, the biggest character education programme in the USA. Thanks to you, we were able to send 2 staff to attend their training, as well as translate and adapt their curriculum for our use in the local context. For the past two years, we have been steadily threading the curriculum into many of the programmes and activities at our Centre for Kids, and seeing encouraging results.



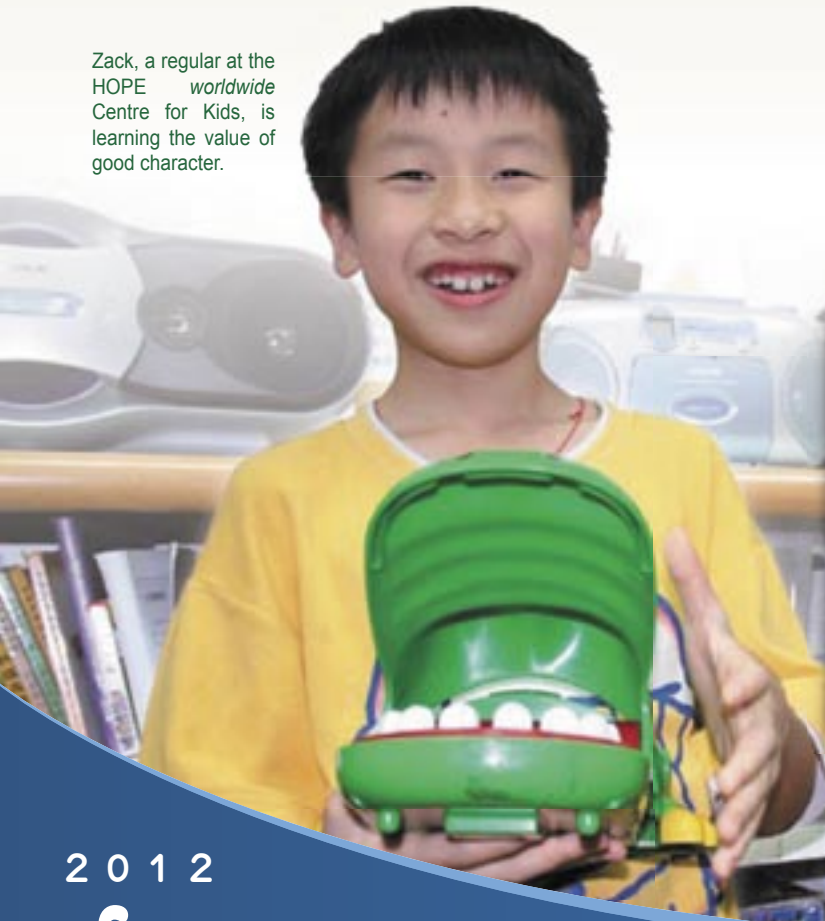
We translated and adapted the curriculum from Character Counts! for the local context.

We invite you to read on for some snippets of what's been happening to the children whose lives you are changing. We also want to extend our gratitude to the Sedan Chair Charities Fund, the Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged, and most recently, GeneroCity Hong Kong, founded by sisters Andrea and Christine Ma. Thank you for believing in us and the programme when it was still in its early stages of development. Building character in children takes time and patience before we can see obvious results. But in the end, we know it's well worth the effort.

We are seeing encouraging results in our centre members as we incorporate the Six Pillars of Character into our activities.



Zack, a regular at the HOPE worldwide Centre for Kids, is learning the value of good character.



2012

Summer NEWSLETTER

Snippets from Hong Kong



By Gloria Yau, Programme Manager

The English with Character Community Programme held a party for the kids and their parents. The theme of the day was “caring”, one of the Six Pillars of Character. Each child pretended he/she had a physical challenge (blind, deaf, mute, limb defects, etc). They had to help each other accomplish a certain task. The children learned that although all of us have imperfections, if we would help each other, we can accomplish a lot.

No party is complete without food. After the games and sharing and eating, some of the kids initiated to help clean up the centre. One kid who is usually fairly lazy initiated to take out the rubbish and mop the floor. Everybody happily pitched in and made the centre wonderfully clean again.

It looks like they learned something after all!



Kids initiated to clean up the centre after one of the lessons and parties.



It looks like they learned something after all!



By Justin Chen, Social Worker

One of the families I work with has two kids, an older sister in the 6th grade and a younger boy in the 4th grade. When they first came, their mother was going through a divorce and the kids had a lot of issues to deal with. The older sister was vying for attention with her younger brother. The mom did not know how to deal with it. At the centre, the kids received homework tutoring, character-building classes and activities. The mother attended several parenting workshops.

Over time, their mother began to tell us that the older sister had started to help more at home, even with taking care of her younger brother. We noticed that the younger boy was growing in his confidence. During one of the last few sessions about character-building, the boy was the first to raise his hand and share. He remembered many of the lessons we had taught him and had a lot to say about what good character is!





By Alexa Liu, Communications Director

One day as I stepped out of the washroom, I saw an older boy taking a small young girl by her shoulders and escorting her to the water cooler. "Get a cup and get some water, quick!" She did so. He then half pulled her to the washroom sink and ordered her to rinse her mouth. He then bent over, looked into her mouth and announced, "It's OK now." She had lost a tooth (just the age to be losing her baby teeth) and a little bit of blood had come out. They were in the middle of the homework tutorial session when this happened. I was so impressed by him and praised him for being so caring. He did not say anything, but I could almost tell that he was walking a little straighter and holding his head a little higher as they headed back into the classroom.



At the centre, the older kids learn to care for the younger ones.

Snippet from China

We have taken the curriculum in the Character Success Programme and started to implement it at the HOPE *worldwide* Centre for Kids in two cities in China. Children of poor migrant workers receive sponsorships and tutoring and participate in after-school activities through our centres. Whether they are playing basketball or touching computer keyboards for the first time, they are learning new skills and building strong character. In Kunming, one young girl shared with us what she gained from coming to the computer class at our centre there.

"During the computer class, not only do I get to know teachers and fellow students I did not know before, but I also learn how to get along with others.

I am learning how to be concerned for others—how to pay attention to other people's feelings. I am learning that I need to humbly accept other people's input, be tolerant of other's shortcomings and accept our differences. I need to live in harmony with the world."



Character education in action in China. Kids learn to be concerned for others as they learn computer skills.

I am very happy that I came to this class. I am grateful to these teachers for teaching me how to be a good person."

This young girl is just one of hundreds of children whose lives are being changed because of your generous support for HOPE *worldwide*!



Thanks a million!



All the work that goes on at the HOPE *worldwide* Centre for Kids cannot happen without the partnership between staff, volunteers and generous donors. Thank you all who have volunteered or sent volunteers to us. Your presence speaks volumes to our kids that you care. We also thank the following entities and individuals for your financial and in-kind support.

- Ms. Andrea Ma
- Barclays Capital Diversity Charity Event
- CPA Australia
- Ms. Christine Ma
- Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau
- Consulate General of Finland, Hong Kong
- Disney ABC Television Ltd.
- Education Bureau District-based After-School Learning and Support Programmes
- FIL Investment Management (Hong Kong) Limited
- Goldman Sachs
- Hong Kong Church of Christ
- Li Ka Shing Foundation
- Love Ideas ♥ HK Public Philanthropic Campaign
- Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged
- Sedan Chair Charities Fund
- The Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation Limited
- The Plasticsam Limited
- United Asia Finance Ltd.
- United Way Worldwide grant on behalf of the generosity of Target Foundation
- Worldwide Executive Centre





Let's Do Some Good!

Volunteering Opportunities in Hong Kong

If you are positive, energetic, or simply like kids, or you want something meaningful for your older kids to do during their summer holidays, these are just some of the volunteering opportunities for the next few months. **There are many more!** For inquiry, call 2776-6829, or email enquiry@hopeww.org.hk, or watch for updates on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hopewwhk.



Date	Time	Programme	The good you will do
August 14 – 17	10 am – 11 am	English story time	Help our centre members with their English listening skills. Use our multi-media equipment to read English stories to them.
August 14 – 17	11:15 am – 12:45 pm	Learn English while playing video games	Join our most popular program. Assist the kids while they play games and complete their worksheets.
August 20 – 23	10 am – 11 am	Junior Master Chef	Assist our centre members as they take their first step to become the next Junior Master Chef.
September 8 – 29 (Saturdays)	10 am – 11 am	Get creative with beads	Join our centre members and their parents to create beautiful beaded jewelry.
September 29	10 am – 2 pm	Outing to Tao Heung Museum of Food Culture	You are what you eat. Find out who we are by looking at what we eat at HK's only Museum of Food Culture.
August 14 – 17	Various hours	Host visiting students from Gansu Province	Help host 20 secondary students from Gansu. Various activities.



If you are good at expressing love and concern, there are many single elderly in Hong Kong who need you. We provide the necessary training. Contact Fanny Yeung at 3757-8020 or email her at fannyyeung@hopeww.org.hk for details. Also check our Facebook page for last minute volunteering opportunities at www.facebook.com/hopewwhk

Date	Time	Programme	The good you will do
August – September	8 Saturdays and/or Sundays, 1:30 – 6 pm	Elderly: Be Healthy. Be Happy	Use a simple tool to assess elderly's risk for falls, educate them about fall prevention. Program takes place in various districts in Kowloon.
September – October	8 Saturdays and/or Sundays, 1:30 – 6 pm	Elderly Fall Prevention Day	Use a simple tool to assess elderly's risk for falls, educate them about fall prevention. Program takes place in public housing estates.

Volunteering Trips to China

If you don't mind traveling tough (just a little) and simple accommodations, come and experience China's countryside and also do some good. Interested? Call or email Christina Chan at 2915-3992, knchan@hopeww.org.hk.

Dec 25 – 30, 2012

Yunnan Province (Tentative)

International Volunteering Trips

For inquiry, email or call Elexa Liu at 2885-0439, elexaliu@hopeww.org.hk

October 13 – 20, 2012

Singles Volunteer Corps in Haiti





International Story

This is our regular feature, bringing you good news from other parts of the world.

Fine Young Man Raises Awareness and Funds for Orphans

By Mark Ottenweller

(Dr. Mark Ottenweller is a physician who spent many years helping the poor in parts of Africa. He now continues his passion of helping the poor from HOPE worldwide's US headquarters office.)

I want to share the story of Nick Shoff, an amazing young man, who has done so much to help orphans in Africa through basketball. Over the past 20 years, I have met and worked with many heroes such as Nelson Mandela, Graca Machel, and President Bill Clinton, but Nick is unique because of his determination at such a young age to help others.

Nick began to organize basketball tournaments for orphans due to AIDS in the Mukuru slums of Kenya at his middle school in Ridgefield, Connecticut, when he was only 13 years old. He has worked for the last five years to raise awareness about the needs of Africa's orphans with 1,200 local students. So far, he has raised US\$18,000 for these orphans through engaging 500 students in his JamQuest basketball program.



Thanks to Nick, these orphans' lives are being changed!

Now a high school senior, Nick hopes to expand the program to include colleges and universities when he graduates. His last high school tournament was on April 27, 2012 in Ridgefield, Connecticut. **His goal this year is to raise US\$20,000.** Last we heard, he had already raised US\$12,000.

It is amazing to see what a difference one person can make in the lives of orphans in Africa.



Participants, young and old, bring hope to orphans in Africa.

Nick Shoff (2nd from left) raises awareness and funds for orphans in Africa through basketball.



HOPE
worldwide
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