

# **The Hong Kong Lasallian Mission Fund**

## **Establishment of the Hong Kong Lasallian Mission Fund**

The Hong Kong Lasallian Mission Fund (the Fund) was established in March 2012 by the Hong Kong Lasallian Education Council (HKLEC) under the auspices of the De La Salle Brothers in Hong Kong (the Brothers).

## **Purpose and Scope of the Fund**

2. The primary purpose of the Fund is to support the programme and work of the Brothers, with the help and support of their lay partners. The Brothers operate five secondary and three primary schools in Hong Kong. They also undertake a range of educational and formation programmes for young people both inside and outside the schools.

3. The Fund is not normally used for activities where there are established sources of funding e.g. school programmes or operations funded by the government or by the respective school organisations (Parent-Teacher Associations/Alumni Associations etc). The Fund is primarily used to supplement resources needed for educational and formation activities in schools and educational centres run by the Brothers. The HKLEC is the authority for determining whether a particular project should be covered by the Fund.

4. The following programmes are expected to fall within the ambit of the Fund:

- (a) formation activities including those run by or for the Hong Kong Lasallian Education Council, the Asia Pacific Lasallian Educators' Congress Hong Kong (APLECHK), the Hong Kong Lasallian Youth Movement, and the Lasallian Volunteers; and
- (b) projects for the needy in Hong Kong, in Mainland China and in other places, run by or in the name of the De La Salle Brothers.

## **Sources of Funding**

5. The Fund will at the outset take over some of the assets of the former Hong Kong Lasallian Formation Fund and the Asia Pacific Lasallian Educators' Congress Hong Kong. These amount to about HK\$300,000. Additions to the Fund will come from donations or specific fund-raising programmes mounted by the HKLEC. Donations to the Fund qualify for tax exemption as approved by the Hong Kong Inland Revenue Department.

6. It is not envisaged that fund raising activities will be mounted too often. One possibility is to run an annual raffle within the Lasallian Family to both project the image of the HKLEC and publicize the programmes of the Brothers as well as to generate some income for the Fund.

## **Priorities for Funding Support for 2012-13**

7. For 2012-13, the HKLEC has proposed the following priorities for funding support by the Fund:

(a) **De La Salle Secondary School's (DLSSS) Student Support Programmes**

DLSSS has a student population of 559 in 2012-13. Among them are 93 students who come in daily from across the border for schooling and 170 who arrived in Hong Kong from Mainland China in the past few years. They all need extra support given their special socio-economic background and shallow Hong Kong link.

The support programmes include free school bus service (estimated to cost \$200,000 annually) for F1 students, free lunch box, school uniforms for students in need and one-off financial support in special cases.

The De La Salle Alumni Association is providing as much help as possible for these extra support programmes for the poor and needy students. To show our solidarity for the Lasallian cause, we propose lending our support and contribution to such activities.

(b) **Bro David Liao's La Salle Study Centre (LSSC) in Changjiao, Dabu, China**

Bro David Liao, a retired De La Salle Brother from Malaysia, is single-handedly operating a free study centre in English for children in his native village of Changjiao in Meixin, Guangdong.

This project has been in operation since 2002 and is going strong. Continuous financial and manpower support is needed for this project. Individual members and groups of the Hong Kong Lasallian Family have been providing very strong support for the project. The recurrent budget of the LSSC is in the region of RMB 150,000 – 200,000 annually.

(c) **The Bamboo School Project, Thailand**

The De La Salle Brothers in Thailand and the Lasallian Family there have since 2008 been providing education services to about 300 refugee children in the Thai/Myanmese border under the Bamboo School Project. The demand for school places is growing all the time. The Project desperately needs support to acquire a new school bus to cater for the growing number of students. The Hong Kong Lasallian Alumni groups and the Mission Fund have donated US\$20,000 towards this project.

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