



# Work Relief Program

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## I. A Step at a Time—A Peaceful New Year

## II. Mother's Day Dreams Come True Program

### I. A Step at a Time—A Peaceful New Year

During the Chinese New Year holidays, wholesale stores are filled with goods and most people are planning how to spend the festive time with family, but some disadvantaged groups are worried about their next meal. Some, to raise children and make ends meet, are even forced to commit crimes. These people include the rehabilitated who have just been released, family members of inmates, family members of victims, and people who have been unemployed for a long period of time. Taiwan

After-care Association Taipei Branch launched the “A Step at a Time—A Peaceful New Year” Work Relief Program to promote laws and regulations and help the rehabilitated so that they could enjoy a peaceful new year.

The program was held for 16 days over the holiday season from February 1 to March 2, 2007, discounting the holidays. Participants of the program worked 8-hour days at an hourly wage of NT\$100 and were paid according to the actual hours they worked. With full attendance, they could earn up to NT\$12,800. Funding of the program

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1. Authored by Specialist of Taiwan After-Care Association Taipei Branch.



came from deferred prosecution fines paid by criminal defendants. This program originated from the concept of a “soft” judicial system that upholds justice while taking care of the weak. Targeting the needs of disadvantaged groups, necessary jobs were provided so that they not only could make money through their own labor during the Chinese New Year holidays, showing government’s care for the disadvantaged groups, the program also prevented crimes committed by those who were desperate, protecting the safety of the society.

The method of “Work Relief” was used to effectively explore labor potential of disadvantaged groups, eliminate employment barriers, increase employment rate, enhance social productivity, and solve family financial issues. The program borrowed the concept of real estate sales or product marketing, and designed various promotional signs focusing on six major themes—anti-drugs and AIDS, no drunk driving, internet crime prevention, anti-gambling, anti-fraud and the system of



deferred prosecution. The signs were placed at key areas, such as major commercial districts, key intersections, MRT stations, Taiwan Railway stations, and THSR stations. Educational and promotional signs were introduced through the method of embedded marketing so that people could learn related regulations and laws in a more interesting way, achieving the goal of making law more approachable. Using deferred prosecution fines to pay the participants of the program helped them make money through own labor and gain a sense of dignity through the holidays, achieving the goals of social charity and protection of the disadvantaged.

In addition to achieving the objectives

of the program, the design of the program also focused on life education, incorporating sensual and intellectual factors so that participants could learn how to interact with others within their teams and regain confidence in life, discovering the values of life and thus taking the first step toward a life of service. In addition to training them on-duty regulations to ensure quality of work, the program also provided motivational classes, helping to cultivate their abilities to be “happy” and “care for others” so they can turn on the “light switch” in life and brighten up their lives.

To cultivate team cohesion, an anthem, three sets of chants, and six slogans were created. Everyday, the participants would gather at meeting points, line up, count off, chant the slogans, and sing the anthem together. It was prime time to raise the team morale and a good method of promotion as it attracted attention of passersby.

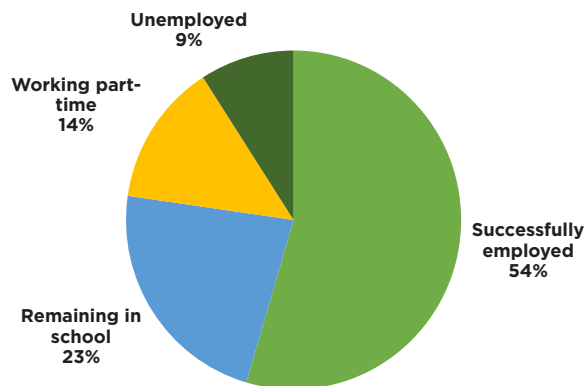
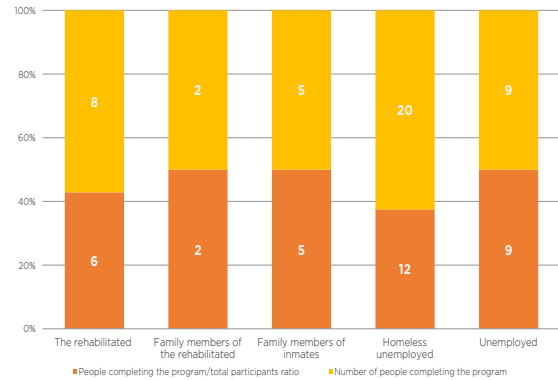
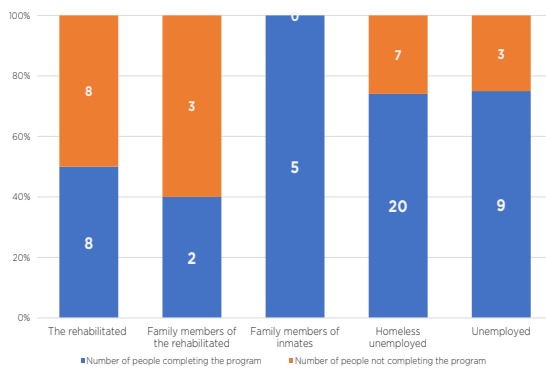
Through the program, disadvantaged persons could reconsider their market value, suitable jobs, and self-positioning, while also enhancing their employ-

ment adaptability and competitiveness so they could return to the workplace as soon as possible. As a result, unemployment rate would drop and social stability would improve. Timely reaching out to those in need could prevent them from having a hard time over the holidays as they shoulder the burden to support the family, which may lead to later social and safety issues, resulting in greater social costs. The unprecedented way of holding educational and promotional signs in streets helped to create marketing bright spots and attract the attention of the media and public. Aside from enhancing the effectiveness of law promotion and education, the program, through media exposure, also triggered the concerns and awareness of enterprises and the public for disadvantaged groups. Furthermore, the program combined deferred prosecution fines and social resources to further enhance the effect and benefit of social welfare.

In each team, a leader and vice-leader were appointed. The captain gave orders and got the participants into formation, whereas the vice-captain was in charge of administrative affairs. Hav-



## Execution Results



The event ran for **16** days, yielding **161** total points of promotion and over **523** shifts.



ing participants run the teams on their own was energy-saving, timesaving, and helped to foster team morale and enthusiasm.

The Agency carried out unprecedented measures, borrowing the concept of real estate sales or product marketing to set up promotional signs focusing on six major themes—anti-drugs and AIDS, no drunk driving, internet crime prevention, anti-gambling, anti-fraud and the deferred prosecution system. The signs were placed at key areas, such as major commercial districts, key intersections, MRT stations, Taiwan Railway stations, and THSR stations. The interesting designs of the signs brought people closer to laws and regulations, reminding people not to violate any laws and achieving the goal of making the law more approachable. This was a ground-breaking effort by the Agency, and as soon as the program was launched, it was immediately recognized and covered by major TV stations and media, including China Times, Liberty Times, BCC, FTV, ETV, PTS, TTV, and CTS. The campaign not only achieved great promotional effects but also helped prosecution agencies establish an excellent image

in the society.

## **II. Mother's Day Dreams Come True Program**

The beautiful month of May is also heart-warming because of Mother's Day. The praise for mother's greatness has never stopped since the day mankind was born. The most beautiful sound in the world are mother's calls; the most beautiful love that makes life eternal would definitely be the maternal love, and the entire society should get together to thank and repay such great love!

In our society, there is a group of mothers who also dedicate quietly to their families and children. However, they may have unfortunately lost someone they love in accidents, so they must carry on with life with great determination in order to survive or must accompany their children, who have once lost their ways around, to right the wrongs and start afresh. Under great pressure from the society, they overcome hardship and fight alone; they endure pains that normal people cannot imagine. To help them ease the pains so that they no longer suffer from loneliness but instead gain the courage to face



challenges in life, the Agency decided to utilize deferred prosecution fines to help them realize their dreams as mothers and celebrate Mother's Day!

The method of "Work Relief" was used to provide disadvantaged groups employment opportunities. In addition to exploring their labor potential, this method also eliminated employment barriers, enhanced social productivity, and prevented them from struggling to keep ends meet, which might lead to later social and safety issues and result in greater social costs. The design of the program created great opportunities for the rehabilitated who are disadvantaged to interact with victims' families so that the prodigal sons in the past would no longer be the pain in mother's heart. With a sincere heart, they now give warmth to other suffering people, overcoming great barriers and gaps. The victims could also learn to accept and let go and realize the society's warmth as they feel love from all around. In this program of "mutual help," they learned to "forgive and understand" one another, to overcome grudges and realize forgiveness.

Using this subversive and creative ap-

proach, disadvantaged persons were no longer just recipients of relief but instead become capable to contribute and turn around to help others in need. This issue had great social value and deserved public and media buzz. Through media exposure, the program also triggered the concerns and awareness from enterprises and the public for disadvantaged groups, redefined the social value of disadvantaged groups, and realized the multiple functions of judicial protection. Combining social resources and deferred prosecution fines, the program aimed to realize the new culture of "soft" judicial system embodied by the diverse values of "uphold justice, foster disadvantaged groups, and enhance human dignity."

#### 1. Target Group

"Dream Achievers" Selection: In accordance to Article 44, 45, 46, 53 and 54 of the Labor Standards Act, R.O.C. citizens between the ages of 16 to 65 who meet the following qualifications were all eligible: the rehabilitated, victim's family members, inmate's family members, unemployed homeless persons, and unemployed persons.

#### 2. "Families Requiring Aid" Nomination

The Association for Victims Support Taipei Branch and other agencies, such as probation offices, nominated struggling families of victims or the rehabilitated in need of aid and support as the recipients of this program.

### 3. Program Execution Plan

Mother's Day "Dream Achievers" were recruited to provide services under the "Families Requiring Aid" program based on the following four themes:

- (1) Wastes Removal: Let go of grudges.
- (2) Painting the Walls: Calm the emotions.
- (3) House Cleaning: Eliminate worries.
- (4) Living Environment Decoration: Welcome the future. (Note: using paper-sculpture "Loving Mother" by the rehabilitated artist Zhou Guang-Zheng as the main material; also, the situations of "Families Requiring Aid" were assessed for grants.)

### 4. Execution

The families receiving aid had piles and piles of household items to sort through, and removal of these wastes and sorting of recyclables were painstaking tasks. During the removal, many food products and medication were

found to be expired and furniture broken. Over 40 bags of wastes were removed after just one day.

The floors of one family was broken and had been repaired over and over again, leaving them looking like a patched-up old rag, worn and uneven. With the Midas touch of the decoration gurus, a new, smooth floor was installed. The light green floor symbolized the budding new vibrancy of the family.

Looking around, the walls were covered with dust and spider webs, and a broom alone was insufficient to remove all these unsightly "decorations." The painting gurus repainted the walls skillfully despite a cluttered work environment and gave the walls a refreshing white look. The floor was broken and uneven, and the old couple occupants often tripped and fell. The Grandma of the house chose light green for the new flooring hoping to inject some new vitality to the house, and the decoration gurus performed the installation.

In one project, Chao's older brother suffered from severe disabilities and had difficulty moving around and taking care of himself. Even on hot and humid days, the family still put a knit cap on



his head to cover his untrimmed hair. It was a great honor that Grandma Liao from another “Family Requiring Aid” was invited to perform her first-ever haircut in life...on a man. Grandma Liao had over 40 years of hairdressing experience, but due to trauma from her past relationships she vowed to never touch a man’s head. However, her determination was softened by the warm, touching emotions brought by the team, and she broke her vow and took a step forward. She deftly performed the haircut for Chao’s brother, and her willingness to help others in need truly touched everyone there.

One of the decorations for the disadvantaged families was an exquisite paper sculpture. It was made by a self-taught the rehabilitated artist, Zhou Guang-Zheng. Zhou was originally a gangster who led a colorful life; he was imprisoned for running sex trades. In prison, he studied paper sculpture; when he was concentrating on the craft, he would go on over 10 hours without drinking or eating. His works touched many people’s hearts in various exhibitions. For this program, he specifically designed a totem of a mother bird feeding her chicks and

decorated the walls of every participating family with this symbol of maternal love. His transformation and his determination serve to be the greatest model for those who were still struggling in society and life.

### Dream Achievers



Wastes Removal Team: 8 Persons



Wall Painting Team: 5 Persons



House Cleaning Team: 9 Persons



Home Decor Team: 4 Persons

Dreams fulfilled for **17** disadvantaged families  
**3** single-parent families, **7** families of the rehabilitated,  
and **7** families of victims



12 May, 2007, Event Seminar  
2 3:19PM



5:31PM  
8 May, 2007

## Execution of “A Step at a Time—A Peaceful New Year”



Upper left: 7 Feb., 2007, Execution at the plaza in front of Red House, Ximen District

Upper right: 7 Feb., 2007, Members Chant Team Slogan and Prepare to Set Out

Lower left: Staff Members Take Turn in the Morning Serving as Pre-Job Instructor

Lower right: 7 Feb., 2007, Execution at the Taipei Main Station





## Execution of Mother's Day Dreams Coming True Program



Upper left: 7-9 May, 2007, Before the renovation of floor

Upper right: Floor has become smooth and even after renovation

Middle: 7-9 May, 2007, Wastes removing

Lower left: 8 May, 2007, Ceiling repairing

Lower right: 10 May, 2007, Haircut for persons with disabilities







〔記者林俊宏／台北報導〕台北地檢署到濟助弱勢美意（見左圖，記者林俊宏與更生保護會台北分會、台北市觀護志攝）。

工協總會及犯罪人保護協會共同策劃「從昨天起至16日、2月26日到3月2日，扣除例假日一共舉辦16天的以工代贖、法制宣導計畫，參加者每天以8小時為限，時薪100元，預計可領到1萬2800元薪資。

從昨天起至16日、2月26日到3月2日，扣除例假日一共舉辦16天的以工代賑、法制宣導計畫，參加者每天以8小時工作為限，時薪100元，預計將可領到1萬2800元薪資。

中華民國九十六年二月二日／星期五

緩起訴處分金當紅包 讓更生人、犯罪被害人及家屬、街友 打工過好年

[illegible]

**酒後駕**

**拒毒抗愛滋 起訴制度**  
只顧心懷不韌者 必受法律制裁

**反對國家徵兵**  
母辱、刑罰

**自力更生**

▲台北街頭響應美國近期反毒品活動的示威者與記者。圖中前排的多個人是犯罪被關入家園，拉斯維加斯的囚犯，都因以毒品為生的買賣而遭政府拘捕而入「收容所」(監獄代稱)的刑徒。(王鏡河攝)

[illegible]

▲周光震製作紙雕，一專心起來可以十幾個小時不吃不喝。（陳志賢攝）

陳雲／專訪

一想到牆上發黃色不黑、紙鮮金漆時時光，周麗最嘆說：「過日子，我不想進來。」

四十九歲上的周麗是一名在無色日子的「抽煙婆」，曾是城上大哥的女兒。在名色日，她打退下運進這地地過了廟生；出獄後，決定以紙友朋過結為終生的事業。周麗不諱言：他曾與左關過賭場、色情貨及應召站，生前事前多與人最後因經營色情行業而跟進入獄。

八十四年間，周麗曾在官廳的審問室時，外間有一本介紹紙張歷史的書，喚起內心的術作天分，也從改變她的生命。

八十八年間，周麗入獄服刑，她在獄中利有現的休息、放風時間，自掏腰包，精心鑽研紙藝，他傑出的第一家紙雕作品，曾獲表北藝獎全臺監所創作第一名。去年他出獄後，在好友小呂六鼓勵下，決定從事紙雕藝術事業。但經東家住、兩二坪大的空間，除是個人工筆是以房起居室，「若作業了下來就可休」他說。

周麗費力為持續一疊的紙雕時候，大部分的都用來買紙雕用紙。「最後的時候，一天只有碗泡麵生存」。他說，那時確實苦撐死了結緣。過去是親朋至意，但他一直靠「解決燃眉之急」，不想回到過窮人的生活，以前花錢很多，現在省錢不少。

周麗養成功地：現在省錢很少，技術與快樂的間故事等題材相結合，給予紙雕藝術新生命，動了許多人。台北地檢署看周麗新的紙雕作品，在母親節前夕找她製作十餘幅紙雕，替不幸罹癌（劉夢）他成為「劉媽人」之一。

律乃縱縱放的月輪，台北地檢署為撫慰不幸罹癌的母親，今起幫助十七年幸運這些不感憾，母親計畫，給她們幫助忙亡家務，讓這些不憾憾感到社會的溫暖，重拾生命的信心。