

Towngas organises Rice Dumpling "Wrapping with Little Hands" Workshop

Embracing the inclusion of Dwarfism Community to promote social harmony and integration

(7 May 2017) Dwarfism (most are known as skeletal dysplasia) is a rare disease in Hong Kong. People with Dwarfism encounter various challenges in their daily life due to insufficient knowledge from the public regarding their disease. This year, The Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited (Towngas) collaborated with Little People of Hong Kong (LPHK) to host the "Wrapping with Little Hands" rice dumplings workshop in Flame at Towngas Avenue, aiming at spreading love and care towards people with Dwarfism and kicking off the "Towngas Rice Dumplings for The Community" campaign.

Spreading Love and Care to People with Dwarfism

Towngas invited 40 members from LPHK and their families to organise the first "Wrapping with Little Hands" rice dumplings workshop this year. Peter WY Wong, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer – Utilities Business of Towngas and Towngas volunteers joined hands with people with Dwarfism and their families to wrap rice dumplings together under the guidance of Towngas Cooking Centre's instructor.

As Mother's Day is around the corner, Towngas prepared a challenge for Dwarfism kids to guess and identify their mothers by just touching their hands. After the challenge, the kids are invited to write their thank you messages and wishes on the card and "plant" them on the tree; wishing to spread the power of love and equality to the Dwarfism families within society.

Serene Chu, Chairman of Little People of Hong Kong stated, "Our Association aims to establish a supportive group to gather people with Dwarfism and promote social



acceptance via public education on the disease. We appreciate the support from Towngas to promote social harmony and their initiation to integrate with Dwarfism group. We hope that more schools, associations and corporations can follow the steps of Towngas in future by offering equal opportunities to people with Dwarfism. "

Promoting social integration and launching social inclusion policy

Members from LPHK shared their stories on how they overcome the challenges in their life during the event. One of the members, Manda, shared that people with Dwarfism are encountering difficulties in job searching, "Many employers suspect our abilities due to our appearance, or they tend to provide lower salary or less benefit to us. It is vital for any potential employers to eliminate their biases and change their perception when they employ dwarfism group. We believe that we can unleash our potential and bring positive impacts in the workplace with more understandings from the employers and colleagues."

Towngas has been committed to practice social responsibilities in taking care the needs of social vulnerable groups. Throughout the years, the company has employed 23 disabled persons to work at different departments in Towngas. Peter WY Wong, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer – Utilities Business of Towngas stated, "Towngas is dedicated to carry out social inclusion policy via collaborating with various associations to support the needy. Dwarfism is a rare disease in Hong Kong and public may not aware of their needs, they may even question their abilities due to the insufficient knowledge towards the group. It is important to eliminate prejudice and worry from employers and colleagues. We believe that people with Dwarfism can perform well and contribute to the society by offering job opportunities to them."

Spreading love and care to the needy in Dragon Boat Festival with over 340 thousand rice dumplings

Towngas has been organising the annual charitable campaign "Towngas Rice Dumplings for the Community" since 2000 and distribute over 3 million rice dumplings for the elderly living alone and the needy in the past years. This year,



Towngas will collaborate with 240 Legislative Councillors, District Councillors, members of 20 local organisations and volunteers from all over Hong Kong to wrap and distribute over 345,000 rice dumplings to the needy in Hong Kong to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival.

- End -

Press Photo :



Photo 1: This year, Towngas collaborated with LPHK to host the "Wrapping with Little Hands" rice dumplings workshop and invited 40 members from LPHK and their families to spread love and care towards people with Dwarfism and kick off the "Towngas Rice Dumplings for The Community" campaign.



Photo 2: Peter WY Wong, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer – Utilities Business of Towngas stated Towngas is dedicated to carry out social inclusion policy via collaborating with various associations to support the needy. He believed that people with Dwarfism can perform well and contribute to the society by offering job opportunities to them.



Photo 3: Serene Chu (1st from left), Chairman of LPHK appreciated Towngas' support towards people with Dwarfism. Manda (2nd from left) and Edmond (2nd from right) shared their stories on how they overcome the challenges in their life during the event. They hoped that the event can help promote social acceptance by offering equal opportunities to people with Dwarfism.



Photo 4: Peter WY Wong (2nd from left), Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer – Utilities Business of Towngas, Serene Chu, Chairman of LPHK and her son Nathan (3rd and 2nd from right) together with Manda (1st from left) and Edmond (1st from right), members from LPHK led the participants to wrap rice dumplings and promote message of social integration and harmony.



Photo 5: Towngas volunteers joined hands with people with Dwarfism to wrap rice dumplings together.



Photo 6: As Mother's Day is around the corner, Towngas prepared a challenge for Dwarfism kids to guess and identify their mothers by just touching their hands. All the kids correctly identified their mothers' hands and they took a photo with their prizes under the tree.

Please download high resolution photos of Rice Dumpling "Wrapping with Little Hands" Workshop from https: <u>https://goo.gl/Mp7gvA</u>

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