



Press Release

## **Jockey Club Age-friendly City Project Public Forum – Age-friendly Community Support and Health Services Organised by The CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing**

As part of the public education initiative under the Jockey Club Age-friendly City Project, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) Jockey Club Institute of Ageing held a public forum underscoring the theme of “Age-friendly Community Support and Health Services” on 10 November 2017 at Yasumoto International Academic Park of CUHK. Over 500 participants from government, academia, professional bodies, elderly groups, social and medical sectors and the general public took part in the public forum and visited the exhibition booths set up along with the forum.

In order to proactively tackle the challenges of the rapidly ageing population, The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has implemented the Jockey Club Age-friendly City Project since 2015 in partnership with four gerontology research institutes in Hong Kong, including The CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing. With the adoption of a bottom-up and district-based approach, the Project aims to build Hong Kong into an age-friendly city which can cater for the needs of all ages.

At the forum, Professor Jean Woo, Director of The CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing, shared the findings on community support and health services according to the baseline assessment studies conducted in eight pilot districts (Sha Tin, Tai Po, Central and Western, Wan Chai, Islands, Tsuen Wan, Kowloon City and Kwun Tong). Results revealed that “Community support and health services” was one of the bottom two ranking domains among the eight domains of age-friendly city identified by the World Health Organization (WHO). The eight domains are Outdoor spaces and buildings, Transportation, Housing, Social participation, Respect and social inclusion, Civic participation and employment, Communication and information, and Community support and health services. In general, respondents appreciated the Elderly Health Care Voucher Scheme and considered that basic social and medical services are available in the community. However, there was room for improvement in the areas of service cost, service quantity and quality, waiting time, as well as the General Out-patient Clinic Telephone Appointment System.

Dr Lam Ching-choi, Chairman of the Elderly Commission, and Professor Yeoh Eng-kiong, Director of The Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care of CUHK, delivered keynote presentations on age-friendly elderly services and health services respectively. A panel discussion chaired by Professor Jean Woo was subsequently followed, where speakers and stakeholders had a lively and inspirational discussion on social-medical integration model in provision of primary care services.

### **The Chinese University of Hong Kong Jockey Club Institute of Ageing**

In support of the University's aspiration to overcome the challenges brought to society by the ageing population, and make Hong Kong an age friendly city in the world, CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing was established in 2014 with the generous support of The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. The Institute will synergize research personnel and efforts across disciplines to promote and implement holistic strategies for active ageing through research, policy advice, community outreach and knowledge transfer.

### **Jockey Club Age-friendly City Project**

In response to the challenges of an ageing population, The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust (The Trust) has allocated over \$190 million to implement the Jockey Club Age-friendly City Project for five and a half years since 2015 in collaboration with four gerontology research institutes in Hong Kong - Jockey Club Institute of Ageing of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Sau Po Centre on Ageing of The University of Hong Kong, Asia-Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies of Lingnan University, and Institute of Active Ageing of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University to promote an age-friendly culture in all 18 districts of Hong Kong. The Trust joins hands with various stakeholders to build Hong Kong into an age-friendly city which can cater for the needs of all ages.

The project aims to build momentum in districts to develop an age-friendly community, recommend a framework for districts to undertake continual improvement, as well as arouse public awareness and encourage community participation in building an age-friendly city. Since its launch, baseline assessment studies on age-friendliness for all 18 districts have been conducted and three-year action plans for taking forward age-friendly initiatives are prepared in collaboration with the District Council concerned. All eight pilot districts have already joined or prepared to join the WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities, while 33 district-based programmes have been approved, benefiting over 30,000 citizens.

Website of Jockey Club Age-friendly City Project: <http://www.jcafc.hk>