



# IMPACT REPORT



**L younglife** Hong Kong



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## 總 LETTER 監 FROM THE 的 DIRECTOR

2022 to 2023. This marks my third year as director of Hong Kong Young Life. As I look back, I lose a sense of time. There has been a great deal of newness and unexpected turns, challenges, and hardships. What has been consistent is our posture to keep on learning. We're constantly on our toes, ready to pivot to wherever the Spirit leads. The truth of the Gospel forever remains the same, and we are ready to express it to the next youth whenever, wherever, however.

God is faithful and will make His own name known. We are honored to be a part of it and grateful to have you share the journey with us. Whether this is your first step with us, or your millionth, we thank you for making His name known with us, bringing the liberating truth of Christ to young people all over Hong Kong – a place where we have been purposefully called.

Please never hesitate to reach out should you have any questions or just want to drop by for a cup of coffee.

Until next time, God bless!

James Tang, Executive Director



### 使和 MISSION 命遠 象 & VISION

Young Life is a global organization that started in 1941. This year, we are launching a global strategic plan that will unite us in our mission with the goal of 1 million youth known by name annually by 2030.





### Modeling Relational Ministry

"...Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well." 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NIV)

Embrace the Lord's call by knowing young people and inviting them into faith and purpose, making disciples who make disciples.

### Developing Kingdom Leaders

"Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:43-45 (NIV)

Establish a courageous culture of life-on-life development, empowering the next generation of industry and ministry leaders.

## We desire to **know Jesus**, **know youth**, **and make Him known together** around the world by these four pillars.





### Inspiring A Volunteer Movement



"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." Romans 12:4-5 (NIV)

Pray for, recruit, and equip volunteers who share the life of Jesus, make disciples, and inspire others. "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

Proclaim the wide and welcoming Gospel that reveals a joyful, diverse, global community on mission. 我的 OUR 們故 事 STORY

The 2022–23 year marks our 9th year of being in Hong Kong! Every year, God is faithful. We want to take this opportunity to remember special moments along the way.

### 2014

Hong Kong Young Life is incorporated after some seed sowing

**2015** Five full-time field staff, including first local hire, international expeditions for students

2016 Young*Lives* begins

2017 Investing into leaders



**2018** First club, first Cantonese camp

**2019** Four camps held

2020

Ten full-time field staff, first online camp, 13 clubs regularly held



2021

First hybrid camp, relocate into the YL Base in Jordan as a strategic central outreach location

### 2022

Largest Student Leadership Program cohort, citywide events such as Climb Club

### 2023

New church partnerships, connections re-established after COVID restrictions, first full-time YL University staff hired

### 2024...

Making Jesus' name known to unreached youth of Hong Kong



Franklin Tseng



Mervyn Chow Chairman of the board

## 領 THE ADVISORY 導 BOARD

These uniquely gifted leaders in their industries and church communities guide and oversee ministry and implementation prayerfully and faithfully.



Angeline Yee



### Joshua Shum



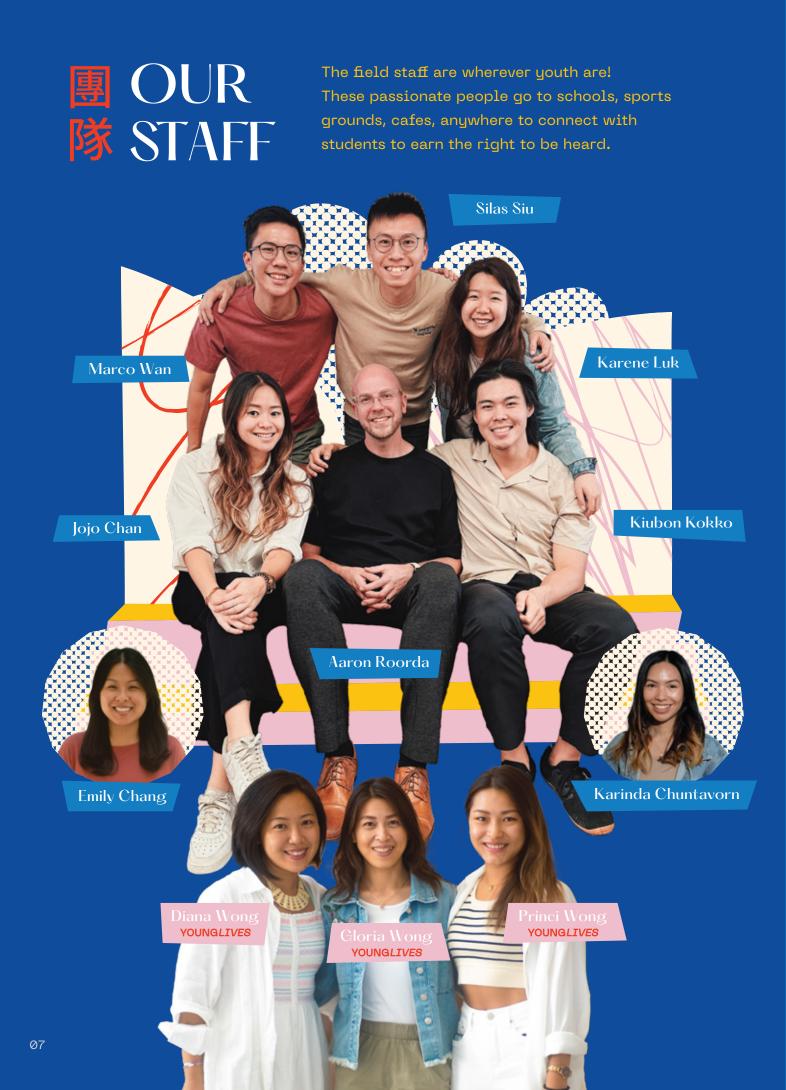
Esther Woo



Karlson Wong



### Kathleen Luk



When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

Matthew 9:36-38 (NIV)

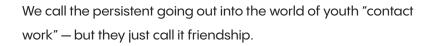
## **Schools with Young Life Presence** INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL YMCA OF HONG KONG CHRISTIAN COLLEGE CHINESE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL 111 CONCORDIA LUTHERAN SCHOOL NORTH POINT LINGNAN CWK MEMORIAL SECONDARY SCHOOL HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL PUI YING SECONDARY SCHOOL **OPERATIONS** Charlotte Poon **Evelyn** Tam FUNDRAISING COORDINATOR **OPERATIONS MANAGER** James Tang EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Christina** Tang

Esther Pettigrew Marketing & communications coordinator

## 我的 HOW WE 們做 法 REACH YOUTH CONTACT Simple ideas have become WORK time-tested methods for reaching out to teenagers, university students,

and young moms in friendship and hope with the Gospel truth.



### **Known By Name**

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Knowing a youth by their name is the first step in giving them a sense that they are seen and belong. We also then pray for them by name.

YOUTH KNOWN BY NAME:

# Forming relationships over bubble tea

It's the beginning of the school year at YMCA Hong Kong Christian College. Alarm. Put on uniform. Roll call. Assembly. Class. Study. Test. Repeat. It's all so rote and predictable until Miss Karene says, "I'll take you guys for bubble tea!"

Seven students follow along to the closest shop from the school. After a few refreshing sips, a student wonders aloud, "What DO you do, Miss Karene?" Before she can even open her mouth, another student quickly shouts, "She's the one who spreads joy and talks about Jesus!" Yet another chimes, "Yeah! I wish everyone could spread joy like you!"

Fast forward to the end of the year. Students gathered around Miss Karene after all the activities of the day. "When will you come again? You don't have to bring bubble tea next time, we just want YOU to come!"





### Available for chit chats

Jojo and Ellen visited Chinese International School and spent a whole day meandering around the campus – catching students between classes, during lunch hour, and at extracurricular activities.

Sometimes, it's just a quick smile and a hello, and other times, it's a catch-up about the week. They bump into familiar faces and make new friends. Coincidentally, a student shared a taxi with them after school to the MTR station. On this ride, the student opened up to say that they were thankful to have people who were just around to talk to, someone that didn't require a booking to see.

Contact work is all about being available for people and meeting students where they are at.

# CLUB

Club is a party with a purpose, and everyone is invited. It's controlled chaos that brings out positive energy in such a way that youth know they are cared for. Before the party ends, there's always a Gospel message. After all, that's what the celebration is all about.

\*Some of our clubs are broadcasted to the entire school population, increasing outreach. Without these, club attendance averages at 15, though attendance changes per school and per club.

AVERAGE YOUTH PER MONTH\*: 267 AVERAGE LEADERS

**PER MONTH:** 



### Gong Gong and Xi Xi spark engagement

Club is all about being loud and proud of Jesus' name with fun games, bold costumes, and a relevant Gospel message. Of course, Chinese New Year is a particularly celebratory time. At YMCA Hong Kong Christian College, we partnered with the Bridge Church to bring the one and only program characters "Gong Gong" and "Xi Xi."

This dynamic duo engaged the students to the point of uproarious laughter, as tall pastor Eric pretended to be an old man with a white beard and field staff Jojo acted as his granddaughter who led everyone into fun and games. When they left club, students took the initiative to thank them, and some were able to hangout with the leaders afterwards for the first time. Club seeks to continue on a foundation of contact work with unique memories that can spark conversations to build relationships.

## Climbing to make your acquaintance

Sometimes we host clubs at specific schools to outreach to more students who may have never heard of the Gospel. Other times, we have the unique opportunity to do intra-school events where students can make friends with others outside of their usual circle and bond over a common interest. This is how Climb Club was founded, and it grew from 27 to 61 students after five clubs, with an increase in leaders as well. Outreach happens naturally, as students and leaders invite more friends to come.

Sometimes, they just come to enjoy the company, even if they don't climb. Everyone can be themselves and feel comfortable in an accepting community that is rooted in the love of Christ. Besides climbing, there's other games, pizza, and of course more program characters and raffle prizes. Leaders from various churches come to connect with youth, and older students help connect with younger ones. This past year, we were blessed to partner with Verm City and Just Climb to provide this welcoming space.



# CAMPAIGN -ERS

"Campaigners" — a name that points back to when Young Life was referred to as "The Young Life Campaign" — is a regular meeting for growing in faith through Bible study, service, and leadership. AVERAGE YOUTH PER WEEK: AVERAGE LEADERS PER WEEK:



### Earning the right to be heard... through karaoke

This past year, Emily and Silas filmed 24 morning devotions for all the students at Pui Ying Secondary School, sharing Bible verses, worship songs, and experiences from their own life. They were glad to have this channel, but even more excited to meet everyone face to face when pandemic restrictions were lifted.

Every week, besides visiting during school hours, they also went to the boarding house in the evening to build relationships, through activities such as karaoke! In February, the school held a Gospel week, and eight students accepted Christ! They began to attend Campaigners and sat at the edge of their seats in the front row, thirsty for the living truth.

### It takes all of us!

See?

At Young Life, we're all about collaboration for the Kingdom. At Hong Kong International School, we teamed up with Church of All Nations and Alpha to bring Alpha's youth curriculum to Campaigners!

Parents provided pizza, kimbap, cookies, and more to show extravagant hospitality to students, and attendance increased as the weeks went by! At the beginning, only two people came, but after a few weeks, it soon grew to 10 and more. Even in the middle of exams, five high school students made the time to come serve. The space to discuss meaningful life questions drew in a crowd ready to go deeper.

# CAMP

SUMMER CAMP CAMPERS 54 WORK CREW\* 23 CARING ADULTS 37

\*Campers ages 16-25 who served younger campers by doing behind the scenes work to make camp possible, including music, aames, and oreparation.

During our "Say–So" time, where campers have an opportunity to respond to the gospel, we had 39 kids from various stages in their faith commit to making new decisions for Christ! We're praying that these would lead to a lifelong relationship with Jesus. Camp is often called "the best week of our lives." It is an adventurous time away where deep relationships are forged in the midst of mind-boggling fun, while also experiencing and listening to what we believe is the greatest love story ever told.

This year we were thankful to co-host youth summer camp with Xplorers, the youth ministry of EFCC Kong Fok Church.



LEADERS

NEW MOMS



ALUMNI MOMS





## Gathering again and again

After not having gathered for a long time, 10 moms who had been through our program before, when they were under 25 years old, attended with the heart of learning to care for the next new moms. These alumni expressed a lack of ability to love themselves and their children. They faced self-doubt and negativity.

The retreat acknowledged their motherly sacrifice and affirmed their resilience. It encouraged them to trust that they are beloved children of God, equipped to take care of their own family and disciple new moms as well.

Two new moms were able to attend. The message focused on 1 Thessalonians 5:11, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." It was a bonding weekend where everyone connected on a deeper level, creating a support network amongst their peers that could carry them to face uncertainties in life.

### Knowing His plan for my life

At first, Selena\* only joined summer camp to be with her best friend. She attends youth group regularly but had yet to feel like she had her own personal relationship with God.

A leader challenged her, "What's holding you back from experiencing God?" Selena responded, "I don't believe that God has a good plan for me."

The leader shared Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

This one verse powerfully moved Selena, as it spoke of God's reassuring presence and love in her life. Overcome with joy, she immediately shared with all her friends at Cabin Time, "God has a good plan for me!"



# LEADERS

# It is on our hearts to disciple leaders with and for the church.

Volunteers from the community fuel this ministry. The ways we have collaborated are vast and creative as we bring together the gifts God has given to each leader to reach the "furthest out kid" with the love of Christ. Committees of caring adults formed to support schools. Collaborations included sharing the needs of Hong Kong youth at churches, congregants volunteering, mentorship, financial support, prayer, encouragement, and more!



### Church Connections

Our prayer is that the Lord will use our ministry as a blessing in partnerships with existing youth ministries, inspiring and equipping more workers to go into the harvest.



### Serving together as family

"Attending summer camp as a volunteer program host was a great experience for me and my family. It was awesome to see so many dedicated adults serving and investing in the youth of our city and for me to get to be a part of it.

As the program host, I mainly saw my job as helping create an atmosphere where kids were comfortable and having fun so they would be open to the messages of the club talks where they'd hear about Jesus and any follow-up conversations they'd have with their leaders. It was lots of fun to see the way people connected over the course of the week, with many people seeming to be in a quite somber and quiet mood at the start of the week, but laughing and shouting and hugging one another by the end of the week.

From my experience, these types of friendships and connections are some of the biggest tools God uses in the process of spiritual growth, and it was awesome to get to be part of the process of helping this bonding take place."



#### PASTOR ERIC - THE BRIDGE CHURCH

"Despite my heavy workload, I committed to serving as a mentor for the student leadership program this year because I want to be available and present in the lives of the next generation. I was blessed to have Christian leaders who positively influenced me as I was growing up, and now I have the opportunity to serve and walk alongside the youth of today through Young Life."

CHRIS, VOLUNTEER LEADER

"Serving with Young Life is like working with family. Whether in the office working hard (i.e., playing Monopoly Deal) or facilitating camp for 300 students, you can always rely on the staff for encouragement and support. I've been most inspired by the team's commitment to team prayer, affirmation, and loving the next generation." ELLEN, VOLUNTEER LEADER

# **YOUNGLIVES**

Some of the young people God has placed on our hearts to serve are young mothers aged 25 and under. These mothers have shared that they often feel isolated, lonely, and abandoned in their journey as a parent. Some have reported feeling overwhelmed as they are shunned and not supported by their family and friends. We create a space to listen, support, and guide them as they find their feet in this specific stage of life as a new primary caregiver.

### CONTACT WORK

Outreach is done by visiting the neighborhoods where these moms and their families live. Sometimes, we have the opportunity to meet their extended family members. We love to help them in practical, loving ways, often through acts of service, spending time together, and offering gifts as an overflow of the extravagant love of Christ.

### PLAYGROUPS

Playgroups are held weekly, where volunteers care for the children through engaging and fun activities. During this time, the mothers can focus on their peer support.

### CLUBS

Clubs are held monthly to create a shared experience that serves as an outreach platform to welcome new mothers and their children.

## MOMS KNOWN BY NAME



AVERAGE MONTHLY CLUB LEADERS

AVERAGE WEEKLY CAMPAIGNERS ATTENDANCE

04

# YOUNG LIFE UNIVERSITY

Though we have had ministry to university students in the past, we are excited to share that the 2023–24 year is the first time that we will have a full-time staff dedicated to restarting this ministry as it came to a pause during the global pandemic.

### INTRODUCING AARON ROORDA

#### SOWING SEEDS IN:

City University of Hong Kong Gratia Christian College Hong Kong Polytechnic University Hong Kong University

Among his many other experiences, Aaron has spent 10 years being involved in university ministry and church leadership development in South East Asia.

He believes and has witnessed how meeting God during one's university years can significantly impact the trajectory of lives and that of those around them. Therefore, he is passionate and excited to visit the universities in Hong Kong, meet students, and listen to God's heart for them as this ministry restarts. Please pray for the Lord's guidance!



### 我的OUR 們財 FINANCIALS

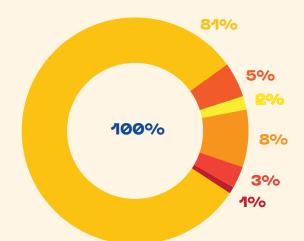
EXPENSES – HK\$5M

Here's how your donation helps youth in Hong Kong be known by name and for a purpose.

#### 📜 STAFF SALARY & BENEFITS፡ 81%

Our greatest strength is leaders who know the love of Christ and overflow this love to youth. That's why the bulk of our budget is for our "Staff" costs.

- 👠 CAMPS & PROGRAMS: 5%
- 1 TRAINING STAFF & LEADERS: 2%
- OFFICE: 8%
- 🚹 FUNDRAISING & EVENTS: 3%
- ADMINISTRATION: 1%



This ministry is empowered by your donations. We are

moved by your generosity and take care to steward every

dollar faithfully. We want to know our donors better and are always happy to discuss

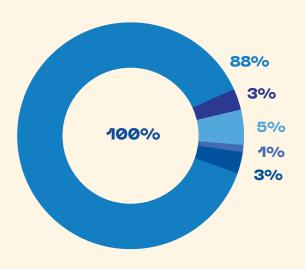
any questions you may have

regarding our finances.

### RESERVE – HK\$4.5M

In 2023-23, we are incredibly thankful to be able to set aside this amount to add to our reserve funds. We aim at setting aside 12 months operational expenditure in our bank account for our "Operational and Opportunity Reserves" to continue our mission without undue interruption or hardship as well as to pursue special targets of opportunity as they arise.

### REVENUE – HK\$9.5M



Most of our income comes from private donations and some from event registrations which only partially cover the costs incurred.

- INDIVIDUAL DONATION: 88%
- MONTHLY INDIVIDUAL DONATION: 3%
- L CHURCHES: 5%
- GRANTS: 1%
- ACTIVITY: 3%

Event fees, merchandise sales, rent sharing, bank interest

Our books are open to our donors. Please see <u>hongkongyounglife.org/financials</u> for all recent audited reports.

## 你回 YOUR 的應 RESPONSE

Join our movement to make youth known by name, for a purpose.

We are a registered charity that operates on the kind donations of supporters such as yourself.

### Give now to make a change!

Your generosity is an investment that will enable us to bring change and transformation into the lives of young people, their families, and communities.

Every gift given will be like a seed sown into Hong Kong to bring life and hope.

If you're interested to find out more on the different ways you can support us, please fill out the form below and email it back to us!

#### STAY IN TOUCH

First Name	Last Name
Mailing Address	
Email Address	

#### SUPPORT FINANCIALLY

One-time Gift:

### SHARE RESOURCES

- □ I can think of other ways to connect Young Life with resources. Ask me about it!
- □ I feel led to help Young Life in other ways. Let's have a chat!

### SHARE YOUR TIME/HOME

- I would like to help at a secondary school: international / local / flexible.
- I would like to help with Young Lives.
- I would like to help with YL University.

#### SHARE THE MISSION

- I would like to host a gathering. Let's find a date!
- I would like to co-host a gathering. Let's find another co-host.
- □ I have a few friends in mind I'd like to introduce to Young Life. Follow up with me about it.
- Other:

## Thank you so much for your generous support!



Email a photo of this form to: contact@hongkongyounglife.org or scan the QR code for a digital version.



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