

2021 CanCare Centre CEO Annual Report

Rev. Jackie Chan

The mission of CanCare Centre "CanCare" is to offer cancer patients and their families holistic care that covers physical, mental, spiritual and social aspects through contacting and serving them with the love of Christ. COVID-19 started to spread rapidly on a global basis in December 2019. We understand the most vital issue during the pandemic is that everyone needs to protect themselves well. Wearing a mask when staying outdoors is one of the most basic disease prevention measures. Very soon, we began to distribute masks to our patients as a means to care about their most critical need. We subsequently dispatched hand sanitizers and disinfectants to them as well.

During the pandemic, because of the Government's implementation of various disease prevention measures including social distancing issues, our volunteers could not have face-to-face contact with our patients but could only communicate with them over the phone. Simultaneously, we had to make use of social platforms to keep on delivering encouraging messages and holistic blessing pics to the community and our patients via their mobile phones. Our intention in so doing is to bring them some sorts of spiritual comfort. I also deeply realized that to a patient who is about to die, his/her spiritual satisfaction, in particular, the hope of attaining eternal life, is most important. To help our patients accomplish this wish, I attempted going to hospitals to baptize them "bedside" during this critical period.

Tentatively, we scheduled the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner to be held on 27 June 2021. Unfortunately, the pandemic remains very volatile throughout the year. Taking the health of our guests as prime consideration, we have postponed this event to the end of the year or early next year. Thank God's grace, the response of all parties was very enthusiastic. Within two weeks after launching promotion, we sold out nearly 400 tickets. Understanding the volatility of the pandemic, we certainly would implement various disease prevention measures to protect all participants joining the coming Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. The theme of this year's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner is "Cheering-up for You". Through poems, short talks and testimony sharing, we would like to deliver encouragements to our attending volunteers, guests and patients so that every one of us remains relying on God and proceeds to move forward.

From January to May 2021, we broadcasted a total of 17 episodes of the radio program named "康恩伴您行" on 2CR Radio, offering spiritual comfort to patients who are staying either at home or in nursing homes.

As far as booklet of spiritual care is concerned, I published a testimony collection named "Amazing Resilience". From the interviews of ten extraordinary "life fighters", I wrote down the secret of their overcoming difficulties they encountered in life. Apart from giving encouragements to patients, I also hope this publication can help readers attain comfort and accumulate positive energy to face adversity by always able to recall their stories.

Commencing January 2021, we consecutively resumed our activities, including support groups, walking groups, workshops, volunteer visitation services and training programs. CanCare Social Media is also planning to stage large-scale brand-new dramas and produce micro-films. In the second half of 2021, we shall launch various programs, including:

- Co-arranging with CTCA a “caring visitation program” for its pastoral staff and students.
- Organizing an event named “Sending you Neckwear - Warming your body and mind”. The highlight is to distribute woolen neckwear and hats to patients joining our support group functions to enable them getting real warm feeling in the cool winter.
- Organizing “Retreat for CanCare Volunteers”.

Under the impact of the pandemic, various new norms are appearing in every corner of the world. As a result, CanCare has to face different challenges at all times. Nevertheless, we are very clear as to how we are to proceed. 《Deuteronomy 33:25》 recorded: “...and as your days, so shall your strength be”. Its meaning is that no matter what our days are, we always have the strength to live on and which is given by God. God is our helper at all times. He will at any time increase the strength we need. During difficult days, the strength that God gives us will definitely increase and which must be sufficient for us to successfully deal with the various challenges encountered on the road of ministry.

We appreciate that all supporters of CanCare could keep on praying for us, asking for God’s strength to be rendered to every pastoral staff and patient. All pastoral staff can subsequently have the strength to serve together based on a unique spirit. On the other hand, we also hope that have received holistic caring services from CanCare, our patients can at the same time possess positive energy to overcome all sorts of challenges along the road fighting against cancer. Last but not the least, we wish everyone can enjoy the grace of God on every single day.