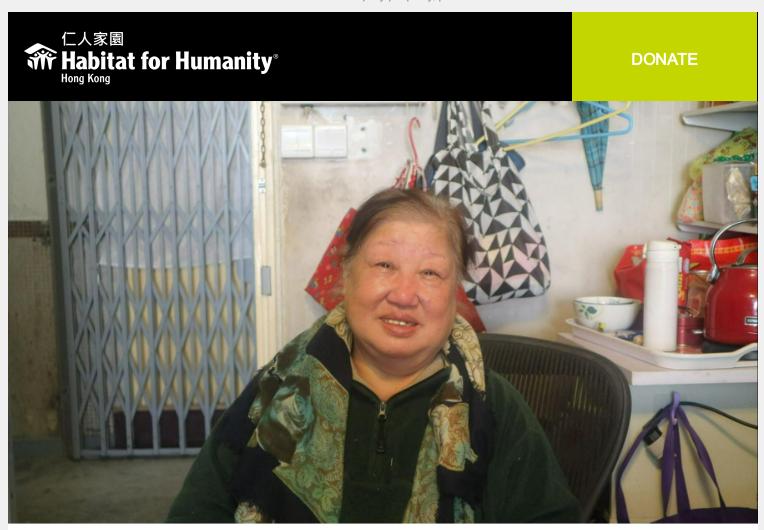
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### How housing affects health

After a busy December and the launch of our Young Leaders Build 2022 campaign, our team took a muchneeded Christmas break and returned to the office refreshed last week. Sadly, we are now facing a 5th wave of COVID-19 and increased restrictions in the city. As we think about how to protect our health from the continued threat of the pandemic, we should give some thought to how housing affects our health and wellbeing.

According to the World Health Organization, families around the world who don't have access to a decent home are exposed to greater personal and environmental risks, are less nourished, and have less access to health care. As many as 1 in 4 people worldwide live in conditions that harm their health and safety.

Substandard and deteriorating housing can contribute to a variety of serious ailments including respiratory diseases, lead poisoning, cancers from toxic materials, neurological disorders, stress, psychological and behavioral dysfunction. It is estimated that as many as 40 percent of asthma cases in the U.S. can be attributed to factors in the home such as mould, pests like mice or cockroaches, or exposure to chemicals.

In Hong Kong, our Project Home Works programme provides free repairs, renovation, modifications and cleaning services to low-income elderly and disabled families in Hong Kong. It also provides much needed part-time employment opportunities to vulnerable women working as local domestic workers. We need your support to continue to run our programmes and give healthier homes to those that need it most.

If you're not already a #HopeBuilder, <u>please sign up to become a monthly donor now.</u> Monthly donations, no matter how small, enable us to sustain our local programmes and plan for the future.

Thank you, Jo Hayes CEO, Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong



Voices of volunteers



**Our local impact** 

Recently, we went to Chak On Estate and renovated walls and ceilings for elderly families living in substandard conditions. Flaking paint was affecting their daily activities, such as sleeping, eating, and cooking.

One of our young volunteers, Cheung Chun Yip shared his memorable moment with us, "Grandma Lee is very nice, and she started to cry when we walked into her unit. I never thought that by just spending one day helping her can be so memorable and touching for her. Being able to help her was a rewarding and memorable experience to me."

We are grateful to be able to help Grandma Lee and Grandma Ho to improve their living situation. With the help of volunteers, we can support more vulnerable elderly families in our community. Recently, Yan Chai Hospital Ho Sik Nam Primary School joined Habitat Hong Kong's Project School Works programme to provide students with a beautiful and friendly school environment. It was such a beautiful day to work with volunteers and teachers on this mural for the students and enhance their learning environment together.

Special thanks to our volunteers, Principal Mr. Lo and teachers at Yan Chai Hospital Ho Sik Nam Primary School and our designer on their hard work on this mural painting.



#### Our global impact

On December 7-9th, Habitat for Humanity held the 8th Asia-Pacific Housing Forum. The theme was "Building forward better for inclusive housing" which highlights the urgent need for affordable housing solutions. This Asia-Pacific Housing Forum was held online this year. Some of the main speakers of the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum include Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat, and Jonathan Reckford, Chief Executive Officer of Habitat for Humanity International.



More Habitat updates

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Young Leaders Build 2022
HabitatYLB ① ② ◎

## Dec 2021 to Apr 2022

#### Together, we build a better future

In December, we launched our Young Leaders Build 2022. Habitat for Humanity Young Leaders Build brings together youth from across the Asia-Pacific region to support people and families in need of decent housing. Every young person volunteering, fundraising, raising awareness and adding their voices in support of affordable housing can help families achieve the strength, stability and self-reliance they need to build better lives for themselves.

Co-organised by Habitat for Humanity and the EUfunded SWITCH-Asia programme and with the support of other partners, the bi-annual Forum brings together industry leaders, innovators, policy experts, and various stakeholders to inspire a new vision for more inclusive, healthy, and resilient cities and communities. It serves as a multisectoral platform to build collaboration among likeminded organization to create impact at scale for low-cost, affordable technologies across the Asia-Pacific region.

Read more

Join the #HabitatYLB campaign now and help us to fundraise to support vulnerable elderly people living in substandard housing in Hong Kong.

#### Start fundraising for us

Housing in the news

#### In Hong Kong

- \$135,000 deposit in brave new world of home ownership (The Standard)
- Over 780 shoebox flats in Hong Kong's subsidised home ownership scheme still unsold despite more than a month on market (South Morning China Post)
- HK's first property management expo draws over 8,000 trade buyers (Hong Kong Business)
- Hong Kong housing: almost all residents to be affected by renewal plan in Yau Tsim Mong prefer to remain in same district, survey finds <u>(South China Morning Post)</u>
- HK clamps down on nano apartments, border reopening nears: Carrie Lam (The Standard)
- New minimum size rule placed on developers of residential housing (<u>The Standard</u>)

#### In Asia

- Nomura Real Estate Tries to Attract EV Drivers With New Condo (Bloomberg)
- Rustomjee Group & Keppel Land join hands to build world-class township in Thane (Hindustan Times)
- Asia-Pacific Fencing Market Report 2021-2027: Breakdown by Agricultural, Energy and Power, Government, Military and Defense, Mining, Petroleum and Chemicals, Residential, & Warehousing -ResearchAndMarkets.com (Yahoo! Finance)

#### Around the world

- Mini-homes "smaller than a prison cell" reignite housing debate (<u>The First News</u>)
- Plans for micro forest as part of Ramsey housing project (BBC News)

## How you can support



# Become a

## monthly donor now

We believe adequate and affordable housing plays a critical role in strong and stable communities. Together we build hope and pride! Please help us to achieve our vision of a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Monthly donations help us to be a sustainable organisation and enable us to plan ahead.

## Yes, I want to join!

Habitat Hong Kong provides free home cleaning, repair, and renovation services for elderly and low-income families, to provide a healthy, safe and sanitary home. You can join us to provide these families with a decent place to live, be our volunteer now!

## Donate or fundraise for us!

Habitat for Humanity Young Leaders Build brings together youth from across the Asia-Pacific region to support people and families in need of decent housing. We will bring young leaders and volunteers together in Hong Kong to learn about double ageing in Hong Kong, inter-generational co-living and raise funds to support vulnerable elderly people living in substandard housing. We aim to raise a minimum of HK\$117,000, to provide a safe and clean home for at least 25 elderly people living in substandard housing. We can only do it with your support!

#### Stay connected with us:



#### Unsubscribe Privacy policy

Contact us: Habitat for Humanity Hong Kong 9/F, V-Point, 18 Tang Lung Street Causeway Bay, Hong Kong enquiry@habitat.org.hk +852 2520 4000

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