



Community Engagement

HKU Faculty of Dentistry student helps orphans in China

23 June – 7 July 2008

Faculty BDS V student Polly PL Fung recently donated her services to help underprivileged children in mainland China. After a round of competitive selection, she was chosen as one of 16 HKU students to engage in voluntary work with the Hong Kong Alliance Against AIDS in Henan Province from 23 June to 7 July 2008.



“The China HIV/AIDS Awareness Project 2007-08 aimed at bringing hope, education, and supplies to orphans affected by HIV/AIDS,” says Polly (pictured, standing, in white T-shirt). “I prepared some lessons on dental health, using an oral hygiene instruction model borrowed from the Faculty to illustrate good tooth brushing technique, as well as handouts on tooth decay and preventive care.”

Stories and worksheets from the Oral Health Education Unit website, www.toothclub.gov.hk, helped to increase interactivity during the lesson. “The children, who lacked knowledge of even basic oral health care techniques, found these materials interesting and were attentive and enthusiastic in class,” says Polly. “In addition, toothbrushes and toothpaste donated by Colgate were well received. I hope I have the opportunity to serve the orphans of Henan again in the future.”

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Knowledge exchange (KE) at the HKU Faculty of Dentistry (<http://facdent.hku.hk>) aims to maintain a two-way dialogue between the Faculty and all sectors of the community. The Faculty’s KE strategy, public education, and community activities form part of the Faculty’s fourth mission of “engagement”. We will be pleased to consider any suggestions or comments, or community/school invitations; please e-mail dentktu@hku.hk