

Press release (for immediate distribution)

Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2026 Now Open for Applications

JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER Family Volunteer Award and Corporate Volunteer Award Introduced

Over 500 Volunteer Leaders and Distinguished Community Members Witness a New Milestone in Citywide Volunteering

(Hong Kong, 27 June 2026) Marking its fifth anniversary, the Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2026 (“HKV-Award 2026”), under the theme “Volunteering Beyond Boundaries”, is now officially open for applications and nominations. The Award aims to encourage more members of the public, families, corporations and organisations to transcend the boundaries of age, sector, geography and service formats, and actively engage in volunteer work, enabling the spirit of volunteering to take deeper root and continue to grow across the community. With the United Nations declaring 2026 as the “International Year of Volunteers for Sustainable Development” (IVY 2026), this year’s launch of the HKV-Award carries particular significance. By adopting the theme “Volunteering Beyond Boundaries”, the Award echoes the global recognition of volunteers’ power and contributions to sustainable development, while further underscoring the vital role of volunteerism in strengthening social cohesion, community resilience, and long- term development.

First-ever JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER Family Volunteer Award and New Arrangement for the Corporate Volunteer Award

Co-organised by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau and the Agency for Volunteer Service, with support from the “JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER” Project funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the Hong Kong Volunteer Award (“HKV-Award”) is a widely- recognised, impactful and credible annual volunteer recognition scheme in Hong Kong. It is dedicated to recognising the contributions and achievements of outstanding volunteers, youth volunteers / groups, corporations, non-commercial organisations, estates and schools. This year, the HKV-Award introduces the JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER Family Volunteer Award for the first time to encourage family members to participate in volunteer services together. By nurturing family collaboration and cohesion, as well as the impact and continuity of family volunteer service, this new Award seeks to promote intergenerational volunteering and enable a caring culture to be passed on and extended from families to the wider community.

At the same time, a new arrangement has been made for the Corporate Volunteer Award. In addition to volunteer service hours, the new mechanism gives comprehensive consideration to the quality, strategic planning, innovation and social impact of volunteer services. It centres on four key areas: encouraging participation by setting different levels of thresholds so that large, medium and small corporate volunteering can all be recognised; streamlining procedures by integrating the original award structure into a single, consolidated and easy-to-understand set of recognition criteria; providing comprehensive recognition by valuing not only service hours but also service design, continuity, innovation and professional volunteer management; and building brand value by establishing a distinctive and sustainable recognition standard that enhances the public recognition and credibility of corporate volunteer brands.

Over 500 Volunteer Leaders and Distinguished Community Members Gather to Launch a Citywide Wave of Care

To officially inaugurate this year's Award, the organisers held the HKV-Award 2026 Launch Ceremony on 24 June 2026, bringing together more than 500 volunteer leaders and distinguished community members from various sectors to witness the launch and strengthen exchanges and connections within the volunteer network. Officiating guests included Mrs Janet Lee, Wife of the Chief Executive, Hong Kong SAR, Volunteer-in-Chief & Honorary Patron; Mr Clarence Leung, Under Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, HKSAR; Ms Elsie Tsang, Executive Manager of Charities (Children & Youth in Families) for the Trust, The Hong Kong Jockey Club; and Ms Melissa Kaye Pang, Chairman of Agency for Volunteer Service.

Mr Clarence Leung, Under Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs remarked, "The HKSAR Government has been committed to promoting and encouraging participation in volunteer service across different sectors of the community. For example, Care Teams have been set up in the eighteen districts to actively carry out caring and community activities, as well as visiting and helping those in need. The HKV-Award 2026 Launch Ceremony brings together past 'Hong Kong Volunteer Award' winners, leaders from the social welfare sector, corporate partners and many devoted community members. This occasion not only fosters cross-sector exchange and advances the development of community volunteer work, but also marks the official launch of this year's 'Hong Kong Volunteer Award'. I would like to take this opportunity to invite people from all walks of life across Hong Kong to take part in the Award, support the sustainable growth of volunteerism, and bring warmth and joy to our society."

Ms Elsie Tsang, Executive Manager of Charities (Children & Youth in Families) for the Trust, The Hong Kong Jockey Club, said, “The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has been promoting cross-sector collaboration through its planned and funded ‘JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER’ initiative, with the aim of developing and strengthening the power of volunteers and building a sustainable volunteer ecosystem in Hong Kong so that volunteer services can create greater social value in meeting the community’s diverse needs. This year, the ‘JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER Family Volunteer Award’ is introduced. It not only recognises families who contribute to the community and underscores that volunteering has no age boundary, but more importantly helps instil caring values in the next generation, ensuring that the spirit of service is passed on from generation to generation and that the volunteer ecosystem continues to flourish.”

Ms Melissa Kaye Pang, Chairman of the Agency for Volunteer Service, commented, “The United Nations’ designation of 2026 as the ‘International Year of Volunteers for Sustainable Development’ is a timely reminder that volunteering is not only about individual acts of service, but also a key driving force for continuous community advancement. With the theme ‘Volunteering Beyond Boundaries’, the HKV-Award 2026 not only demonstrates that volunteer services transcend age, sector and geography, but also signifies that the spirit of volunteering has no endpoint. Through the newly introduced JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER Family Volunteer Award and the new arrangement for Corporate Volunteer Award this year, we hope to foster greater intergenerational participation and cross-sector collaboration, encouraging more families and corporations to take their first step and remain actively engaged in volunteer services, so that a strong and vibrant volunteer culture can take deeper and wider root in Hong Kong.”

According to the ‘Survey on Volunteering in Hong Kong 2025’ released by the Agency for Volunteer Service, members of the public in Hong Kong spend an average of about 1.5 hours per week on volunteer work. The study also indicates that once people are supported to take their first step into volunteering, it is not difficult to encourage them to remain engaged over the longer term. The findings further show that schools and non-profit organisations are among the main channels through which citizens are introduced to volunteer services, playing a particularly important role in encouraging young people and families to participate in volunteering and sowing the seeds for intergenerational volunteerism. In this context, the introduction of the JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER Family Volunteer Award and the new arrangement for Corporate Volunteer Award under the HKV-Award 2026 will help respond to these trends by expanding opportunities for the public to take part in volunteer work across multiple settings, including families, schools, organisations, and corporations.

The HKV-Award 2026 is now open until 31 August 2026 for applications and nomination. (The deadline for the Caring School Awards is 30 September 2026). Please visit the HKV-Award website at <https://www.hkv-award.hk> for more details.

Hong Kong Volunteer Award

Hong Kong Volunteer Award ("HKV-Award"), a widely-recognised, impactful and credible volunteer recognition scheme co-organised by the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau and the Agency for Volunteer Service, support from "JC VOLUNTEER TOGETHER" Project which is funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, is dedicated to recognising the contributions and achievements of outstanding volunteers, youth volunteers / groups, corporations, organisations, estates and schools. The Award features two main series: the volunteer hour and the outstanding series, covering individuals, youth volunteers / groups, corporations, non-commercial organisations, estates, and schools. For the outstanding series, judging panels comprising of distinguished community leaders will select winners of the awards. These awardees serve as role models to inspire broader volunteer participation and promote the spirit of "Care for Hong Kong, Everyone Volunteers."

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Photo Captions



The Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2026 Launch Ceremony is held on 24 June 2026, with the officiating guests Mrs Janet Lee, Wife of the Chief Executive, Hong Kong SAR, Volunteer-in-Chief & Honorary Patron; Mr Clarence Leung, Under Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, HKSAR; Ms Elsie Tsang, Executive Manager of Charities (Children & Youth in Families) for the Trust, The Hong Kong Jockey Club; and Ms Melissa Kaye Pang, Chairman of Agency for Volunteer Service, joining more than 500 volunteer leaders and distinguished community members from various sectors to witness the official launch of HKV-Award 2026.



The officiating guests — Mrs Janet Lee, Wife of the Chief Executive, Hong Kong SAR, Volunteer-in-Chief & Honorary Patron (second right); Mr Clarence Leung, Under Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, HKSAR (second left); Ms Elsie Tsang, Executive Manager of Charities (Children & Youth in Families) for the Trust, The Hong Kong Jockey Club (far left); and Ms Melissa Kaye Pang, Chairman of Agency for Volunteer Service — officiated at the Launch Ceremony of the Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2026.



Mr Clarence Leung, Under Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs, HKSAR, delivered a speech at the Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2026 Launch Ceremony.



Ms Elsie Tsang, Executive Manager of Charities (Children & Youth in Families) for the Trust, The Hong Kong Jockey Club, delivered a speech at the Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2026 Launch Ceremony.



Ms Melissa Kaye Pang, Chairman of Agency for Volunteer Service, delivered a speech at the Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2026 Launch Ceremony.



The organisers held the Hong Kong Volunteer Award 2026 Launch Ceremony cum AVS Volunteers' Networking Event on 24 June 2026, bringing together more than 500 volunteer leaders and distinguished community members from various sectors to witness the official launch of HKV-Award 2026 at a grand and well-attended event.

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