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THE HONGKONG BANK FOUNDATION LAUNCHES DOOR-TO-DOOR VACCINATION PROGRAMME

More Than 10,000 People to Benefit

The Hongkong Bank Foundation is lending its support to a programme that will bring COVID vaccination directly to home-bound elderly and disabled individuals through a first-of-its-kind partnership with non-governmental organisations (NGO) and medical professionals. The "Door-to-door Vaccination Programme" aims to help more than 10,000 individuals get three doses of vaccination in about 30,000 home vaccination visits in the coming months.

Today's announcement marks the second initiative supported by The Hongkong Bank Foundation under its HKD100 million COVID relief donation announced in February 2022.

Mr Peter WONG, GBS, JP, Chairman, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, and The Hongkong Bank Foundation, said, "There is strong evidence that vaccination prevents serious illness. Helping our NGO partners and medical professionals to mobilise necessary resources in such a short period of time is in particular important to the elderly and the disabled who need easy access to vaccination. As part of the Hong Kong community, let us come together to overcome this challenging period."

The "Door-to-door Vaccination Programme" is jointly operated by The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) and The Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong. Outreach teams, comprising doctors, nurses and care ambassadors, will visit the homes of elderly or disabled individuals to administer COVID vaccines. The Programme is expected to help more than 30% of the home-bound, bed-ridden disadvantaged elderlies and disabled in Hong Kong, who need vaccination.

The Honourable Bernard Charnwut CHAN, GBM, GBS, JP, Chairperson, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service, said, "The fifth wave of COVID-19 has overwhelmed Hong Kong and is taking a heavy toll on our seniors. With the full support of The Hongkong Bank Foundation, we will outreach to elderlies who have limited mobility and people with disabilities to help them get vaccinated at home. With the tremendous support from the Federation of Medical Societies of Hong Kong, as well as medical associations and social welfare organisations, we are able to provide such service in just two weeks. I encourage the elderlies to receive vaccination and the caregivers to encourage them to do so if they are stable and fit, for this is effective in protecting them from severe illness. It is during these difficult times that everyone of us have to take a step further, watch over each other and fight the pandemic with one heart."

Dr Raymond LO, Honorary President, The Federation of Medical

Societies of Hong Kong, said, "We are delighted to join forces with The Hongkong Bank Foundation and the Hong Kong Council of Social Service to extend the outreach vaccination for our disabled and disadvantaged homebound citizens, in particular the elderly in the community. They are in desperate need for our care and support, to enhance their immunity against this contagious and life-threatening virus throughout the pandemic. Every jab counts and a door-to-door vaccine service is now most crucial and timely."

The Hongkong Bank Foundation has previously announced a partnership with the Hong Kong Red Cross (HKRC) to introduce "Hong Kong Red Cross COVID-19 Support Hotline". The hotline has received overwhelming response since its launch on 21 February. In the first two weeks, HKRC has provided psychological support to more than 70 people and care packages with healthcare items or food to 800 people. The hotline service is working to scale up its hotline capacity to 100 by mid-March.

The Foundation will announce details of other projects in due course.

Since the start of the pandemic, the Foundation has pledged to support COVID-19 relief efforts, which have helped to mitigate the financial, mental and physical toll that it has taken on society. As of today, HSBC has made more than HKD170 million of charitable donations to the Hong Kong community, as well as financial relief for individual and business customers provided by HSBC.

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Note to editors:

About "Door-to-door Vaccination Programme"



About The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

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