



## Ethnic Minority Health Service

Clerk to Panel on Rights of Ethnic Minorities  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

立法會 CB(2)1315/16-17(07)號文件  
LC Paper No. CB(2)1315/16-17(07)

28<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear Sir/ Madam,

### **Re: Proposal to Strengthen Health Service to the Ethnic Minority Community**

The United Christian Nethersole Community Health Service has the mission of promoting the health of the community, including dedicated services to the Ethnic Minority community since 2007.

From the past 10 years of frontline experience we have identified there is indeed health service gap amongst the Ethnic Minority community making them vulnerable to ill health.

In 2015-16, total of 50 health campaigns were conducted where 12,640 times screening was provided for hypertension, diabetes and obesity (measuring blood pressure, blood sugar and body fat %). Of those screened for hypertension 26.6% had high blood pressure, of those screened for diabetes 4.5% had high blood sugar and 78.5% had high body fat percentage.

Though UCN is actively involved in promoting health of the ethnic minority community in Hong Kong, we are concern that still many are falling through the safety net of healthcare due to language, cultural, and social factors, which is a form of health inequity. Therefor we suggest the Government and Legislative Councilors to implement the following measures:

- Provide more health promotional services at the community level, considering language and cultural elements acceptable for the target group. Evidence has proved that culturally appropriate, multilingual health promotional interventions is the only mean to reach hard to reach vulnerable groups in the community.
- Designate more resources and service measures which tackle on deceasing risk of chronic diseases, as we have observed that they have high risk of developing chronic diseases.
- Increase designated health education and training services catering for ethnic minority community housewives. As they are the main caretaker of the family health but many are unaware of impact of diet, physical activities, importance of taking preventive and early detection measures for healthy life.
- Increase school based health and hygiene practice promotions where significant number of pupil are from ethnic minority community.
- Devise comprehensive child health and care policies which includes ethnic minority children. According to our experience in promoting home safety, we have observed need

for education on home safety and childcare at household with children and special need children.

- There is scarcity of services catering the needs ethnic minority elderly, this group of population are the vulnerable of the vulnerable group and they have health needs.
- Provide multilingual public health promotion such as Government Vaccination, Elderly Health Care Voucher, Colorectal Cancer Screening, Cervical Cancer Screening, Breast Feeding, and Organ Donation. In addition Health Warning such as travel health warning, flu season warning.

We urge the Government and Legislative Councilors to put forward long-term and comprehensive health policies which includes the need of the 6.4% of the ethnic minority population of Hong Kong.

Thank you for your attention. For any questions, please kindly contact at 2344 3019.

Yours faithfully,



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United Christian Netherosle Community Health Service