



Converging
PROFESSIONAL WISDOM
FOR Family Well-Being

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Message from Mrs. Patricia CHU, Chairperson, CIFA



With the latest development of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are pleased to note the situation has gradually improved throughout the world to allow the lifting of the social distancing restrictions and quarantine requirements for travelling. Due to uncertainty previously posed by the pandemic, flexibility and innovative ways have to be adopted in planning and organising activities of CIFA. With concerted efforts and readiness to cope with uncharted paths, we have been able to continue with our efforts in our work to advance family well-being.

With the efficient support from the members of the 3A Project Committee, the second round of the Wofoo 3A Project 2022 ran smoothly with 16 teams attending the interview session on 14 and 15 July, resulting in the shortlisting of 8 finalist teams to join the Final Round Adjudication and Award Presentation Ceremony on 9 November in Singapore. Another exciting development is the setting up of the 4A Core Group (4ACG) with representatives from various countries to work out plans to actualise the spirit of Alliance of the 3A Project. All are excited about this development!

The CIFA Regional Symposium & MSF Asian Family Conference 2022 is fast approaching and preparatory work is underway. A full programme involving speakers from various parts of the region to present papers on the theme of "Empowering Asian Families: Embracing Challenges & Building a Better Future" has been put in place. We are looking forward to another successful event in Singapore after a lapse of 10 years! Mark your diary and make arrangements to join this exciting event.

Last but not the least, I am pleased to report that upon the invitation of the DESA NGO Branch of United Nations, CIFA has submitted our views, in the capacity as an NGO granted special consultative status, on enhancing relationship between the NGOs and UN. The efforts on this front is much appreciated and we look forward to closer link and collaboration with UN and between the NGOs in the future!

With the struggle to cope with the unprecedented attack of COVID-19 in the past 3 years, I would like to share a message which I received: to Reflect, Reconnect and Refresh and charge ahead with perseverance and commitment to build a better tomorrow for all!



Wofoo 3A Project 2022

After the Second Round Interview on 14-15 August 2022, eight projects have been shortlisted to enter the Final Round Adjudication of Wofoo 3A Project 2022 to be held on 9 November 2022 at the CIFA Regional Symposium & MSF Asian Family Conference 2022 in Singapore. The results of the Second Round Adjudication had been announced on 1 August and uploaded onto the CIFA website.

The eight finalist teams are as below:

Region/Country	Organisation	Project Name
Hong Kong	Heep Hong Society	Brain Challenge Intervention Program for ADHD Secondary School Students in Hong Kong
Hong Kong	Caritas Personal Growth Centre for Men	PAPA Zone
Hong Kong	Caritas Family Service & Hong Kong Christian Service Early Childhood Education	Jockey Club Interactive Wonder Box
Taiwan	Taiwan Fund for Children and Families	An Innovative Practice of Social Work: Parent Empowerment Program in Rural Communities of Nantou County
Singapore	TOUCH Cyber Wellness	Digitally Ready Families
Singapore	TOUCH Mental Wellness	Do You M.I.N.D.?
Hong Kong	TWGHs Ho Yuk Ching Educational Psychology Service Centre	Brain-based Emotion Coaching Parenting Program
Hong Kong	The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong - "SMILE" On-site Pre-school Integrated Services	An Attachment-based Parenting Program with Language Facilitation Training for Parents of Preschoolers with Suspected Developmental Needs

Subsidy will be given for the finalist teams to attend the CIFA Regional Symposium & MSF Asian Family Conference 2022 and compete for the Gold, Silver, Bronze and Outstanding Awards, as well as the Best Collaborative Award, Most Innovative Award, Bringing Hope Home Award and My Favourite Project. The results of the Final Round Adjudication will be announced at the Award Presentation Ceremony at the Gala Dinner of the Symposium on 9 November 2022.

***Watch out for this exciting event and
cheer for your favourite project!***



CIFA REGIONAL SYMPOSIUM & MSF ASIAN FAMILY CONFERENCE 2022

The CIFA Regional Symposium & MSF Asian Family Conference 2022 will be held on 8-10 November 2022 at the Hilton Singapore Orchard in Singapore. You are encouraged to register for the Symposium at <https://www.cifa-afc2022.sg/>.

Scientific Programme:

- 3 Keynote Speeches:

- ▶ Topic: Strong Families: The Whats, Whys and Hows
by Mr. Derek McCormack (Director, Raising Children Network, Australia)
- ▶ Topic: Family Policies in Empowering Families in Meeting the Challenges of COVID-19
by Prof. Daniel Shek (Associate Vice President, Chair Professor of Applied Social Sciences, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR)
- ▶ Closing Keynote by Singaporean government official

- 3 Plenary Sessions on the following sub-themes:

- ▶ Innovations, Inspirations & Sustainability of Asian Family Services
- ▶ Health, Mental Health & Resilience of Families
- ▶ National Perspectives in Strengthening Families & Marriages

- 6 Concurrent Sessions on the following topics:

- ▶ Innovations, Inspirations & Sustainability of Asian Family Services
- ▶ Changing Asian Families in the New Era
- ▶ Good Family Practices
- ▶ Globalisation and Asian Families
- ▶ Family Research and Policy Impact

- Wofoo 3A Project 2022: Final Round Adjudication & Award Presentation Ceremony

You can refer to the Symposium website provided above for more detailed information and updates on the programme, speakers, registration fee, travel & accommodation. Please note that CIFA members will enjoy a reduced registration fee. Please act quickly as the online registration will close on 31 October!

We look forward to meeting you in Singapore!

From 3A to 4A

With the success of the “Reunion and Relationship Building” Forum in June, a 4A Core Group (4ACG) of 10 members from the finalist teams of 3A Projects in the past has been formed to map out the way forward in the development of the Alliance. The members of 4ACG are:

Name	Post	Organisation	Region
Lucia Chow	Chairman	TOUCH Community Services	Singapore
Kenneth Tsang	Vice-Chairman	Heep Hong Society	Hong Kong
Yanping Xu	Secretary	Shanghai Social Worker Agency for Public Affairs	China
Linda Lam	Secretary	Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association	Hong Kong
Yoyo Tai	Financial Keeper	TWGHs Centre on Family Development	Hong Kong
Patrick Ma	Member	Caritas Dr. & Mrs. Olinto de Sousa Integrated Family Service Centre	Hong Kong
Benjamin Fung	Member	Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society	Hong Kong
Peggy Lim	Member	TOUCH Community Services	Singapore
Charles Ho	Member	Hong Kong Council of Social Service	Hong Kong
Chih-Hung Wu	Member	Child Welfare League Foundation	Taiwan

The first meeting of the 4ACG will be held in November in Singapore to further work out the plan and timeline to actualise the spirit of 4A of the Wofoo 3A Project.

A paper on the topic has been accepted for presentation at the Concurrent Session of the CIFA Regional Symposium & MSF Asian Family Conference 2022 in Singapore. Dr. Agnes Ng, Chairman of the 3A Project Committee, together with one of the 4ACG members will present the paper at the Symposium. May I appeal you to attend the Symposium and keep an eye on this!

Response to UN Call for Comments on Enhancing Relationship with NGOs Granted Consultative Status

Having been granted Special Consultative Status by ECOSOC of the United Nations in 2021, CIFA has been invited by the Committee on NGOs to consider the following questions as formulated by the Committee, and to prepare contributions for the discussion around them:

- How can NGOs further contribute to the work of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies? What are the most efficient modalities for NGOs to contribute to the United Nations policy making, be recognised and be influential in these processes?
- What in your organization’s view should be done to provide better support to NGOs during the process of obtaining consultative status with ECOSOC?
- How can the participation of NGOs from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in UN’s work be increased?
- Once the consultative status is granted to organizations, how best can NGOs access the opportunities given to them to take part in UN processes?

With the input from CIFA Council members, a submission has been sent to the NGO Branch of DESA on 30 August.

Mrs. Chu, the Chairperson of CIFA has registered to join the Interactive Hearing to be held on 9 December when the document will be deliberated.