



*Converging*  
**PROFESSIONAL WISDOM**  
**FOR Family Well-Being**

**CIFA-NET EDITORIAL GROUP MEMBERS:**

Dr. Miranda Chung, Mr. Timothy Li, and Dr. Herman Lo.  
Contribution of articles are welcome. Please express your interest to the editorial group through email [cifasecretariat@gmail.com](mailto:cifasecretariat@gmail.com).

**SECRETARIAT:**

6/F, Tsan Yuk Hospital, 30 Hospital Road, Sai Ying Pun, Hong Kong  
Tel: (852) 2859 5301 Fax: (852) 2559 1813  
Email: [cifasecretariat@gmail.com](mailto:cifasecretariat@gmail.com) Web: <http://www.cifa-net.org>

## Message From Mrs. Patricia CHU, Chairperson CIFA



The quarter has been a busy one when the Organising Committee of the Asian Family Summit (AFS) and its Committees are making great efforts in working out the detailed arrangements of the AFS, and the 3A Project Committee and its Screening Committee have conducted the first round adjudication to shortlist the 16 projects to enter into the second round adjudication to take place in late May/early June. All at

CIFA are excited about the progress and pleased to see growing support and recognition from all sectors. We all look forward to a successful and exciting Summit in the summer.

In this issue, apart from updates on the AFS and the Wofoo 3A Project 2018, a PHD candidate shared her experience on identifying the Power of Filial Piety in Desistance from Crime among Young People in Hong Kong. We hope that the sharing of this study will raise our understanding of the needs of this special group of young people who are often neglected, with a view to better accompany them in coping with difficulties in their life journey.

I would also like to share my experience in attending the Malaysian Cancer Care Initiative 2018 Summit in my capacity as the Chairman of the Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society (an active member organisation of CIFA) truly reflecting the spirit of regional engagement and sharing of knowledge, experience and good practice. It was a fruitful and rewarding journey.

Taking this opportunity, I wish everyone a Happy Easter!



**Asian Family Summit**  
Sustainable Development & Family Well-Being: Agenda For Action in Asia

**Deadline for Abstract Submission : 30 April 2018**

**Deadline for Early Bird Registration : 31 May 2018**

If you have interesting projects/papers on family related topics to share, you are encouraged to submit abstract for oral presentation at concurrent sessions or poster presentation. For the guideline for abstract submission, please refer to the Asian Family Summit website.

Apart from the Keynote speeches, we have invited heavy weight speakers from government, tertiary/research institutes, private corporation, social enterprises and NGOs from 9 countries/regions, including Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Mainland China, Malaysia,

Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand, covering a wide variety of topics under the four themes which are posing challenges to countries not only in Asia, but the whole world, affecting the long term sustainable development of societies.

Please help to spread the news of this Summit. With your full support and active participation, we look forward to an exciting and successful Asian Family Summit, which will mark another milestone in the development on family well-being not only in Hong Kong, but at the regional and international levels.

In case more information is needed, please feel free to contact us at (852) 2859 5301 or [info@cifa-net.org](mailto:info@cifa-net.org).



**Asian Family Summit**  
Sustainable Development & Family Well-being: Agenda For Action in Asia  
家庭福祉 · 持續發展：亞洲行動綱領

**Sunday - Wednesday, August 19 - 22, 2018 | The University of Hong Kong**

The Asian Family Summit is the first of its kind with the close collaboration among the public, private, academic/professional sectors and the civil society, to map out an agenda for action in Asia for the well-being of families which is closely related to the sustainable development of Asian societies and to echo the international efforts in working on the 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development as promulgated by the United Nations as well as to raise public awareness on the significance of family well-being and its relations with sustainable development.

**Abstract Submission**  
Deadline: 30 April 2018  
**Early Bird Registration**  
Deadline: 31 May 2018

**Guests of Honour**  
The Hon Mrs Carrie Lam, CH, GBS, JP  
President of the Executive Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
Representative from the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

**Keynote Speakers**  
Sustainable Development 2030 - An Agenda for World Action  
Representative from the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations  
Family Impact Assessment in Policy Formulation - The Hong Kong Experience  
Professor Daniel Shek, SBS, JP  
Chairman, Family Council, HKUAF  
The Duxton Study - Insights for Advancing Family Well-Being  
Professor Richie Poulton  
Director, Duxton Multidisciplinary Health and Wellbeing Laboratory, Waikato University, New Zealand

**Plenary Sessions**  
• Alleviation of Poverty  
• Family Health, Happiness and Harmony  
• Family Work Balance  
• Population Ageing

**Family Well-being Expo Sunday August 19, 2018**  
You are the Spring of Family Happiness  
幸福家庭 全賴有您

**Post-Summit Workshops & Agency Visits Thursday August 23, 2018**

Details: [www.socsc.hku.hk/afs](http://www.socsc.hku.hk/afs)

Organizers: CIFA, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Family Council, HKCSS, etc.

# Wofoo Asian Award for Advancing Family Well-Being (Wofoo 3A Project) 2018

A total submission of 46 projects from 5 countries/regions has been received, breaking the records of past 3A Projects. Results of the First Round Adjudication have been announced and uploaded onto the CIFA website on 12 February. Interview Session for the 16 shortlisted teams will be held on 31 May and 1 June at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. 8 finalist teams selected to enter the Final Round Adjudication to be held on 21 August will receive subsidy to attend the Asian Family Summit (AFS) to be held in Hong Kong. The Award Presentation Ceremony will be held at the Gala Dinner immediately following the Final Round Adjudication. For more information of the Wofoo 3A Project 2018, you are most welcome to visit our CIFA website at <http://www.cifa-net.org>.

To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of CIFA and to capture the achievements made in the Wofoo 3A Project since its commencement in 2010, materials on the award winning projects of the past 3A Projects (2010, 2012, 2014, 2016) will be displayed during the Asian Family Summit, to share the knowledge, experience and practice wisdom of these great projects. You are cordially invited to visit these exhibitions and share your thoughts with the winning teams.

Some Important Dates:

## **Deadline for Submission for Second Round**

20 April 2018

## **Second Round Adjudication Interviews**

31 May - 1 June 2018

## **Announcement of Second Round Result**

11 June 2018

## **Final Round Adjudication**

21 August 2018 (at Asian Family Summit in Hong Kong)

## **Award Presentation Ceremony**

21 August 2018 (at Asian Family Summit in Hong Kong)

# Wofoo 3A Project 2018



# The Malaysian Cancer Care Initiative (MCCI) 2018 Summit



In my capacity as the Chairman of the Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society (HKACS) (an active member of CIFA), I have the honour and pleasure to be invited as an international speaker and expert panelist at the Malaysian Cancer Care Initiative Summit on 29 March, 2018 in Malaysia. The event, held in conjunction with World Cancer Day is themed “Cancer Care As It Should Be”, with the focus on Patient & Family Centred Care, to champion the significance of family engagement in the continuum of cancer care.

On the occasion, apart from joining other experts in the panel discussion, I presented a paper on “Accelerating the Fight Against Cancer as a Global Community”, sharing the work of the HKACS, the oldest cancer organisation in Hong Kong since 1963, and our experience on Cancer Family Support through the Walking Hand-in-Hand Project. The key points of my presentation were:-

**Our Mission: To Fight Against Cancer by Advocating, Engaging, Empowering and Supporting ALL. Milestones throughout the past 55 years, highlighting key services developed over the period.**

Systemic perspective and holistic approach, seeing the patients in the context of the other social systems which are all inter-related and having reciprocal effects on one another, and the significance of advancing the physical, psychological, social and spiritual well-being of patients and their family members in the cancer journey.

The Walking Hand-in-Hand Project (commenced in 2011) to meet the needs of cancer patients and their family care-givers in facing the many crises brought about by the onset and/or recurrence of cancer. With input from multi-disciplinary team of nurses, social workers, oncologist consultants and cancer survivors, it aims to reduce distress and improve quality of life, adopting a patient & family centred approach. Emphasis on evidence-based practice supported by evaluation conducted by independent research team from the University of Hong Kong.

The Summit was attended by 250 participants including medical, nursing, social work professionals from the public, private and NGO sectors, cancer researchers, cancer survivors and their care givers. The Summit was informative and stimulating, raising a lot of food for thought in providing “Cancer Care As It Should Be”, while providing an excellent opportunity for sharing and networking.



I also took the opportunity to meet Ms. Bawany Chinapan of the Help University, a CIFA Council member and others to publicise the Asian Family Summit, soliciting their assistance to spread the news and encourage people to register and submit abstracts for presentation during the Summit.

# Desistance from Crime among Young People in Hong Kong: Power of Filial Piety

**Grace Wing Yan AU**

*PhD Candidate, Department of Applied Social Science  
City University of Hong Kong*

Desistance from crime has become a fashionable topic in criminological research around the globe in recent two decades. The process of desistance from crime is complicated. There are several approaches to explain this process such as biological changes: growing old will stop committing crime; life course (Laub & Sampson, 2001) such as getting married or regular job; or cognitive transformation (Giordano, Cernkovich, & Rudolph, 2002). Researchers from the west suggest that family support is a significant factor linked to the process of desistance from crime. Nevertheless, when we compare the concept of "family support" with the concept of "filial piety", particularly in the Chinese context, filial piety seems to be more all-rounded than family support in describing the bonding and relationships between parents and children.



Influenced by the Confucian values, filial piety has been one of the most salient values for all Chinese families. Filial piety stresses the obligations of children towards parents. Yang (1997) described 15 aspects of Chinese filial piety, such as to revere and love your parents; to obey your parents; to let parents live without worry and to fulfil your parents' aspirations by joining the same occupation.

Hong Kong is a metropolitan city, more than 92% of people are Chinese ethnicity but strongly influenced by the western lifestyle. To explore whether filial piety is an important variable affecting desistance from crime in Hong Kong, the author conducted a qualitative study on young people in 2016. Data were collected between January and October 2016. Semi-structured interviews were conducted in Cantonese. 30 male participants were recruited and they aged between 17 and 33, with an average age of 22. All participants have manifested deviant behaviors and general offending before and are now either engaged in work or study. They have stopped committing crime or deviant behavior for at least 1 to 16 years after their sentences or referrals. Some of them did not have sentences from court but were referred to seek help from school or transferred to special institution to deal with their problem behaviors. Echo to the western literature, major findings on factors of desistance from crime were related to family bond.

## Filial Piety as the Power to Change

The support of family was identified by male participants as motivating their desistance from previous life styles. The important social capital related to family support was found in 20 out of 30 young men interviewed. Interestingly, the study findings showed that young men attributed their desistance from crime to the support of their family with a strong filial attitude.

**Case A:** A former robber, was sent to a Rehabilitation Center for 9 months when he was 22. He had a regular job before but he kept hanging out with dubious friends and eventually committed crimes such as stealing and burglary. Prior to his arrest, he had good relationship with his mother and elder brother but seldom talked to his father.

*Reason for Desistance from Crime: "When I was in the Rehabilitation Center, my parents and elder brother came to visit me every week. It was a long journey and the visit time only lasted less than thirty minutes, but they kept coming. Every visit they cried. I was touched and felt ashamed, especially when my father, always acted as a tough person, cried before me. This was the first time I saw him cry for me. I felt bad; I knew that I was wrong. I told myself that I could not give up; I have to reform myself and become a good person, a good son. After my discharge, I have to fulfil my obligation of filial piety; to find a job and provide financial support to my parents."*

**Case B:** A former drug dealer and drug abuser, started to associate with triad members when he was 14. Just a few days before his 16th birthday, he was arrested and sentenced to Drug Addiction Treatment Center for 6 months, and also placed under supervision for 1 year. He had fair relationship with his step-father and younger step-sister.

*Reason for Desistance from Crime: "When I was in the Drug Addiction Treatment Center, my parents came to visit me every week. From their facial expression, I could feel that they were in deep pain and sadness. I didn't want to let them worry about me and feeling hurt any more. I told myself as a filial son I should make them feel happy and not to let them worry about me."*

The Study findings have affirmed that when young offenders felt strong and positive support from their parents, they would have a strong motive to change their identities. They would be motivated to keep desistance from crime and stay in the right track in Hong Kong. Seemingly, the filial attitudes and beliefs have played as an invisible force within the family and the society. However, family love and support alone would not be sufficient as these young men might not be able to manage their life challenges on their own in the process of rehabilitation. External guidance and continued assistance from professionals would still be necessary to help strengthen their motivation to keep desistance from crime. In conclusion, filial piety has important influence over the desistance of the young offenders and family support should be seen as an important social capital in the rehabilitation of young offenders.

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(Note: This paper, first presented at the International Conference on Crime and Justice in Asia and the Global South on 10- 13 July 2017, was abstracted for presentation at CIFA-Net.)

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