



Mighty Oaks Foundation

ANNUAL

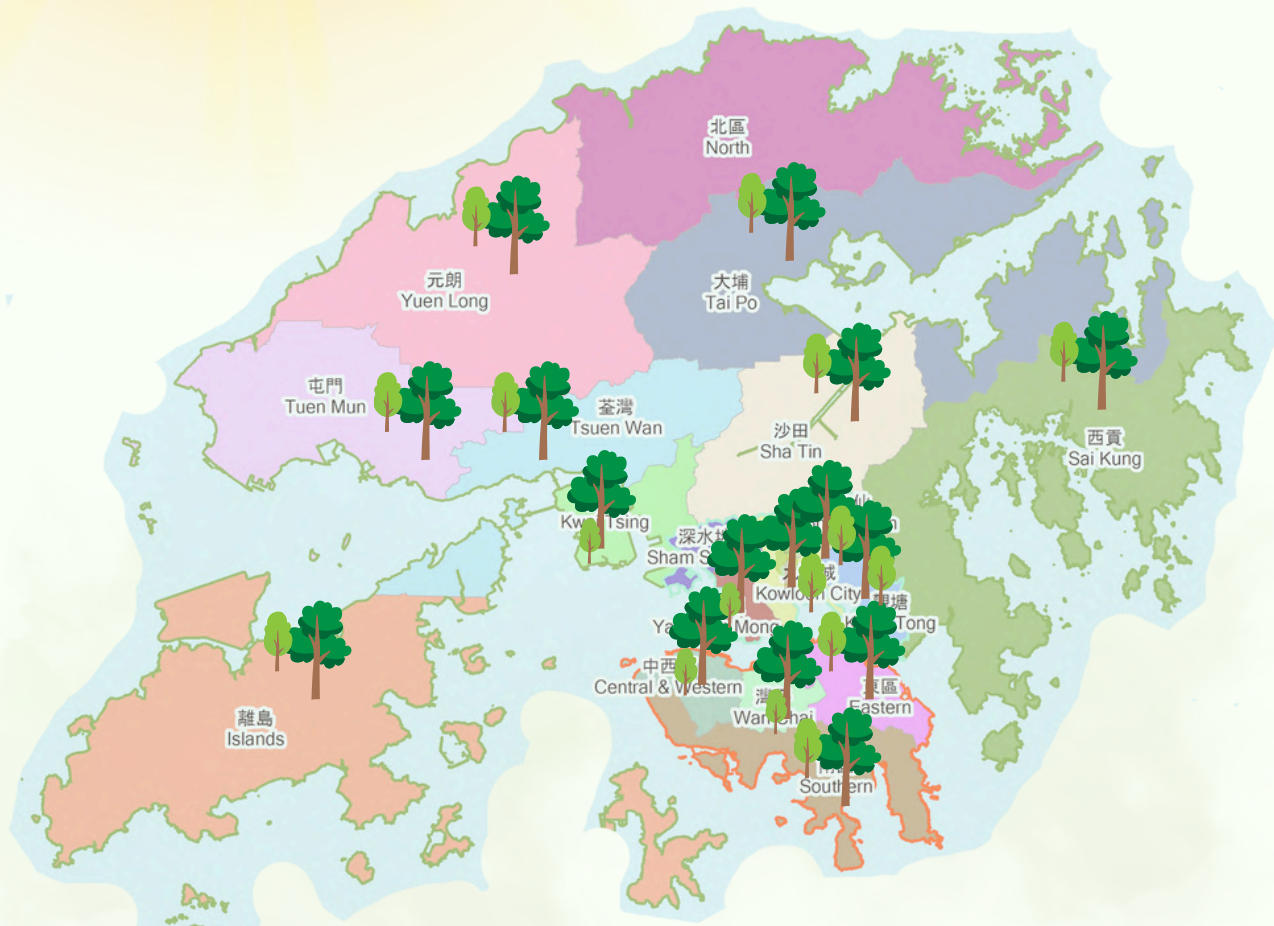
REPORT

2024



## CITY WIDE IMPACT

Mighty Oaks started operating in Hong Kong in 2017. We are Hong Kong's first non-profit solely focused on intergenerational practices to address social isolation and foster community through arts-based programmes. By pairing elder facilities with neighboring schools, our impactful programmes create meaningful connections and build a more interdependent Hong Kong for all ages.



*Except for the North district and the Sham Shui Po district, our programmes have reached 16 districts in Hong Kong in 2024*



# ANCHOR CHILDREN WITH ELDERS (ACE)



At the end of Grandma Ha's Project Sparkle classes at ACE Academy, Yauyau faced a daunting task during a music and movement class with a party theme.

Their task was to design a party hat for their final performance at graduation. Feeling uncertain about her writing skills, she was anxious about doing a good job.

With gentle patience, Grandma Ha taught Yauyau new words, nurturing their bond. When Yauyau presented her hat and saw she had written everything upside down, panic set in. But Grandma Ha embraced Yauyau reassuringly.



***"Mistakes are part of learning,"***  
shared Grandma Ha.

Yauyau looked on with joy as Grandma Ha wore her creation proudly during the performance.

This relationship highlights the transformative power of Mighty Oaks' programmes, where young and old come together to learn, support, and inspire one another.

Yauyau and Grandma Ha embody the heart of our mission: **uniting generations through art that celebrates interdependence and shared contributions.**

*All artwork featured in this report was created by children in the ACE ART programme- each piece crafted as a meaningful gift for community elders*





# IN 2024, TOGETHER WE ACHIEVED



+61% YOY

**29,870**

SERVICE HOURS

+23% YOY

**4,381**

ELDERS IN 50 ELDER  
FACILITIES

+27% YOY

**7,303**

STUDENTS IN 34  
SCHOOLS

+13% YOY





**VISION AND MISSION**

**FOUNDER'S MESSAGE**

**ACE ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS**

**ACE LINKS HIGHLIGHTS**

**ACE COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS**

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

**THANK YOU**





## VISION

A society that celebrates the interdependence and shared contributions of all generations.

## MISSION

Connecting old and young through intergenerational arts-based programmes.

# HK'S FIRST

## INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIP BUILDING NGO

68.3% of elderly individuals in Hong Kong experience feelings of loneliness\*, while many students report a sense of hopelessness regarding their futures. The gap in passing down heritage between generations has widened.

In response to these challenges, Mighty Oaks made a strategic pivot in 2024 to concentrate exclusively on an arts- based approach for all it's iGen relationship building programmes.

We have reinvigorated our mission and vision laying the groundwork for three strategic service pillars that embody our commitment to Anchor Children with Elders: ACE ACADEMY, ACE LINKS and ACE COMMUNITY.

\*SURVEY FROM CUHK AND SALVATION ARMY POLL, 2024.





# FOUNDER'S MESSAGE: FOOTPRINTS ACROSS GENERATIONS



Dear Friends,

Reflecting on 2024, I am filled with gratitude and optimism. Your unwavering support has been the heartbeat of our mission to bring old and young together, not just to bridge gaps but to transform futures, enabling harmony to emerge from apparent contradictions.

Our structured iGen learning programmes help vulnerable elders to develop social connections, embrace life-long learning and pass down cultural heritage. Youth befriend elders who may be 70 + years older, developing empathy, respect and understanding.



Together, let's continue to pay tribute to HK's elderly, often unsung heroes who have made our city glow, whose contributions have quietly shaped HK's identity. When young and old come together, incredible things happen.

We celebrate these outcomes, generated from our programme self-assessments:

**Increased social connections:** Both generations felt heard and cared for, reducing social isolation.

**Improved intergenerational understanding:** Old and young gained a better understanding of each other, becoming more confident and taking more initiative in communicating with people from other generations.

**Enhanced well-being:** Youth help elders feel more energised and purposeful.





# FOUNDER'S MESSAGE: FOOTPRINTS ACROSS GENERATIONS



Going forward, we plan to:

**Strengthen core partnerships:** exploring collaborative strategies with our core partners amidst government budget reductions. One example is the rollout of our 3-year iGen programme in all 7 care homes of one core partner, for old and young to grow together through horticulture and visual arts.

**Enhance character education through iGen learning:** AI is changing the importance of traditional knowledge learning. Our iGen learning programmes are being embraced by more schools, with youth learning better communication, resilience, and adaptability from their elderly buddies. One example is the growth of our ACE Schools programme, where elders co-learn with youth during school hours as part of the school curriculum.

**Enhance impact evaluation:** We plan to enhance evaluation metrics and feedback mechanisms across our core programmes to increase transparency and accountability, maximize our community impact, and create a lasting difference together. One example is the launch of an external evaluation for our longstanding ACE Academy programme.

Behind the statistics in this report are stories—lives touched, voices heard, futures rewritten—thank you for being part of our story. Your strong belief and generous encouragement have helped us to uplift communities, ensuring that the wisdom of older generations is passed down to future generations.

Thank you.

**With deep appreciation,**

**Poh Lee Tan**

**Founder, Mighty Oaks Foundation**





ANCHOR CHILDREN WITH ELDERS  
(ACE)





ACE ACADEMY



# ACE ACADEMY



Since 2017, Mighty Oaks has Anchored Community with Elders (ACE) through four key values of LOVE

**L**

## LINKING

elder facilities and schools

**V**

## VALUES

the journey over the outcome, ensuring mutual growth and respect



**O**

## OPPORTUNITY

for building intergenerational relationships

**E**

## EMPOWER

through arts-based programmes

## ACE GROW TOGETHER

This three-year horticulture programme is powered by an anonymous private foundation. Launched in 2024, we aim to bridge gaps in the social service sector by fostering collaboration between elder facilities and schools. We're excited to pair a Salvation Army (SA) care home with a SA nursery and a care home with a primary school from the SA family. Over 3 years, this programme will serve all 7 SA care homes.

## PROJECT SPARKLE

Project Sparkle has paired 40 elder care facilities with 40 primary schools in a nurturing programme centered on the transformative power of art, music and movement. This 2 year programme, powered by Operation Santa Claus and Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund, concluded in 2024.





# ACE ACADEMY ACE GROW TOGETHER

Bringing students from schools into elderly home, old and young plant, play and joyfully create artwork together. Through discussions on life, death, hope, patience, and the appreciation of beauty, they cultivate not just plants but also a nurturing community where both generations flourish together.

**2,464**

**SERVICE HOURS**

**308**

**OLD AND YOUNG  
BENEFICIARIES**



# ACE ACADEMY ACE GROW TOGETHER



Gonggong Chan lives at The Salvation Army Bradbury Home of Loving Kindness. Illness and age had left him feeling distant from family—most days were quiet and slow. That changed when he joined the ACE Grow Together class with students from the Salvation Army Tin Ka Ping School.

One of them was 11-year-old Hei-hei, whose laughter and energy gently drew Gonggong Chan out of his shell. Hesitant at first, he soon found himself smiling, playing games, and sharing snacks. Their time soon ended with a song sung by Hei-hei:

“藍色的天空任鳥飛，水邊青青小草讓我躺，心中永永遠遠懷念  
你，你是我家。” “The blue sky lets birds fly, the green  
grass by the water lets me lie down.  
In my heart, I'll always miss you  
—You are my home.”

## HIGHLIGHT STORY

As the children left, he waved goodbye with a soft smile. He's now looking forward to the next planting day—and seeing Hei-hei again. This is what Mighty Oaks is about: **helping elders feel seen and giving children a way to connect with their community.**





## ACE ACADEMY **ACE GROW TOGETHER**

"I've witnessed the warm interactions between elders and children, as they work together from planting to harvesting. Our mission is to bring children together with elders with less mobility, encouraging co-learning across generations. I'm looking forward to the next three years, hoping this initiative will flourish and bring our community closer together."

**RINGO TSOI**  
**LEAD INSTRUCTOR – ACE GROW TOGETHER**

# ACE ACADEMY PROJECT SPARKLE



Under ACE Academy, Project Sparkle wrapped up in 2024, highlighting the importance of iGen connections. The programme offered arts and crafts, as well as music and movement classes for both young and old. Some sessions were held online during the pandemic. Over two years, we reached 505 elders, promoting joy and companionship, while engaging 770 students to foster empathy, respect, and a deeper sense of community.

## 97%

**ENHANCED WELL  
BEING AND SENSE OF  
PURPOSE FOR ELDERS**

## 91%

**ELDERS FEEL  
ENERGIZED, HAPPY,  
INCREASED SELF  
ESTEEM**

## 84%

**STUDENTS FEEL MORE  
CONFIDENT IN  
COMMUNICATING  
WITH ELDERS**

## 84%

**STUDENTS LEARN  
ABOUT AGEING AND  
LIFESPAN  
DEVELOPMENT**



# ACE ACADEMY PROJECT SPARKLE

My name is Wing-nok, and I'm in Primary 4. When I first started spending time with Tse porpor, it wasn't easy. Her reminders sometimes felt like nagging, and I often got frustrated, wishing she'd let me do things my way.

However, as I got to know her better, I realized she wasn't trying to control me—she wanted to help me grow. Tse porpor taught me words I'd never heard before, and I began to see how much I could learn from her.

I used to be quite competitive with my classmates about art materials, always wanting to grab the best supplies for myself, without considering what others might need.

But over time, I learned the importance of collaboration. Now, I invite my teammates to help gather supplies after class and tidy up. It feels good to be thoughtful, and it makes our group stronger.



## HIGHLIGHT STORY





ACE LINKS



# ACE LINKS



Mighty Oaks leads the way in cultivating iGen leadership through ACE Links – a customised empowerment programme tailored for secondary school students (ACE Fellows), young olds (ACE Friends), and primary schools (ACE Schools).

By building age-specific pathways to connection, we equip each generation to become community leaders who foster meaningful and lasting iGen bonds.

## **ACE FELLOWS (SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS)**



## **ACE SCHOOLS (PRIMARY SCHOOLS)**



## **ACE FRIENDS (YOUNG OLDS)**



**IN 2024, WE HAVE ACHIEVED:**

# 300

**TRAIN THE TRAINER  
SESSIONS**

# 35

**IGEN INITIATIVES**

# 2400

**BENEFICIARIES**

# 130

**LESSONS**





## ACE LINKS FEEDBACK

**OUR 2024 COHORT CONNECTED ACROSS AGES TO DRIVE CHANGE, BUILD COMMUNITY AND LEAD WITH PURPOSE.**

**>80%**

**GAINED BETTER UNDERSTANDING  
TOWARDS PEOPLE OF OTHER  
GENERATIONS**

**>78%**

**AMAZED BY THE CAPABILITY  
OF THE OTHER GENERATIONS**

**>80%**

**BECAME MORE WILLING TO  
COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER  
GENERATIONS**



# ACE LINKS ACE FELLOWS



## WE EMPOWER THE NEXT GENERATION TO LEAD

Through our ACE LINKS training and coaching programme, students from various schools collaborate to launch their own iGen initiatives.



ACE Fellows lead group stretches in Chuk Lam Ming Tong Care & Attention Home for the Aged, bringing meaningful companionship to residents who often face the challenges of isolation, and encourage them to exercise more.



# ACE LINKS ACE SCHOOLS

## WE SUPPORT SCHOOLS TO LEAD

By providing shared learning and guidance to help schools implement in-curriculum iGen programmes.



Singapore International School (Hong Kong) invited elders from TWGHs Jockey Club Sunshine Complex for the Elderly next door to join their Chinese class, sharing festival celebration traditions while making craft together.



# ACE LINKS ACE FRIENDS



## WE EMPOWER YOUNG OLDS TO BECOME IGEN LEADERS

Young old volunteers share their valuable life lessons, introducing hobbies that cultivate shared interests, and teach positive values to primary school students. It helps create meaningful connections that celebrate and preserve our heritage in Hong Kong, while enhancing self-esteem and a more positive outlook for these volunteers.







The ACE Fellows programme is a unique empowerment initiative. It stands out internationally for its focus on secondary school students, granting them roles as iGen leaders. The programme develops essential skills among students while strengthening community connections, delivering mutual benefits and fostering joy across generations.

## **Dr Alan Lai, honorary consultant of Project LinkAges**

Associate Professor, Beijing Normal University & Hong Kong Baptist University United International College, specialising in intergenerational practices



ACE COMMUNITY



# ACE COMMUNITY



ACE Community brings children and elders together through art, dialogue, workshops and concerts—easing elder isolation and nurturing empathy in youth, with the support of corporate partners and donors.

## ACE ART

brings students across primary schools together to create meaningful artwork, personally gifted to community elders. It's a heartfelt, citywide movement that spreads creativity, kindness and connection across generations.

## OEP\* COLLABORATION

Guided by young old instructors, students explored heritage through visits to elderly homes and Chinese calligraphy, fostering meaningful connections in collaboration with the \*Opportunities for the Elderly Project by the Social Welfare Department.

## ACE TALKS

opens doors for students to dream bigger, guided by elders who share timeless life lessons. These inspiring sessions brings together students, professionals, and retirees—bridging generations and industries through stories of resilience and possibility.

## OTHER EVENTS

includes Global Intergenerational week, SDG summit, Charity Dinner, and Christmas Fair.







ACE COMMUNITY  
IMPACT

IN 2024,  
MIGHTY OAKS  
REACHED OUT TO

3,356

ELDERS

4,425

STUDENTS

84

IGEN SESSIONS





## ACE COMMUNITY ACE ART

As part of a citywide movement of care, ACE Art united 10 schools to create over 1,700 personalised Chinese fans—each a heartfelt message of love and respect for community elders, including those in care homes, singletons, and hidden elders. Led by Mighty Oaks, this powerful gesture reminded our seniors they are seen, valued, and cherished by the next generation.

With generous support from Chinachem, outstanding student artworks were showcased in a public mall, amplifying community awareness and celebrating the creativity and compassion of children across Hong Kong.





## ACE COMMUNITY ACE TALKS

Margaret, a retired nurse, found a new path as an aluminium-wire art instructor and dedicated Mighty Oaks volunteer. Her journey of perseverance and reinvention continues to inspire students through in-school value education talks, proving that purpose doesn't fade with age—it evolves.





# ACE COMMUNITY GLOBAL INTERGENERATIONAL WEEK

Mighty Oaks was proud to be the sole HK representative at Global Intergenerational Week (GIW), a vibrant international initiative led by Generations Working Together. With the powerful theme “Intergenerational Practice is ESSENTIAL,” the event united changemakers from Australia, Singapore, and across the Asia-Pacific to exchange ideas and spark action. Representing Hong Kong, Mighty Oaks showcased its ACE programme—demonstrating how anchoring children with elders cultivates deep iGen bonds and empowers community leadership across generations.





## ACE COMMUNITY SDG SUMMIT

Mighty Oaks joined the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summit, organised by the Canadian International School, where our founder Ms Poh Lee Tan shared with over 200 aspiring student leaders and NGOs representatives in the opening panel. In the interactive workshop, students explored what it's like to live like an elder, with physical and mental limitations, through simulation.

We also invited young olds to share their personal stories—speaking candidly about loneliness, feeling invisible in society, and the emotional challenges they face. Their message was simple but profound: sometimes, they just need to be seen and cared for.



# ACE COMMUNITY CHARITY DINNER RAY'S OF HOPE



In a night filled with warmth and purpose, Mighty Oaks' fundraising dinner brought together supporters and partners committed to iGen change, raising over **HK\$3.3 million** to further our mission. A highlight of the evening was a heartfelt collaboration: elders from Mighty Oaks' programmes teamed up with chefs from the Fullerton Hotel to prepare cherished family recipes, offering guests a meaningful taste of tradition and love.

The evening also featured a moving orchestral performance by students from Hong Kong International School, 220 wonderful spatulas painted by students from the Chinese International School, and a strong choir from the Chinese International School. This celebration of community, generosity and enduring bonds between generations was sponsored by Shaw Foundation (event sponsor) and Ng Teng Fong Foundation (venue sponsor), for which heartfelt thanks.



# ACE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS FAIR



Mighty Oaks brought festive cheer to the ACE Centre at M7, 7 Mallory Street, Wan Chai, transforming the space into a joyful hub of celebration and connection. Elderly centres members were warmly welcomed into this vibrant community setting for a day filled with meaningful interactions and holiday spirit.

The Christmas Fair featured engaging activities—from interactive games and ornament-making to photo booths and student-led carol sing-alongs—creating moments of laughter, warmth, and shared joy. It was a heartwarming celebration that beautifully bridged generations through the magic of the season.



# ACE COMMUNITY OEP

Samantha loves to draw, so she joined a Chinese calligraphy class at a community centre through Project Sparkle.

After a summer of practicing brush strokes and characters, her class visited a nearby elderly home—this time, to learn from an elder who had been doing calligraphy for years. When they arrived, Samantha and her friends were surprised. Boxes were stacked high, the space felt cramped, and many of the elders looked frail. It was a little overwhelming at first.

But as they began writing together and playing games, the atmosphere softened. Smiles appeared, conversations started, and the room felt warmer.

Samantha returned once more. The quiet joy on the elders' faces stayed with her. It made her realise how much a simple visit could mean—and how easily we can make someone feel remembered.



## HIGHLIGHT STORY





**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**



**TOGETHER, WE'RE GROWING A MOVEMENT—ROOTED IN CARE, LED BY  
GENERATIONS, AND READY TO FLOURISH**



Donation Income	HKD <b>2024</b> Unaudited	HKD <b>2023</b> Audited	Expenditure	HKD <b>2024</b> Unaudited	HKD <b>2023</b> Audited
Designated Donations	3,770,819	2,911,436	Programmes & Services	3,601,076	3,236,337
Non-Designated Donations	4,146,176	3,504,600	Operational	349,614	454,644
Other Income	316,371	129,849	Depreciation	0	0
<b>Total Donation Income</b>	<b>8,233,366</b>	<b>6,545,885</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>3,950,690</b>	<b>3,690,981</b>

We commit to keeping a total reserve of 150% of our annual expenses in cash and liquid instruments to ensure that in times of economic unpredictability and in extreme emergencies, we can always continue to provide support to the most vulnerable.





**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**





## Programme sponsors

**Chinachem Group**

**Drs Richard Charles and Esther Yewpick Lee  
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**Mr and Mrs Lau Chung Him Memorial  
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**Operation Santa Claus**

**Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship  
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**The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust**

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# THANK YOU

## Donation Methods

### Bank Transfer

Payee: Mighty Oaks Foundation Limited

Bank Name: HSBC

Account Number: 848-709812-001

Bank Code: 004

### Cheque

Payable to: Mighty Oaks Foundation Limited

### FPS

100577022

### PayMe



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