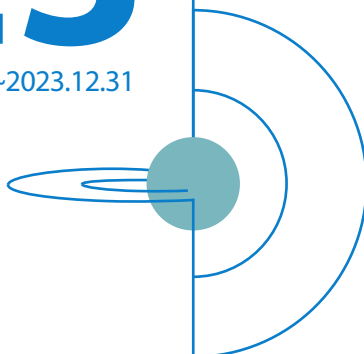




Buddhist Tzu Chi
Charity Foundation
Annual Report

20
23

2023.1.1~2023.12.31



Great Love Never Rests -- Bringing Good to the World

Thank you for joining us
in lighting the way
to serve as the greatest support
for those in suffering.
Your loving-kindness and acts
of goodness are
the driving force behind
Tzu Chi's continued efforts.
With kindness and love, we can
illuminate the world.

Upholding the spirit of
humanitarian care,
Tzu Chi volunteers are
spread across **68**
countries/regions.
(as of April 2024)

with charitable
footprints having
reached **136**
countries/regions
around the world.
(as of May 2024)



Housing:
A total of
22,743 houses
have been built
in **18** countries.
(as of June 2024)



Free clinics:
Tzu Chi International
Medical Association (TIMA)
has held
18,386 free clinics
in **58** countries/regions,

providing
4,021,508
instances of care.

Rice from Taiwan:
A total of **154,380**
metric tons of rice
have been distributed
in **20** countries/regions.



Disaster relief
blankets:
A total of
1,451,856
disaster relief blankets
have been distributed
in **47** countries/
regions (includes local
procurement).

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Learn more
about Tzu Chi



global.tzuchi.org



Facebook

Words from Our Founder

Time flies by, unstoppable and ungraspable. However, for those suffering from poverty and illness or those affected by disasters, every second feels like an eternity—it is truly difficult to endure!

"When others are hurt, I feel pain; when others suffer, I feel sorrow." When we see people in poverty and suffering, we must promptly help them with utmost sincerity. With Tzu Chi's charity work spanning the globe, whatever we can do, we must do it with all our dedication. Whether in international disaster relief, poverty alleviation, or reconstruction assistance, we must act with sincerity, love, and compassion to relieve suffering and bring joy.

Natural Disasters and Hardships Reveal the Impermanence of Life

In the early morning of February 6, 2023, a strong earthquake struck southern Türkiye near the Syrian border, resulting in nearly 60,000 deaths. In a matter of seconds, the lives of countless people completely changed. Amid the freezing cold with their collapsed homes and continuous aftershocks, it must have been terrifying. Not only must that period have been difficult to live through, but the fear, suffering, and hardship they experienced must have been unbearable.

Before the earthquake struck, perhaps these people were dreaming sweet dreams, but these dreams were shattered before they could awaken. In an instant, everything they had was gone. They were separated from their closest and dearest as their world turned into a living hell. The indescribable pain and soundless cries can only be described with one word: heartbreaking.

In the past, Taiwan also experienced the Jiji Earthquake, so we could empathize with them and wished to quickly mobilize and help those suffering from the disaster. However, Tzu Chi volunteers in Türkiye are located in Istanbul, over a thousand kilometers from the disaster area, making delivering large amounts of supplies challenging. The Turkish Trade Office in Taipei initiated a material donation drive, enlisting Tzu Chi's Neihsu Office to assist in receiving the items. A Tzu Chi disaster assessment team also went to Türkiye to give support, where they locally purchased and distributed relief materials. The team also assessed mid- to long-term reconstruction needs to help the affected people settle down, feel at ease, and recover their livelihoods.

The same year, far across the Pacific Ocean, on August 8, the vacation paradise of Hawaii experienced severe wildfires. One of the Hawaiian Islands, Maui, burned for several days. In a panic, people fled for their lives, leaving their homes that were reduced to ashes. With sincere hearts, Tzu Chi volunteers packed relief supplies and eco-friendly blankets and respectfully distributed cash cards, providing the affected people with short-term relief. Most importantly, the respect and love from the volunteers helped calm the survivors' minds.

I often say that when we are safe and well, we should be content and appreciate our blessings. Those who are blessed should put their love into action. I am grateful to all the Bodhisattvas around the world who continuously gather people's love, little by little. The supplies received by the suffering will provide temporary relief, but what we give is the eternal value of life. Moreover, in giving, we attain a sense of peace and freedom.



Tzu Chi Charity Foundation Founder,
釋證嚴 *Shih Cheng Yen*

Bodhisattvas Gather to Relieve Suffering

For years, I have had a wish—to give back to the Buddha's homeland. The Buddha was born in Lumbini, Nepal, but over two thousand five hundred years later, little has changed there; poverty and hardship still persist. I am very grateful to the Tzu Chi volunteers from Malaysia and Singapore, many of whom have put their businesses aside to be stationed permanently in the Buddha's homeland. There are also numerous Bodhisattvas taking turns to stay there, continuously promoting charitable, medical, and educational assistance projects, transforming the lives of the local people through concrete actions.

As long as we have the will, there is nothing in the world that cannot be achieved with time and dedication. Over half a century ago Tzu Chi began with nothing, from saving fifty cents a day for donations, we have come to where we are today. I am so grateful to everyone for working in harmony to accumulate the power of many small acts of kindness. No matter which country or region you are in, you give with love to your local community, relieving suffering.

Tzu Chi is about selfless great love, about giving without expecting anything in return. This is not just a slogan; it is something I have truly witnessed myself. What we engage in is not a profit-driven business or occupation, but a mission to benefit the world. This is the way we express our religion, and this is the meaning of "spreading the Dharma and benefiting sentient beings."

"Spreading the Dharma" is not just about preaching Buddhist sutras to the public, but about acting in accord with our words in our daily lives. Hand in hand, we work together, taking each other as role models and encouraging and learning from one another. It is rare to be born human, and it is rare to have the affinity to be in the Tzu Chi family, so we must treat each other with sincerity and respect. Our interactions must be defined by gratitude, respect, and love, for only then can we unite everyone's great love to benefit people and society.

Excerpted from: *Tzu Chi Almanac 2023*

Words from Our CEO

In 2023, although the COVID-19 pandemic had mostly ended, many places in the world remained in a state of crisis due to natural disasters and human conflicts. The Russia-Ukraine war extended into its second year with no end in sight, displacing many millions of Ukrainians, while the Türkiye-Syria Earthquake in February claimed over 50,000 lives. As we entered summer, intensifying global warming led to numerous natural disasters. The United Nations declared that the earth had entered an era of "global boiling," with the average global surface temperature reaching a record high in 2023. In October, the conflict between Hamas and Israel erupted, with the New York Times noting that the civilian death rate in the Israel-Palestine war was unprecedented in the 21st century, surpassing the death toll from natural disasters.

Tzu Chi continued to support the Ukrainian refugees displaced by the Russia-Ukraine war, providing mid- to long-term support in terms of shelter, language and vocational training, education, employment, and physical and mental health. This was achieved through local volunteers trained in Poland, Ukrainian refugees assisting as cash-for-work volunteers, and collaboration with 13 international and local NGO partners.

The February 6 Türkiye-Syria Earthquake was one of Tzu Chi's key international humanitarian aid efforts of the year. Tzu Chi's team of volunteers from Taiwan and Istanbul were among the groups allowed to enter the severely affected disaster areas for disaster assessment. They conducted 74 distribution events across four provinces, helping over 40,000 households, a total of nearly 200,000 disaster survivors. In response to an appeal from the Turkish representative office in Taiwan, the Taiwanese people generously donated materials for earthquake relief at Tzu Chi's Neihu office, where Tzu Chi volunteers from across Taiwan packed over 400 tons of new, unused items within just a week to aid Türkiye.

Although we cannot predict the occurrence of disasters, we must always maintain the best possible level of disaster preparedness. Tzu Chi's disaster relief efforts are characterized by its compassionate technology, often using items such as Tzu Chi's multi-purpose foldable beds, tables and chairs, and eco-friendly blankets. Recently developed partition tents provided privacy protection for disaster victims during the 2024 April 3 earthquake in Hualien and were recognized by both Taiwanese and Japanese media. With the addition of the newly patented storage cabinets and mosquito nets, a complete shelter and resettlement kit was showcased at the "Multi-Faith Leaders Climate Resilience Roundtable" held in Washington, D.C. on April 17, receiving high praise.

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, approximately 40% of the global population is at high risk of climate change-related disasters. Facing this severe reality, Tzu Chi voluntarily joined the net-zero initiative in 2021, formulating a net-zero carbon emission strategy and moving towards green energy creation, smart energy storage, and precise energy use. Following the completion of a greenhouse gas emission inventory for the Hualien Jing Si Hall in 2022, Tzu Chi completed carbon inventories and certifications for 10 of its major venues in 2023. Using 2023 as the baseline year, strategies and actions have been formulated to achieve the 2050 net-zero emission target.

In response to the inflation and energy and food crises brought about by the Russia-Ukraine war and the pandemic, Tzu Chi provided economic relief through charity interventions as well as spiritual encouragement through a series of grand musical performances titled "Passing on the Dharma of Infinite Meanings." A

total attendance of over 250,000 Tzu Chi volunteers and members of the public participated in the performances, which combined art and teachings to interpret the life of the Buddha, the essence of the Sutra of Infinite Meanings, and the history of Tzu Chi's missions, while at the same time praying for Taiwan and the world. All in all, these performances touched nearly a million participants and audiences worldwide.

Inspired by Master Cheng Yen's compassionate mission to "give back to the Buddha's homeland," Tzu Chi volunteers from Malaysia, Singapore, and Taiwan registered an international non-governmental organization (INGO) in Nepal. In Lumbini and Kapilavastu, Nepal as well as Bodh Gaya, India, Tzu Chi carried out initiatives in the areas of charity, medicine, education, and humanistic culture, including vocational training for vulnerable women, free medical clinics, school construction, and educational support. The goal is to help the residents of the homeland of the Buddha transform their lives both physically and spiritually.

In the Asia-Pacific Sustainability Action Awards, Tzu Chi stood out, winning gold awards for three projects: "SDG03 - Eco-friendly Assistive Devices for Sustainable Charity," "SDG04 - PaGamO Disaster Prevention Learning," and "SDG12 - Order VO2 to Reduce CO2." These accolades recognize our innovative achievements in charitable care, environmental education, promotion of vegetarian diets, and environmental issues. Tzu Chi's 2020-2021 Sustainability Report was awarded the "2023 SGS ESG Award for Diversity and Inclusion," where Tzu Chi was the only recipient. The Vision Future Incubator won the top prize in the Ministry of Economic Affairs' "Buying Power Social Innovation Products and Services Procurement Award" program. Moreover, the Tzu Chi International Youth Association's (TIYA) innovative Chinese language teaching platform, "El Menahil Promise - Chinese Language Tutoring Project for Syrian Refugee Students," received excellent evaluations in the Ministry of Education's Youth Development Administration's 2023 "Outstanding Overseas Volunteer Service Teams" assessment.

Observing the global situation in 2023 and 2024, global warming, constant disasters, wars and conflicts, and forced displacement are affecting people regardless of wealth or status. As management of a charitable organization with an unshirkable responsibility, we will put even more effort into strengthening Tzu Chi's governance, cross-domain digitalization, empowerment, and succession, promoting vegetarianism for disaster prevention, and achieving net-zero sustainability. Aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals, deepening environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices, and practicing corporate social responsibility (CSR), we will continue to work in four directions to: "Establish systems and strengthen governance," "Pass on the teachings and cultivate talents," "Foster global partnerships for common goodness," and "Improve information and revitalize finance." In doing so, we seek to contribute to the sustainability of the Earth, humankind, and Tzu Chi.



Tzu Chi Charity Foundation

CEO, *Do-zen Yen*

Global Charitable Efforts

In 2023, despite the COVID-19 pandemic coming under control, the world continued to face various challenges such as the Russia-Ukraine war, climate change, frequent disasters, and economic recession. These issues have exacerbated the wealth gap, increased food shortages, unemployment rates, and displaced populations, pushing more people into hunger and homelessness.

Tzu Chi remains committed to its five major charity action plans: "End Poverty and Hunger, Combat Climate Change and Provide Humanitarian Aid, Address Declining Birthrate and Aging Society, Protect the Environment and Raise Awareness, and Foster Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development." Such charitable work in Taiwan and 51 other countries ensures that "Great Love Never Rests."

In Taiwan, efforts to end poverty extend from individuals and families to communities, nurturing youth, caring for the elderly, and emphasizing disaster prevention, mitigation, and relief. Not only is immediate care provided, but through innovative charity programs, cooperation is expanded by combining the strengths of the public and private sectors as well as enterprises. This relieves the disadvantaged, impoverished, and disaster-affected individuals from hardship so they can become self-reliant and ultimately break the cycle of poverty.

Furthermore, sustainable development is a global concern. According to the latest report released by the United Nations in September 2023, out of 36 sustainable development targets reviewed, only two are being achieved, eight are deteriorating, and the progress of the remaining goals is slow or stagnant. To create a sustainable future and protect more disaster-affected communities, Tzu Chi integrates environmental protection, social responsibility, and governance concepts into its actions.

Total
28,229,655
Beneficiaries
(instances)

14,807,290
Volunteer
mobilization
(instances)

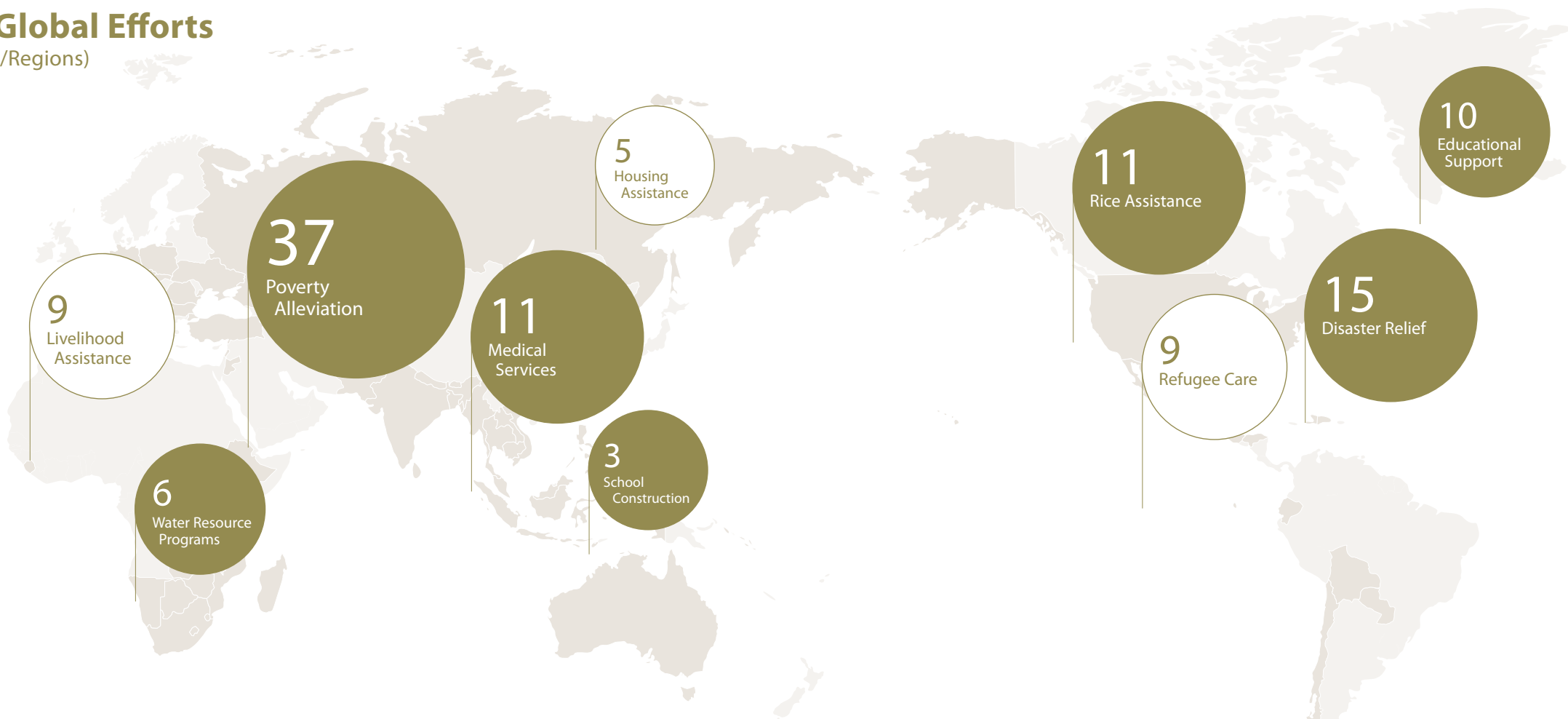
Calculation Basis:
Total number of volunteer instances × 774 TWD per instance.
Reference: In 2023, the minimum hourly wage in Taiwan was 176 TWD. Assuming an average of 4 hours per volunteering per instance per day with an additional meal allowance of 70 TWD, the calculation is as follows: (176 TWD × 4 hours) + 70 TWD = 774 TWD. This amount does not include other costs personally covered by volunteers, such as domestic and international transportation, accommodation, and other additional expenses.

Volunteer mobilizations totaled **14,807,290** instances, equivalent to an economic contribution of **11.4 billion TWD** (11,460,842,460 TWD, approx. 353 million USD).

2023 Charitable Achievements

	 Social Assistance	 Disaster Relief	 Scholarships	 Child Welfare	 Senior Welfare	 Community Welfare	 Volunteer Service	 Education Mission
Key Focus and Actions	End Poverty and Hunger Foster Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development	End Poverty and Hunger Combat Climate Change and Provide Humanitarian Aid Foster Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development	End Poverty and Hunger Youth Assistance and Development	Youth Assistance and Development Foster Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development	Care for the Aging Society	End Poverty and Hunger Environmental Education and Ecological Conservation	End Poverty and Hunger Foster Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development	Environmental Education and Ecological Conservation Foster Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development
Beneficiaries (instances)	7,609,607	1,381,756	23,976	1,621,045	2,999,350	8,468,732	6,077,167	48,022
Volunteer mobilization (instances)	2,841,390	33,481	51,229	163,168	8,137,161	2,427,401	1,144,316	9,144

2023 Global Efforts
(Countries/Regions)



Poverty Alleviation			Disaster Relief		Medical Services				Rice Assistance	Educational Support	Livelihood Assistance	Refugee Care	Water Resource Programs	Housing Assistance	
Asia:	Africa:	Americas:	Asia:	Africa:	Asia:			Asia:	Asia:	Asia:	Asia:	Asia:	Asia:	Asia:	
India	Malawi	Mexico	Myanmar	Mozambique	Nepal			Haiti	Vietnam	India	Thailand	India	Philippines	Philippines	
Nepal	Mozambique	Paraguay	Nepal	Morocco	India			Sint Maarten	Cambodia	Myanmar	Jordan	Nepal	Nepal	Nepal	
Philippines	South Africa	Ecuador	Pakistan	Africa:	Philippines			Honduras	Nepal	Nepal	Turkey	Africa:	Africa:	Vietnam	
Sri Lanka	Zimbabwe	Haiti	Singapore		Myanmar	Jordan			Madagascar	India	Zimbabwe			Syria	Zimbabwe
Thailand	Zambia	Chile	Türkiye		Australia	Syria			South Africa	Türkiye	Zambia			Poland	Uganda
Cambodia	Uganda	Sint Maarten	Syria	New Zealand	Pakistan			Sierra Leone		Uganda	Ukraine	Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone	School Construction	
Vietnam	Sierra Leone	Guatemala						Lesotho	Africa:	Malawi	Romania	Mozambique	Mozambique		
Japan	Lesotho	Dominican Republic	Americas:					Botswana	South Africa	Mozambique	Moldova				
Thailand	Botswana	Honduras	USA					Eswatini	Zimbabwe		Serbia			Asia:	
Myanmar	South Sudan	Bolivia	Canada					Mozambique	Eswatini					Nepal	
Jordan	Eswatini		Paraguay						Mozambique					Americas:	
Russia	Ethiopia													Mexico	
Türkiye	Madagascar		Europe:											Africa:	
	Namibia		United Kingdom											Mozambique	
			Ukraine												



22 Counties/Cities
423,971 Families
Support for
Disadvantaged
Families

22 Counties/Cities
31,874 Items
Eco-Friendly
Assistive Devices

21 Counties/Cities
517 Homes
Housing Repairs

22 Counties/Cities
2,829 Homes
Home Safety
Improvements



Emergency Assistance

21 Counties/Cities **17,647** Instances

Community Emergency Care

21 Counties/Cities **213** Instances

Post-disaster Repairs Reconstruction

1 Counties/Cities **5** Homes **2** schools



Scholarships

21 Counties/Cities **23,976** Instances

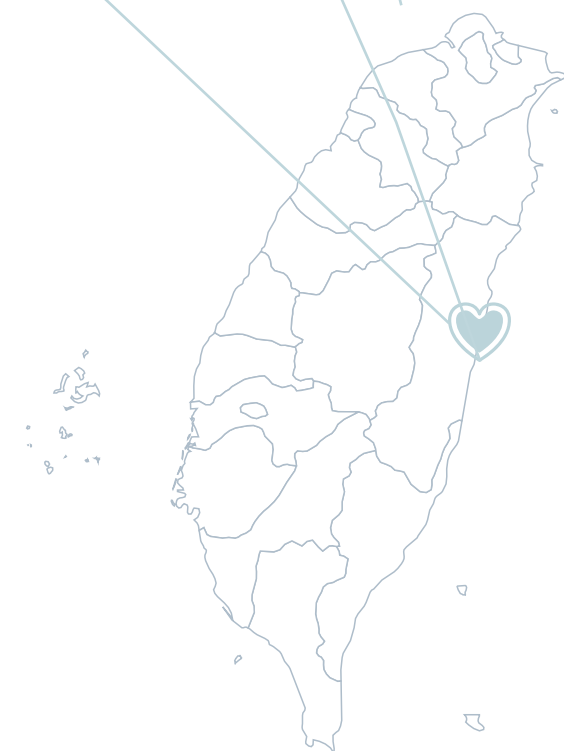
Support for Disadvantaged Children

18 Counties/Cities **241,200** Instances

Youth Online Learning Program

3,888 Instances

Charity Work in Taiwan



Unit A Long-term Care

10 Counties/Cities **22** Locations

Unit B Long-term Care (Home-based care)

10 Counties/Cities **13** Locations

Unit B Long-term Care (Home and Daycare)

5 Counties/Cities **5** Locations

Unit B Long-term Care (Daycare Centers)

4 Counties/Cities **7** Locations

Unit C Long-term Care Locations

16 Counties/Cities **103** Locations



Free Clinic Events

19 Counties/Cities **254** Sessions



Institutional Care

21 Counties/Cities **931** Instances

Community Care Locations

14 Counties/Cities **93** Locations

Charity and Public Welfare Cooperation

15 Counties/Cities **172** Institutions

Action 1

End Poverty and Hunger



Looking around the world, we witness suffering and hardship everywhere. Wars have displaced countless people, and severe food shortages are affecting many African countries.

According to the United Nations' latest report, "Hunger Hotspots," the severity of hunger or food insecurity in 18 out of 22 hotspot countries and regions has likely continued to worsen

in the second half of 2023 due to global conflicts, extreme climate conditions, and economic inflation.

Hunger and food insecurity are global issues that affect the quality of life and survival rights of millions. In many conflict regions, ongoing wars and instability directly disrupt food production and supply chains. Additionally, extreme climate events such as droughts and floods severely impact crop yields, exacerbating food shortages. Furthermore, global economic inflation has driven up food prices, making it difficult for many low-income families to afford basic food needs.

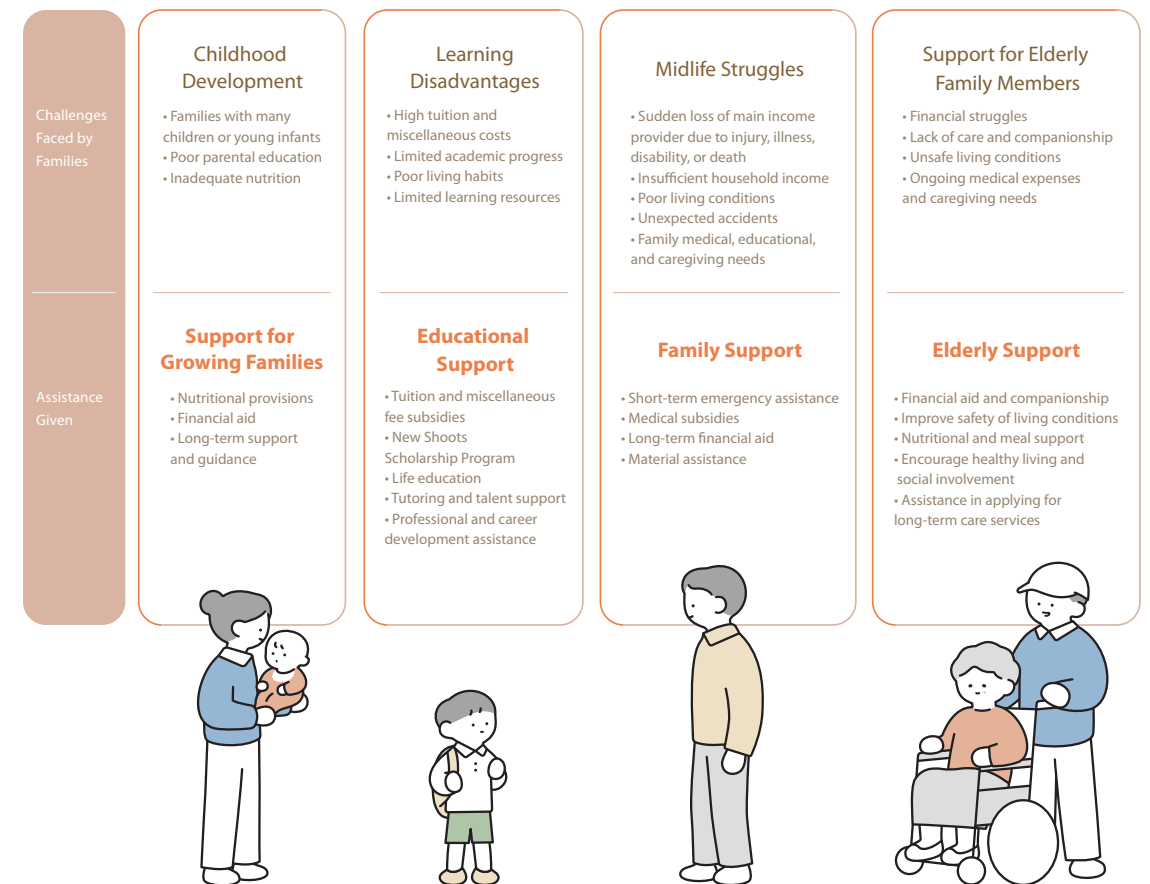
In response to these challenges, Tzu Chi actively engages in various efforts to alleviate poverty and provide humanitarian aid, partnering with international organizations to progress towards the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal of "Zero Hunger."

1-1 Alleviating Poverty in Taiwan

Long-term and short-term financial aid, housing repairs, medical subsidies, diverse programs, supportive services, and healthcare plans to assist economically disadvantaged individuals or families needing financial assistance, mental care, and team support.

Institutional care, livelihood counseling, and medical services to protect community members such as the elderly living alone, people with physical and mental disabilities, low-income households, and indigenous and rural farmers.

Holistic, Family-wide, and Continuous Support for Underprivileged Families



Diverse Care and Comprehensive Support

The family is the basic unit of society. With trends such as declining birth rates, an aging population, changes in the social environment, and shifting values, Taiwan's family structures have become more diverse, with an increasing number of single-parent families, single-person households, skipped-generation families, and small families.

In 2023, Tzu Chi's types of care and support cases included single-parent families, small families, and elderly individuals living alone, accounting for 92.5% of all cases. In response to the shrinking family structures and the gradual disappearance of family functions, we focus on the family as the core and the community as the foundation, enhancing diverse care actions. We provide assistance based on the needs of different age groups, offering support and services in various aspects, including economic support, psychological care, and home environment improvements. By providing "holistic, family-wide, and continuous" support, we ensure effective responses to changes, offering appropriate assistance and care.

Support for Disadvantaged Families



Beneficiaries:
1,138,440 instances

Volunteer involvement:
1,138,440 instances

Monthly Living Allowance
124,450 instances of economic support for families

Home Care Visits
204,569 instances of home visits

Home Environment Improvements
3,318 households ensured safe living conditions

Medical and Long-term Care Subsidies
4,019 instances of medical care provided

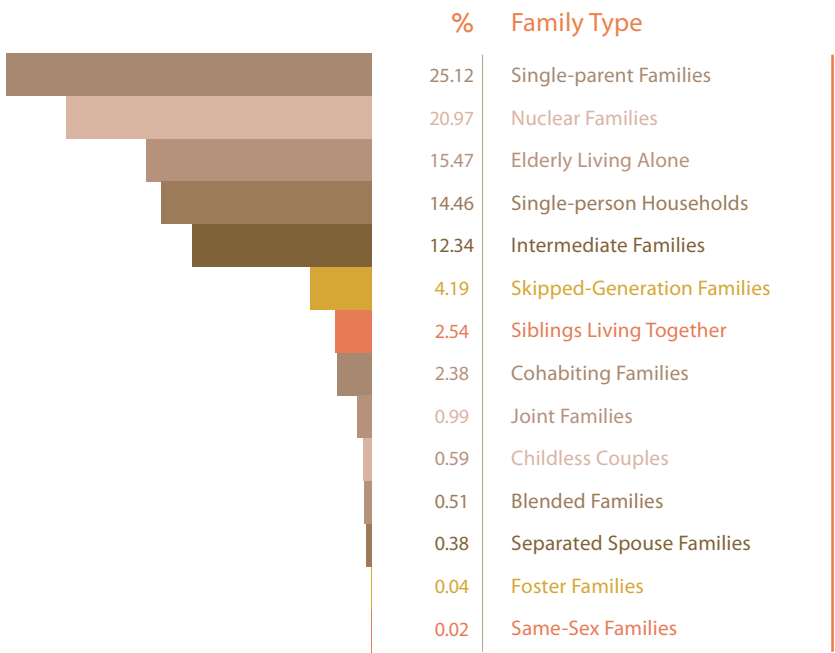


Winter Warmth Program
29,205 households enjoyed a warm New Year

Festive Care
49,440 instances of care given during the festive season

Emergency Assistance
12,370 instances of care for families

Funeral Assistance
1,258 instances of funeral assistance given



Educational Support for Low-Income Families

Beneficiaries: 269,064 instances
Volunteer Involvement: 70,739 instances

Scholarship and Tuition Assistance
23,976 instances

Nutrition Subsidies
93,704 instances

Tutoring Services
81,426 instances

Diverse Learning Support
(vocational training, specialized training, and career development)
69,958 instances

Community Charity Services

Beneficiaries: 1,120,283 instances
Volunteer Involvement: 180,787 instances

- Target groups
- 1. Residents in remote areas, offshore islands, low to middle-income households, people with disabilities, new immigrants, foreign workers, homeless individuals, people with mental disabilities, etc.
 - 2. Residents of educational and care institutions, disability and foster care institutions, nursing homes, prisons, police agencies, homeless care agencies, vegetative state care institutions, etc.

Service Items:
Economic assistance, livelihood support, agricultural training, free clinics, home visits, health promotion, public welfare cooperation, home visits, etc.

Rebirth Amid the Impact of the Pandemic

Situation: Impact of the Pandemic in 2021
Assistance: Monthly financial aid, emergency assistance, provision of assistive devices, material support

The impact of the pandemic includes widespread economic downturn. On the evening of July 13, 2021, a heartbreaking call was received by a radio program. The caller, struggling to speak through tears, mentioned that he could no longer sustain his life and considered leaving this world together with his 88-year-old mother.

The caller was 62-year-old Ching-tung Hsieh, who owned a self-branded clothing store in the Ximen shopping district. The COVID-19 pandemic left his store deserted, pushing him to the brink of collapse. The overwhelming pressure, crippling debt, and his deteriorating health led to significant weight loss and sleepless nights, leading to thoughts of suicide.

As the program was nearing its end, the call concluded, but another story was just beginning. Kind-hearted listeners, who had never met Hsieh, found ways to help. Tzu Chi volunteers, upon hearing about the situation, extended timely assistance. They provided financial aid and listened attentively, offering comprehensive support that included counseling, assistive devices, and economic help. Home care services were introduced, allowing Hsieh to focus on his work. During the most challenging times of the pandemic, he was given the chance to set up a temporary stall at the Red House Creative Boutique in Ximending, Taipei to sell handmade bags.

The unforeseen and inevitable hardships brought by the pandemic were mitigated by the kindness of strangers, forming a strong safety net that caught falling families and helped them overcome their difficulties.



A Sixteen-Year-Old's Farming Dream

Situation: Four generations living together, a teenager with epilepsy, parents doing odd jobs to make a living
Assistance: Emergency assistance, educational subsidies, New Sprouts Scholarship

"Chopping scallions for one night earns about 200 TWD. Many people ask me why I do this job. This income helps my family!" says 16-year-old Hsin-Hsiang.

The "Scallion House" is like a small family workshop where people process red shallots, garlic sprouts, and scallions, earning wages based on weight. This is a common way for women and elders in rural areas to make extra money. Despite frequently being brought to tears by the pungency of scallions and garlic, Hsin-Hsiang willingly participates to help support his family.

With four generations among them, this household of ten includes three seniors, four children, and one family member with illness, Hsin-Hsiang's parents can barely make ends meet by doing odd jobs. His grandmother cooks six meals a day and takes care of his 90-year-old great-grandmother at night, but her strength is waning. Hsin-Hsiang, who suffers from epilepsy, worries about his grandmother's exhaustion and started working at the age of 13 to help save on grocery bills. Since middle school, he has been cultivating a piece of land to grow vegetables. Unafraid of failure, he improved his techniques and yielded abundant crops of cabbage, cauliflower, and kohlrabi. This saves a significant amount on food expenses, and he even shares the vegetables with elderly neighbors living alone.

When the pandemic broke out, they became the first confirmed case in the village, and the entire family was quarantined for 21 days without any income. Tzu Chi's emergency relief funds helped them through the crisis and provided educational subsidies, encouraging the children not to give up on their studies. Hsin-Hsiang has been admitted to his first choice to study Agricultural Technology at National Formosa University. His excellent farming skills were repeatedly recognized, and he won numerous awards representing the school in competitions.

Just like the seeds he planted with his own hands, although they started small, after years of nurturing, they eventually broke through the hard soil and sprouted new growth.



"Everything I've planted failed, but I won't give up. I love vegetable farming too much to quit."
Hsin-Hsiang Liao

Twelve Years of Support to Realize a Dream of Studying Medicine

Situation: Father diagnosed with cancer and no income for the family.
Assistance: Monthly living allowance, educational subsidies, student development, emergency assistance, and home improvements.



Fair and cute five-year-old Chun-Yi was a popular child star who had appeared in many commercials and even traveled to China for filming. However, misfortune struck the family as his father was diagnosed with stage four nasopharyngeal cancer, so little Chun-Yi's career came to an abrupt halt.

Watching his father suffer from the illness, five-year-old Chun-Yi made a promise to his father: "I want to be a doctor so I can cure your disease without surgery." His mother couldn't work as she had to take care of his father. In 2011, Tzu Chi learned about their family's difficulties and provided living allowances and educational subsidies for Chun-Yi and his two brothers, supporting the family for 12 years.



Knowing that only education could turn his life around, Chun-Yi vowed to study hard to change his family's situation. His academic performance was outstanding, winning the Tzu Chi New Shoots Scholarship for ten consecutive years. In 2022, he won the gold medal in the National Physics Research and Practical Competition and the gold award for the Advanced Placement Exams (APX) for Intermediate and Advanced Chemistry at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University.

His older brother has graduated and is about to enter the workforce, his second brother is studying at the University of Science and Technology, and Chun-Yi successfully passed the entrance exam for the medical school at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, fulfilling the promise he made to his father 13 years ago. Chun-Yi shared with everyone: "Never doubt the efforts of your hardest-working self because it is those efforts that bring you to where you are today."

A New Life for a Homeless Elderly Man

For Tie Bin, homelessness was once a choice borne out of resentment. A volunteer once asked Tie Bin, "You are still physically able and not too old; you can work. Why have you been wandering outside for seven or eight years without looking for a job?" He answered, "Because of low self-esteem and negativity. I didn't want to interact with people or deal with anyone at all."

Sixty-three-year-old Tie Bin was born on the Thai-Myanmar border and came to Taiwan more than thirty years ago. Having experienced many changes, he repeatedly chose a life without a fixed residence. He would eat offerings from funeral homes to stave off hunger or scavenge through trash cans; when tired, he would sleep in parks or under bridges, indifferent to cockroaches crawling over him. His approximately eight years of homelessness were filled with loneliness and despair. He became increasingly depressed, troubled, and desperate to end his life.

One evening in May 2020, he prepared a rope, intending to end it all on a tree, but a sudden downpour extinguished his suicidal thoughts. The next day, while aimlessly wandering the streets, he happened to look up and saw the word "Tzu Chi" above the Shuanghe Jing Si Hall. Recalling that Tzu Chi had provided disaster relief in Myanmar following Cyclone Nargis in 2008, and having stayed in Myanmar himself, he walked into the Jing Si Hall out of curiosity. This marked a turning point in his life, transforming him from being homeless to finding a spiritual home.

Volunteers showed him care and concern, discovering that he had been sleeping under a bridge for many years. They felt great compassion for him and managed to rent a room for him. Tie Bin insisted on not accepting monetary help, so the volunteers assisted him in finding job opportunities, allowing him to have a regular income to pay his rent. As his life gradually stabilized, Tie Bin also became a recycling volunteer to help sort recyclables. With the help of Tzu Chi volunteers, he reunited with his sister, whom he had lost contact with for many years, mending their broken relationship. Regaining his self-esteem and independence, Tie Bin began the second half of his life with a home and a purpose.





Charity Work in the Community

Regular charity efforts in the community include institutional care, free clinics, and homeless outreach. After the pandemic eased, Tzu Chi volunteers across various regions resumed these activities.

At the Banqiao Veterans Home, volunteer hairdressers cut the elderly residents' hair, and volunteers carefully trimmed their nails. To relieve the boredom of the elderly while they waited, several children skilled in playing the flute performed, with the elderly to capture the moment with their phones. Volunteers also lead the elderly to do stretching exercises, use stress balls, and learn sign language songs, which everyone enjoys immensely. Mei-lin Wang, the group leader at the Veterans Home, said, "Normally, the elderly may not move much on their own, but with the volunteers encouraging them, even those in wheelchairs participate in the hand exercises. I think this is the best companionship for them."

At a special education school, Tzu Chi volunteers in Yunlin provided free haircuts for the children, working with teachers to comfort the children and take care of their appearance. They also invited Tzu Chi's adolescent volunteers to interact with the elderly at the Veterans Home in Yunlin. Although the children were initially unfamiliar, they mustered the courage to take the first step, receiving praise from the elderly who joined in the activities with them. This made the elderly very happy as it was just like seeing their own grandchildren.

In 2023, 14,377 volunteer shifts were made to bring 70,550 instances of care to individuals across 931 institutions in Taiwan. These institutions included those for children with disabilities, elderly care, prison counseling, and homeless outreach. This spirit of love and compassion will continue to endure.

Caring for Foreign Migrant Workers

Toro the fisherman said,
"It's very cold at sea in winter.
We really need these jackets. Thank you!
Your positive energy encourages me to work harder."

Taiwan has 740,000 hardworking foreign migrant workers, among whom 17,000 are crew members working in the fishing industry. They are mostly from tropical countries like Indonesia and the Philippines.

In collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior National Immigration Agency, the Fisheries Agency, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Tung Kang Fishermen's Association, the Tzu Chi International Medical Association (TIMA) organized free clinics for foreign fishermen to care for their health.

The Pastoral and Evangelization Office for Migrant Workers, Catholic Archdiocese of Taipei has long been caring for foreign fishermen at 34 ports throughout Taiwan, providing for their daily needs. Since 2019, Tzu Chi has been supporting the office with supplies. In 2021, they held their first distribution events at the harbors of Tamsui, Keelung, and Yilan, caring for the fishermen's daily needs. In 2023, the Catholic Archdiocese of Taipei and Tzu Chi volunteers once again collaborated to distribute winter supplies at the harbors of Guihou, Tamsui, Keelung, Penghu, and Magong, providing jackets and warm socks to over a thousand fishermen, bringing them warmth.



1-2 Alleviating Poverty Internationally

The Global Report on Food Crisis (GRFC) 2024 reveals that due to regional conflicts, wars, extreme weather, and economic factors, over 282 million people in 59 countries and regions faced severe food insecurity in 2023—an increase of 24 million from 2022. By 2030, an estimated 600 million people worldwide will suffer from malnutrition, highlighting the significant challenge in achieving global food security.

Tzu Chi volunteers have been actively engaged in poverty alleviation, refugee care, and food assistance across 44 countries and regions. In 2023, volunteers contributed 752,650 shifts to provide direct aid, improve living conditions, enhance education, and support livelihoods. These initiatives provided a total of 5,350,884 instances of relief to individuals, alleviating poverty and disease, fostering sustainable community development, and working towards the goal of ending hunger by 2030.

Our Actions:

- 1. Living Assistance: Economic support, emergency relief, community care, housing repairs, and institutional care.
- 2. Educational Support: Scholarships for underprivileged students, local school initiatives, and companion learning programs.
- 3. Nutritional Support: food aid, food station services, and nutritional supplements.
- 4. Livelihood Training: Vocational training, Great Love Farm cultivation, and agricultural training.
- 5. Water Resource Projects: Distribution of water purification agents, drilling and repairing wells, and rainwater collection systems installations.
- 6. Health Care: Medical aid, rehabilitation centers, free clinics, and health check services.
- 7. Hygiene Care: Head lice prevention, haircuts for children and communities, hygiene education for children and families, women's health care, and construction of general and ecological toilets.
- 8. Special Assistance Projects: Refugee care, permanent housing construction, school construction/repair, rice distribution, environmental sustainability projects, and installation of eco-friendly stoves.

Poverty Alleviation

37,655 volunteer mobilizations brought 1,922,377 instances of relief to the impoverished in 37 countries.

Rice Aid from Taiwan

4,200 metric tons of rice was shipped and distributed in 11 countries. 1,771,613 packages distributed 678,845 volunteers mobilized

Refugee Assistance

36,150 volunteer mobilizations brought 1,701,806 instances of relief to refugees in 9 countries.



Giving Back to the Buddha's Homeland Through Tzu Chi's Four Missions

Key Focus Areas for 2023

Nepal——

- Family Assistance: Financial subsidies, material distribution, solar panel installation.
- Educational Support: Scholarships, zero-dropout program, winter clothing distribution, nutritional supplements, Jing Si aphorism lessons, the establishment of Tzu Chi Teachers' Associations, and parent-child sports events.
- Health Care: Medical clinics, health check-up services, community medical workshops, and hygiene education.
- Water Resource Projects: Well drilling, water quality and sanitation surveys.
- Livelihood Support: Establishment of vocational training centers, sewing classes, natural soap production, and weaving courses.
- Construction Projects: Temporary housing, and temporary classrooms.

India——

- Family Assistance: Financial subsidies, emergency subsidies, material distribution, winter relief, and cash-for-work programs.
- Educational Support: Distribution of school bags, Jing Si aphorism lessons, community living and hygiene education, after-school tutoring, and parent-child sports events.
- Livelihood Support: Sewing classes, computer classes, English classes, cash-for-work programs.
- Health Care: Health check services, medical subsidies, and hygiene promotion.
- Community Care: Home cleaning, community sanitation promotion, and environmental awareness activities.



Since April 2022, waves of Tzu Chi volunteers from Malaysia and Singapore have been taking turns traveling to Lumbini, Nepal and Bodh Gaya, India.

While providing poverty relief and medical services can address urgent needs, widespread and deep-rooted education is the fundamental solution to poverty. Volunteers visited each household to help impoverished and underprivileged children who had dropped out of school to return to their education. After more than a year of companionship, the impact of education has led to subtle changes in interactions between parents, teachers, and students. Whether through parent-child sports events, Jing Si aphorism lessons, or hygiene education on handwashing, tooth brushing, and using utensils, these transformations have been delightful to witness.

For vocational training, Tzu Chi also organized a sewing class in the community, producing a batch of skilled professionals. Among them was Basha, who came from the most impoverished family and had to quit school five years ago to reduce her father's burden. Now, she has received her first-ever paycheck. Through vocational training, she discovered her talent and experienced the joys of being able to support her family.



To empower female care recipients, Tzu Chi launched a handmade soap project, providing the technology and raw materials for soap making and buying back the soaps to assist with sales. This initiative aims to improve the local economy while elevating hygiene practices in the community.

In Sadahawa village in Lumbini Ward 11, eleven households lost their homes due to a fire. Faced with the challenges of rebuilding, the village chief reported the situation to Tzu Chi. Tzu Chi volunteers, who have been deeply involved in Lumbini, completed the construction of prefabricated houses to ensure the villagers had shelter before the monsoon season.

In India and Nepal, the caste system still prevails, with some impoverished villages being considered the lowest "untouchable" or "Dalit" villages. Locals say these villages suffer long-term poverty, unable to improve. Now, with Tzu Chi's poverty alleviation plan, there is hope that one day these "Dalit villages" can transform into "villages of blessings."



Ukrainian Refugee Care: Second Year of Support

Kyiv resident Panasi said,
"Why must we endure so much suffering?
Kind people, please save us."

Known as the "Breadbasket of Europe" for its rich agricultural products, Ukraine faced severe turmoil after the Russian invasion in 2022. Over 6.19 million Ukrainians became refugees abroad, and at least 5 million were displaced within the country. With the ongoing conflict, shortages of food, energy, and money have become increasingly severe, making humanitarian aid even more challenging.

Continuing from 2022, Tzu Chi collaborated with the Polish Women Can Foundation on the project "Safe Haven," providing foster children and their families with medical services, psychological counseling, legal advice, child therapy activities, and various courses to help refugees integrate into their new country. Systematic assistance was provided to Ukrainian refugees to help them adapt to their new environment. With millions of refugees in Poland, public medical resources are under significant pressure. Tzu Chi partnered with AMEDS to provide medical assistance.

2022-2023
2,131,458 cumulative instances of aid for refugees
in **9** countries through **13** partner organizations.



Yurzenko Olena shared, "The cash cards got us through the toughest times when we first became refugees and hadn't yet found a job. The medical services at AMEDS clinics helped me fight illness. The cooking classes taught me how to prepare healthy meals. The psychotherapy sessions gave me strength, opportunities, and self-discovery amid difficult realities."

Beyond assisting refugees outside Ukraine, Tzu Chi implemented the cash-for-work relief program, recruiting Ukrainian refugees as volunteers. In 2023, they successfully delivered charity supplies into Ukraine, distributed directly by local volunteers, bringing the spirit of Tzu Chi's aid back to their homeland.

Despite the inability to transport large amounts of supplies, through the efforts of the Tzu Chi volunteers in Warsaw and cooperation with various organizations, medical and food aid reached Ukraine. Tzu Chi collaborated with many organizations, including the Airlink, EVA Air, and IsraAID, to assist Ukrainians. Additionally, medical equipment was donated to hospitals in Kyiv, helping over 50,000 people annually.

Tzu Chi established the Dumpling Club in Warsaw, Poland, with a branch in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine. The club not only provides food to families in need but also serves as a source of community support, spreading love and care to Ukrainian families and helping them face future challenges.



Crossing Borders with Love: Caring for Syrian Refugees

Since the Syrian civil war began in 2011, the conflict has continued without end. By 2015, over 4 million Syrians had fled to neighboring countries. Tzu Chi volunteers in Türkiye, Jordan, and Serbia have been providing ongoing care.

In Jordan, refugee support has been ongoing since 2012. In 2015, the TIMA Jordan was established, and in 2016, Tzu Chi took over the United Nations mission to care for refugees in Huweyja village near the Mafraq border. Every November, as winter approaches, Tzu Chi distributes winter supplies, food packages, and firewood at 21 locations in 8 areas, including Bedouin families in tent areas and impoverished Syrian refugee families in Huweyja village. They ensure each family receives enough fuel and food and also provided winter clothes and shoes for children to help them stay warm during the cold months.

Starting in 2017, volunteers assisted with establishing the Tzu Xin House for single mothers and children, providing rent and children's tuition, as well as offering Taekwondo classes, medical care, and vocational training. They also distributed food packages, shoes, and winter clothing to support their lives. Today, the single mothers of the Tzu Xin House have gradually found stability in their lives, becoming essential contributors to distribution and free clinic efforts.





In addition to economic support and emotional care, educational support is also crucial. The El Menahil International School in Türkiye, established for Syrian refugee children, helps those who once roamed the streets or became child laborers to return to school, bringing hope and change for their future. The school also regularly holds distribution events for Syrian refugees, becoming a "second home" for them.

In 2015, Tzu Chi, in cooperation with the Sultangazi Municipality in Istanbul and Syrian refugee teachers, founded the El Menahil School, providing living subsidies to refugee students to ease their financial burdens and allow them to study with peace of mind. In 2018, the school received accreditation from Advance Education, Inc., and was officially renamed El Menahil International School, with approval from the Turkish Ministry of Education to offer elementary, middle, and high school education. The school's successful model attracted attention from the Turkish government and the United Nations, leading to the establishment of similar educational programs across Türkiye to help 400,000 refugee students.

Dedicated to education, the Turkish Ministry of Education officially approved the use of the Turkish curriculum at El Menahil International School in November 2023, making it one of the first accredited international schools in Turkey. The school continues to hold regular distribution events for Syrian refugees, providing much-needed support.

Cyclone Idai Reconstruction: Safe Homes and Secure Lives

Quizito Baera, a survivor of Cyclone Idai, is now a resident of the Metuchira Great Love Village and a Tzu Chi volunteer. In 2022, he received sesame seeds from Tzu Chi, which he planted and sold after harvest, improving his family's economic situation. He continues to cultivate sesame on his farm, now truly settled and thriving.

Since Cyclone Idai devastated Mozambique in 2019, Tzu Chi has been providing mid- to long-term assistance and reconstruction in the affected areas. To date, three Great Love Villages have been established, housing 495 families. Additionally, Tzu Chi has reconstructed five schools, offering residents secure homes and educational facilities.

Upon moving into the Great Love Village, residents received relocation gifts, including mattresses, blankets, folding tables and chairs, Jing Si multi-purpose foldable beds, and cleaning supplies. For many of these disaster-stricken individuals, it was their "first time" living in a brick house, having a bed to sleep on, using bed sheets, and owning a house that requires a key to open. Considering the impact of extreme weather in recent years, the houses were built with disaster-resistant materials following United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) standards. The homes also incorporate environmental concepts, such as rainwater collection systems, to provide residents with safe and secure living conditions.

In addition to housing construction, Tzu Chi volunteers are also reconstructing 23 schools in Sofía Province. Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi personally attended the opening ceremony of ESG Mafambisse Secondary School, the largest in the country, which was rebuilt after 18 months of construction and officially opened in January 2024. The bright and spacious classrooms and library can now accommodate 7,000 students. Minister of Education Carmelita Namashulua stated, "This is a landmark project. If we implement a three-shift system, about 9,000 students will benefit in the future. I want to thank all those who have helped us, helped the people of Mozambique, and helped the students. Tzu Chi donors and volunteers have built an educational fortress for our children."



Great Love Farms in Africa:
Creating Sustainable Food Systems

At the Mecuzi Great Love Farm in Mozambique, volunteers are divided into three groups: one for watering nurseries and plants, one for cultivating the land, and another for organizing and measuring seedbeds. This makes farming more efficient and ensures good harvests, providing self-sufficiency and helping impoverished residents.

In Eswatini, volunteers promote vegetable gardening in the Sidzakeni community in Manzini, where everyone participates in harvesting vegetables.

The Tzu Chi Great Love Farm Project aims to enhance climate resilience and create sustainable food systems in Mozambique, Eswatini, Malawi, and Zambia. By promoting organic agriculture and eco-friendly farming methods, the project supports local farmers in adopting environmentally sustainable practices, improving land productivity and sustainability. Additionally, through education and training, residents learn climate-smart agriculture techniques, fostering sustainable community development, reducing poverty, and improving local living conditions.



Supporting Communities with Food and Water

A resident shared,
"Before receiving help from Tzu Chi, my youngest daughter would wake up crying from hunger at night, and my son even ate raw rice because we had no water to cook with. I am very grateful for the food and blankets provided by Tzu Chi."



Zimbabwe, once the breadbasket of Africa, has faced severe inflation and droughts caused by climate change in recent decades, leading to widespread food shortages and affecting all tribes. Water shortages have also exacerbated the cholera epidemic.

Local water resources are scarce, and what is available is often unprotected ponds and puddles. Children are used to drinking muddy water from these sources. The cholera outbreak, with over 10,000 cases, was primarily transmitted through contaminated drinking water.



Seeing this, Tzu Chi volunteers formed a well repair team to address the emergency by distributing water purification agents and repairing wells in epidemic hotspots. In 2023, they built or repaired 548 wells, providing clean water for up to 600 households per well, and bringing much-needed relief to remote residents.

To address the food crisis, Tzu Chi regularly distributes rice and has established 52 feeding stations in needy communities. These stations provide hot meals to 16,000 children, elderly, and vulnerable individuals daily, improving child hunger and malnutrition and bringing support to impoverished communities.

Food Aid Distribution to
Refugee Camps in Ethiopia

In collaboration with the local NGO Kidmia Mahiber, Tzu Chi provided food aid to refugees in the northern civil war regions in 2022. Continuing this effort, in 2023, they extended emergency food relief to civil war refugees, children in refugee camps, and drought-affected areas.

In January, food packages were distributed to 3,000 families in two refugee camps in Debre Birhan. In May, another 3,000 food packages were distributed to drought refugees in two counties in the Borena region.

Residents of the refugee camps, mostly farmers, come from war-torn or long-term drought-affected areas. Unable to bring their belongings when fleeing their homes, they find it challenging to make a living in the city. The local staple food is flatbread. Each food package includes local staples such as flour or cornmeal, cooking oil, and other essentials, sufficient for a family of five for a month. Additionally, fifty ovens were provided in the refugee camps to shorten the wait to bake flatbread.

Tzu Chi also supports local community volunteers who run children's classes for those who have lost loved ones or been traumatized, providing snacks and lunch expenses for 1,158 children over four months. These refugee children's classes are operated by volunteers from communities around the refugee camp. Due to limited funds, meals can only be provided irregularly. Tzu Chi's support has brought them a stable source of strength.



Rice Aid from Taiwan to 11 Countries

In 2023, Tzu Chi shipped a total of 4,200 metric tons of rice.



This rice assisted 11 countries, including Eswatini, Honduras, Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa, Haiti, Mozambique, Saint Martin, Lesotho, Sierra Leone, and Madagascar.

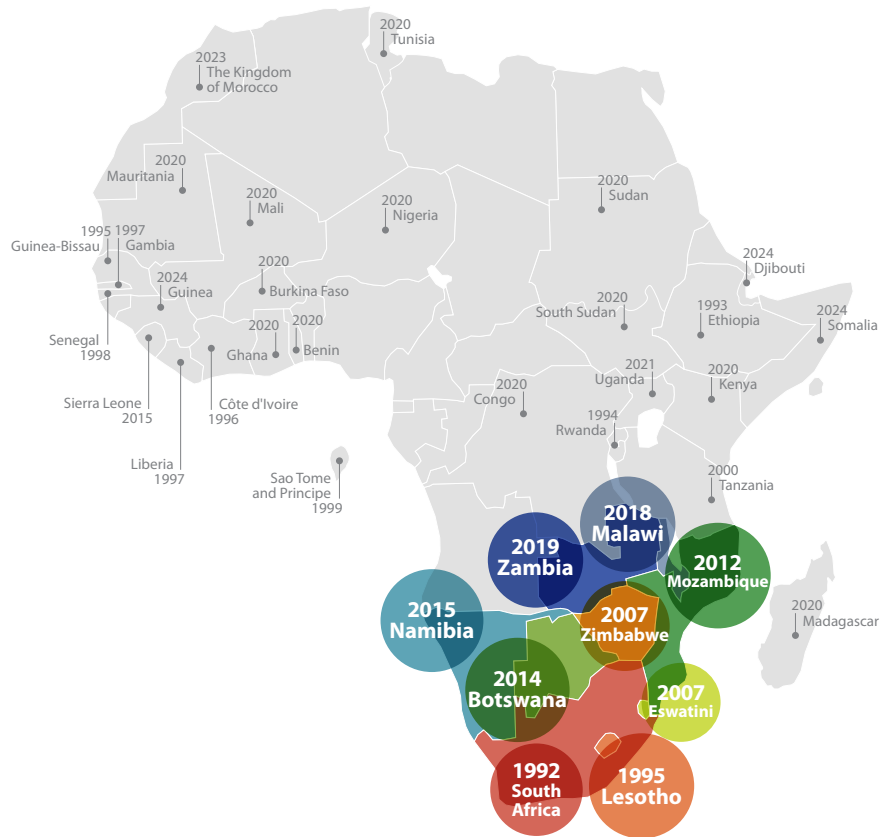
In Sierra Leone, a massive fire devastated Gloucester, destroying 36 homes. Tzu Chi, along with long-term partner Caritas Freetown, launched a relief operation. For two weeks, they set up hot meal stations and distributed supplies to help the affected families. Volunteers prepared rice, grains, baby food, milk, and daily necessities like blankets, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, and towels. They also thoughtfully provided sanitary pads and underwear for women, aiming to support their physical and emotional well-being.



In Lesotho, many villagers in Reisi, Mafeteng District, face unemployment and poor crop yields due to drought. The villagers were overjoyed to receive rice, as they often struggled to obtain even maize flour. The grateful recipients shouted, "Thank you, Tzu Chi!"

The United Nations has repeatedly highlighted that Madagascar is on the brink of the first famine caused by climate change in modern history. With a population of 29 million, 70% living in poverty, its people suffer deeply from hunger. Since 2022, Tzu Chi has been working in southeastern Madagascar, partnering with local Lions Clubs to aid those affected by cyclones. They provided emergency aid and essential supplies like rice, beans, sugar, and soap to support the impacted communities. Tzu Chi also launched long-term support programs, offering seeds and farming tools to help residents restore agricultural production and improve food security.

In 2023, Tzu Chi volunteers from Mozambique traveled cross-country for the first time to Madagascar, engaging entrepreneurs to distribute food packages to the impoverished elderly and AIDS-affected families in Toliara. Residents expressed their joy, saying, "For so long, we've been living on the brink of starvation. Now, we have food."



Tzu Chi Volunteers from 9 countries have provided aid to 36 countries in Africa.	
Country	Assistance Projects
South Africa	Community charity (including individual care) , rice distribution, local primary school camps, food stations, disaster relief, cross-border/region care, institutional care, New Shoots Scholarship, and Jing Si Aphorisms for children.
Lesotho	Community charity (including individual care), rice distribution, disaster relief, cross-border/region care, institutional care, and Jing Si Aphorisms for children.
Eswatini	Community charity (including individual care), Great Love Farm/Love Vegetable Garden, disaster relief, food stations, cross-border/region care, New Shoots Scholarship, rice distribution, and Jing Si Aphorisms for children.
Zimbabwe	Community charity (including individual care), rice distribution, disaster relief, cross-border/region care, institutional care, Jing Si Aphorisms for children, health education, water puri cation project (well drilling and repair), food stations, New Shoots Scholarship, Great Love Farm, rehabilitation center, and children community haircuts.
Mozambique	Community charity (including individual care), rice distribution, disaster relief, cross-border/region care, Jing Si Aphorisms for children, health education, New Shoots Scholarship, Great Love Farm/Garden, refugee care, Children's Nutrition Supplement Program, vocational training, construction of permanent housing, reconstruction of schools, Women's Health Care Program, and institutional care.
Botswana	Community charity (including individual care), Great Love Farm, disaster relief, food stations, and health education.
Namibia	Community charity (including individual care), Great Love Farm, and food stations.
Malawi	Community charity (including individual care), Great Love Farm/Love Vegetable Garden, disaster relief , cross-border/region care, New Shoots Scholarship, vocational training, construction of permanent housing, and reconstruction of schools.
Zambia	Community charity (including individual care), Great Love Farm, disaster relief, food stations, and health education.

Action 2

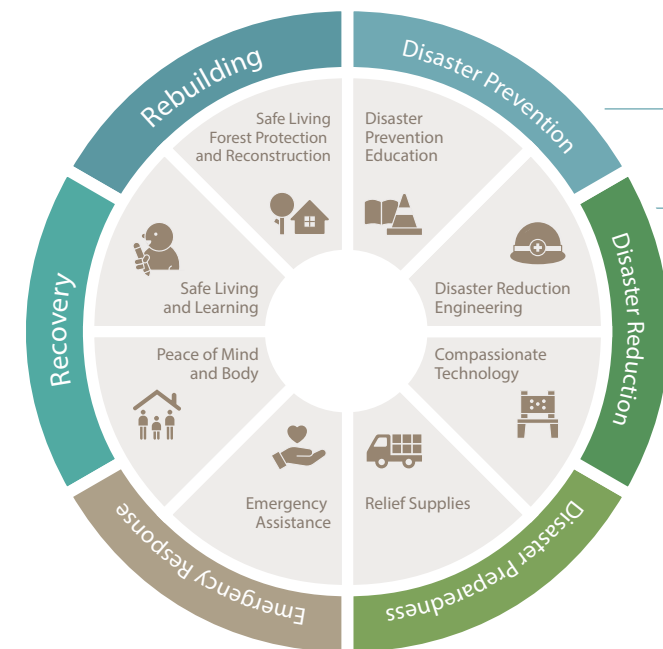
Combat Climate Change and Provide Humanitarian Aid



With natural and man-made disasters occurring continuously worldwide—earthquakes, storms, wildfires, and conflicts—Tzu Chi volunteers are dedicated to being "the first to arrive and the last to leave." They promptly initiate humanitarian assistance or collaborate with international charitable organizations to provide relief and support to those in need. All this is done while keeping in mind the goals of "prompt relief and safety, psychological and spiritual support, preservation of children's education, permanent housing, peaceful livelihood, and protection of the environment."

As humanity suffers and the Earth endures disasters, we have now entered the era of "global boiling." The impact of extreme weather has led to frequent major disasters, affecting everyone regardless of wealth. This challenges Tzu Chi volunteers' disaster response and preparedness capabilities.

Facing frequent and diverse disasters, we focus simultaneously on disaster prevention, mitigation, and preparedness. By embodying the spirit of "neighbors helping neighbors and families helping families," we aim to enhance disaster resilience by reducing risks, increasing the efficiency of relief efforts, and promoting community recovery to build a resilient and sustainable community.



Tzu Chi Disaster Prevention Operation Model

33,481
Volunteer Mobilizations

1,318,993
Beneficiaries (instances)

2-1 Disaster Response in Taiwan

To strengthen the community's disaster preparedness and assistance during disasters, as a non-governmental organization, Tzu Chi focuses on enhancing home safety and reducing disaster risks in the community. Starting with the home and then extending to the community, we foster mutual care, enhancing disaster safety and reducing disaster risks.

2023 Disaster Assistance:
209,385 instances of aid

with **13,811** volunteers mobilized



2-1-1 Disaster Relief: Providing the Heartwarming Support

PPE Supplies
11,950 items provided

Community Disaster Response
213 cases

Typhoon Khanun Severely Affects Nantou County: Volunteers Visit Seven Villages

Due to the typhoon's influence, parts of Taiwan experienced continuous heavy rainfall on August 4. From the moment the typhoon formed, Tzu Chi volunteers closely monitored the situation, assessed needs, and provided comfort to the evacuated residents. Many villages in Nantou County had their external roads cut off. Tzu Chi provided 1.7 tons of living necessities for the Nantou County government to airlift supplies into the disaster zone.

On August 7, upon learning that the road to Nanfeng Village had been cleared, Tzu Chi volunteers immediately set out for the village to begin disaster assessment. Upon arrival, they were met with a scene of devastation and piles of mud. After receiving a list of severely affected households from the village officials, the volunteers and social workers visited each home on the list to offer care. Residents, seeing the volunteers' concern, expressed their gratitude: "Tzu Chi volunteers are great!"



Typhoon Haikui

On September 3, Typhoon Haikui made landfall in the Taitung area. Tzu Chi volunteers activated disaster response centers in both Hualien and Taitung.

To ensure the safety of residents in potential disaster areas and remote regions, the Taitung County government evacuated residents of Jinfeng Township and other nearby towns on the morning of the 3rd. Besides providing essential living supplies, Tzu Chi volunteers also visited evacuation sites to comfort the residents and explained the features of Tzu Chi's multipurpose foldable beds, which can be used for both sitting and lying down, ensuring that even those with mobility issues could use them comfortably.

Miaoshan Temple in Luye Township, Taitung, also suffered severe damage with the destruction of its artifacts and buildings. In response to a call for help from monastics at the temple, 72 Tzu Chi volunteers brought bags, brooms, and gloves to assist in the temple's cleanup during their day off, hoping to help restore the temple to normalcy as soon as possible.

The typhoon also caused numerous landslides in Hualien. Over 80 social workers and volunteers went to Shoufeng Township to help clean the homes of elderly residents living alone. They worked systematically in their assigned roles to efficiently clean two adjacent affected houses.



Ongoing Support for 18 Days Following a Factory Explosion

On the evening of September 22, a factory fire and explosion at Launch Technologies in Pingtung resulted in 113 injuries and 10 deaths, including six employees and four firefighters. Twenty people were sent to hospitals in Pingtung City and Kaohsiung City for treatment. The next day, Tzu Chi organized volunteers to be stationed at the hospitals, factory site, and funeral homes to give support.

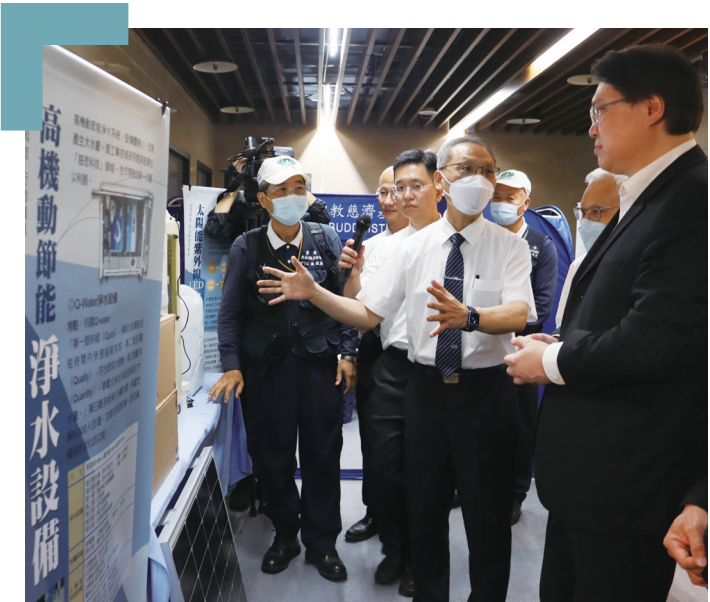
Their efforts continued until October 9, including setting up a care station at the funeral home for prayer services, providing condolence money to the families of the victims, and establishing a rotating care station to offer comprehensive care, companionship, and support for firefighting and rescue personnel and the waiting families.

2-1-2 Disaster Preparedness: Providing the Strongest Support

4,817 Disaster Prevention Specialists and Instructors Trained

186,665 Total Attendances in Disaster Education Programs

11 Disaster Response Center Workshops



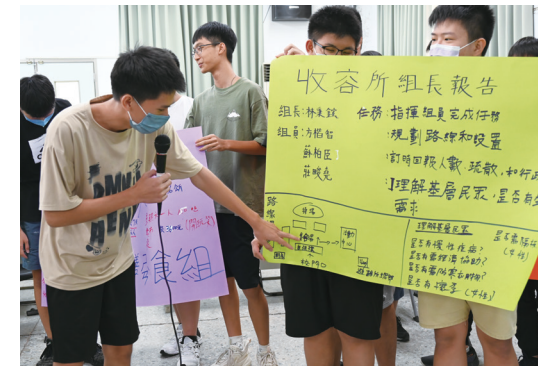
At the press conference held by the Ministry of the Interior's National Fire Agency for typhoon preparedness, the Tzu Chi Foundation, with its extensive experience in disaster prevention and relief, was invited to participate. Tzu Chi showcased its compassionate technology for disaster relief and various disaster prevention supplies. Po-wen Yen, Tzu Chi Foundation CEO, provided a detailed introduction to the functions of these compassionate technology disaster relief devices.

The Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI), commissioned by the Water Resources Agency of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, has developed a new water purifier, with the Tzu Chi Emergency Relief Team being one of the key users. To familiarize users with the operation and maintenance of the new device, Tzu Chi Emergency Relief Team members from across Taiwan gathered at the Tzu Chi Zhongli Operations Center in June to participate in "High Mobility High-Flow Water Purification Equipment Training," ensuring they are always prepared for disaster response.



2-1-3 Disaster Education in Schools and Communities

Disaster Preparedness Summer Camp



Nangang High School hosted a two-day immersive Disaster Preparedness Summer Camp, with 70 students learning the standard procedures for disaster prevention and evacuation. The camp included basic knowledge courses on fire, flood, and typhoon disasters, combined with training from the Taipei Fire Department on emergency first aid, bandaging, AED, and CPR techniques, enhancing students' practical rescue skills. The camp also featured a display of disaster relief supplies, such as Tzu Chi's multipurpose foldable beds for providing comfortable rest to disaster victims, partition tents for a sense of privacy, and mobile kitchen trucks to ensure proper nutrition and reduce food preparation pressure in disaster areas.

Disaster Relief Volunteers: Advocates of Disaster Preparedness

Facing unpredictable natural disasters, Tzu Chi volunteers across Taiwan have initiated disaster relief and preparedness training programs. These courses, which last 15 hours, are open to the general public, planting seeds of disaster awareness and enhancing community resilience. Trained community members become a vital force in helping their neighborhoods during emergencies.

A total of 3,971 Tzu Chi volunteers and staff have obtained disaster relief volunteer certificates, and 8,314 people have been trained by Tzu Chi's certified disaster relief specialists, accounting for 33% of all disaster relief volunteers in Taiwan. In 2023, training courses extended to rural areas and schools. Due to the increasing frequency of natural disasters driven by climate change, providing timely and appropriate care and services to disaster victims and their families has become crucial. In 2022, Tzu Chi collaborated with the government and other organizations to establish the "Care Companions" training and certification program. In 2023, 1,711 people received certification, bringing the total to 3,276.



In rural areas, many elderly residents live alone or have mobility issues, making survival during disasters particularly challenging. Tzu Chi has partnered with local offices to promote disaster prevention and mitigation efforts, educating rural residents on self-survival and mutual aid techniques. At the certification ceremony for disaster relief volunteers in Zhuoxi Township, the township chief encouraged every certified volunteer to help advance disaster prevention efforts in their communities.

Disaster Relief Volunteer Training in Schools

To engage the younger generation in community disaster preparedness and safety, the Pingtung County Government and Tzu Chi Foundation co-organized the "2023 Pingtung County School Disaster Relief Volunteer Training Program," conducting five sessions at four schools, with 239 teachers and students completing the training.



Disaster Preparedness, Follow Me! Environmental Protection, Let's Go!



In July, Tzu Chi, in collaboration with the National Taiwan Science Education Center and Taoyuan Disaster Prevention Education Center, hosted the "Disaster Preparedness, Follow Me! Environmental Protection, Let's Go!" educational exhibition. Aimed at preschool and elementary students, the exhibition promoted disaster prevention and environmental awareness through interactive experiences and educational games.

The exhibition featured topics ranging from major disasters like typhoons and earthquakes to common accidents in the home. Interactive multimedia installations, such as a climate countdown clock, a virtual river cleanup game, and a smoke simulation room, helped enhance people's understanding of disaster prevention and environmental action. Every element, from space design to art installations, showcased Tzu Chi volunteers' dedication to environmental protection and resource reuse.

The exhibition attracted over 2,000 visitors daily, effectively embedding disaster prevention and environmental concepts in children's minds, encouraging them to practice green living from an early age, and influencing more people to focus on environmental protection, aiming for sustainable coexistence with the Earth.



International Youth Disaster Relief Training Camp

Tzu Chi, in collaboration with the National Science and Technology Council and the National Science and Technology

Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR), organized a series of "International Training Workshop – Youth Leadership Camp on Disaster Risk Management" activities at the National Taiwan University and Donghua University. These activities were open to international and domestic students interested in disaster prevention and relief. Through simulated disaster scenarios, hands-on operations, and team cooperation, participants enhanced their disaster prevention and relief capabilities, including assembling water purifiers, assembling temporary shelters, and setting up partition tents.

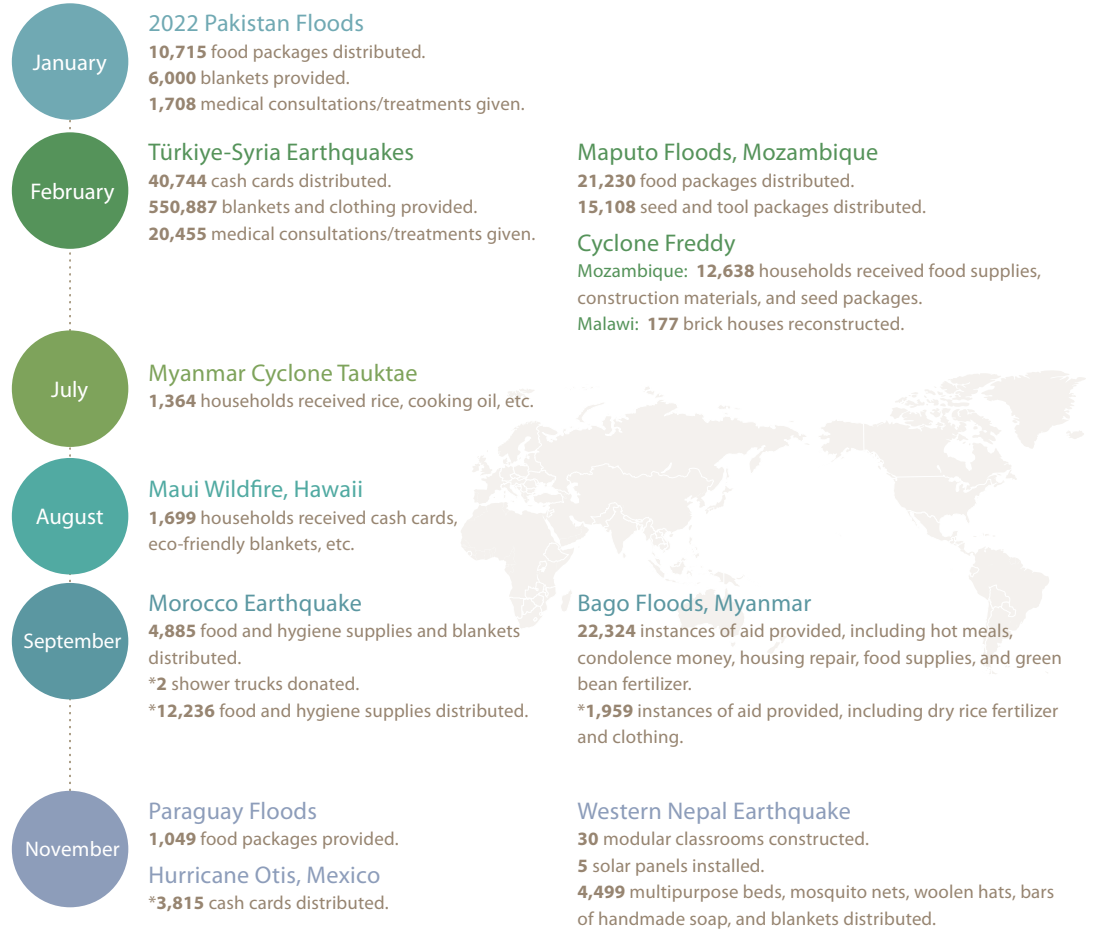
2-2 International Disaster Relief

Humanitarian Relief and Disaster Prevention in 15 countries

This includes Türkiye, Syria, Paraguay, Pakistan, Nepal, Canada, the United States, Mozambique, Morocco, Myanmar, Australia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Singapore. (Based on location, timing and community-specific conditions.)

Relief Actions: Providing comfort and care, supplying hot meals, distributing aid such as cash cards/cash, food packs, seed packs, eco-friendly blankets, implementing cash-for-work programs, and reconstructing housing and schools.

Major International Relief Efforts



19,670 Volunteers Mobilizations

1,108,903 Instances of Relief Provided

* Aid provided in 2024.

Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Relief: Sending Love from 8,000 Km Away

The journey may have been long, but
the warmth that transcends race
and nationality melted away helplessness.

Upon receiving cash cards,
the earthquake survivors were moved to tears,
giving kisses of gratitude to Tzu Chi volunteers.

A Turkish volunteer shared,
"No matter what the earthquake survivors receive today,
they will remember this day forever.
Because this was probably the day they felt
the most respected since fleeing the disaster area."

Tzu Chi volunteer Nadya Chou expressed,
"Regardless of whether we are from Türkiye,
Syria, or Taiwan, we are all one family.
We are here because of love."



Relief Efforts and Achievements

Türkiye

4 Provinces: Istanbul, Gaziantep, Hatay, and Şanlıurfa

45 cash card distributions 40,744 households / 197,181 people benefited

42,967 items distributed, including blankets, scarves, mattresses, and generators.

Personnel involved: Tzu Chi disaster assessment team, Tzu Chi Türkiye volunteers, and El Menahil International School teachers and students.

Partner organization: Sened

Syria

In partnership with
Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO),

507,920 items were delivered to the Jordan-Syrian border then transported to earthquake survivors in Syria by the UN.

Partnered with Dünya Doktorları Derneği (DDD, MDM-T) to provide family medicine, pediatrics, gynecology, and counseling services in Idlib Province.

20,455 instances of care provided



Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Relief in Türkiye

1 Earthquake Strikes

On February 6, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake at a depth of 17.9 kilometers struck the Türkiye-Syria border, affecting 11 provinces in southern Türkiye and northern Syria.

2 Immediate Mobilization

Volunteers at the Tzu Chi Neihu Office in Taipei mobilized to urgently pack thick eco-friendly blankets. A donation ceremony was held on February 9, with the donation accepted by the Türkiye's representative to Taiwan, Muhammed Berdibek. The blankets were airlifted to Istanbul in three batches. Considering transportation and customs clearance times, blankets were also locally procured on the 9th for use by the Taiwanese rescue team and disaster victims. On the 15th, the first batch of locally procured blankets arrived at El Menahil International School, where Syrian volunteers helped unload and distribute the supplies.



3 Assessment and Coordination

The Tzu Chi disaster assessment team departed Taiwan for Istanbul on February 10. On the 12th, they met with Turkish Vice President Fuat Oktay and the Disaster and Emergency Management Authority to explain Tzu Chi's relief and distribution methods. The Turkish Presidency approved the distribution plan on February 13, granting Tzu Chi permission to enter the disaster areas for relief work.

4 Community Support

Entrusted by the Turkish Trade Office in Taipei, the Tzu Chi Neihu Office opened its doors from February 9 to 13 to receive donated supplies from the public. A total of 11,196 volunteer instances were involved in packing 34,314 cartons of supplies, weighing a total of 401 tons, which were then arranged for transportation by the Turkish Trade Office in Taipei.



Tzu Chi volunteers utilized technology for efficient distribution, offering warm companionship to disaster victims, alleviating their helplessness with immediate post-earthquake living necessities, and soothing their frightened hearts. During the emergency phase, a total of 74 distributions of living supplies and cash cards were held.

6 Large-scale Distributions

Starting February 17, distributions were conducted in four heavily affected provinces, including BIM cash cards, blankets, scarves, and other cold-weather items. The value of the cash cards was sufficient to cover two months of living expenses for each household.



Teachers and students from El Menahil International School provided significant support, and the school's IT staff improved the distribution system by replacing manual number entry with barcode scanning, greatly enhancing the speed and efficiency of distributions.

5 On-the-Ground Survey

On February 15, the first disaster assessment team went to the heavily affected Hatay province to survey the situation and establish the Tzu Chi disaster response center.



Material Assistance

In collaboration with Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization (JHCO) who provided storage and transportation to the Jordanian and Syrian borders, 507,920 items were handed to the UN and delivered to the Syrian earthquake disaster areas. Provided items include:

- 10,000 jackets, 1,120 pairs of shoes, 10,000 hats, and 10,000 pairs of gloves from Tzu Chi Jordan.
- 426,800 pieces of clothing and 50,000 blankets from a Taiwanese factory in Jordan.



Medical Support

On March 29, Tzu Chi signed a cooperation agreement with Dünya Doktorları Derneği (DDD, MDM-T) to provide medical and counseling services in Idlib.

Cyclone Freddy



Cyclone Freddy ravaged Southern Africa from February to March, causing severe flooding in Mozambique, Malawi, and Zimbabwe. In Mozambique, eight provinces were affected. Tzu Chi provided aid to orphans, the elderly, children, the disabled, and those with chronic illnesses by distributing food packages, building materials, and agricultural seed and tool kits to 12,638 households. In Malawi, Tzu Chi focused on rebuilding 177 brick houses in 15 heavily impacted villages, completing the project in March 2024. Jafali Gerrard, a resident whose house was destroyed, expressed joy at receiving the keys to his new home after living in the ruins with his family for five months.

After the disaster, Tzu Chi volunteers helped the community implement an experimental farming project, encouraging villagers to cultivate white sesame to stabilize their livelihoods.

Hawaii's Maui Island experienced devastating wildfires exacerbated by dry weather and strong winds from Hurricane Dora. The famous resort town of Lahaina was almost completely destroyed. David, a survivor, described the aftermath as reminiscent of Pompeii.

Tzu Chi volunteers conducted seven aid distributions, providing 1,699 families with cash cards and eco-friendly blankets.

Peachie, a survivor from Lahaina, was amazed to receive a blanket, which she had hoped for the night before due to the cold. Another resident, Matthew, expressed relief at receiving a cash value card to purchase clothing and daily necessities after wearing borrowed clothes for three weeks.



Morocco Earthquake Partnering with Jood Association to Bring Relief

On September 8, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck Morocco, killing nearly 3,000 people in the worst earthquake the region had seen in 120 years. Although there are no Tzu Chi volunteers in Morocco, Tzu Chi prepared international relief supplies and worked with the Jood Association to provide aid. With the help of Jood, Tzu Chi was able to distribute food and hygiene packages in two phases and donated two mobile shower vehicles to improve living conditions for the affected. Families of four or fewer received around 43 kilograms of food, while larger families received nearly 90 kilograms. Hygiene packages included essential items such as toiletries and disinfectant, and blankets were provided for warmth. Two months post-earthquake, many residents were still struggling, prompting a second round of aid distribution to help rebuild their homes.



Paraguay Floods



In late October 2023, heavy rains caused by climate change and the El Niño phenomenon led to the overflow of the Paraná River, severely affecting Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay. Severe flooding in Paraguay left approximately 30,000 people displaced. Tzu Chi volunteers quickly responded by distributing relief supplies at temporary shelters in two affected areas. They also visited affected residents who could not reach the distribution sites, delivering supplies to 1,049 families, including one month's worth of food, mosquito nets, and cleaning supplies.

Floods in Yangon and Bago, Myanmar

In mid-September, continuous heavy rains hit Myanmar's Yangon and Bago regions, causing the highest rainfall in sixty years and prolonged flooding. Bago, the second-largest rice-producing area, was heavily affected. Tzu Chi volunteers provided hot meals at temples housing flood victims and delivered food to affected households, serving 19,733 meals over 36 days.

On October 18, Tzu Chi volunteers assessed the damage in Yangon and Bago. Post-flood, only 30% of the rice crop was salvageable. To aid farmers burdened by skyrocketing fertilizer prices, Tzu Chi distributed mung bean fertilizers to 19 villages, supplying 276.7 hectares of mung bean fields, and upland rice fertilizers to 30 villages, supplying 2,111.6 hectares of upland rice fields. To ensure the affected families could have sufficient food before the mung bean harvest, food supplies were distributed to 426 families along with clothing and blankets to 1,210 residents, helping to bring stability to their lives.



Western Nepal Earthquake

On November 3, a 5.6 magnitude earthquake struck western Nepal, resulting in significant casualties and damage, the worst since 2015. Tzu Chi volunteers visited affected communities, distributing essential supplies like rice, wood, salt, oil, flour, and sugar.

To assist the children affected by the disaster, Tzu Chi helped build temporary classrooms for five schools in the heavily affected areas: Bheri Tribeni Secondary School, Shree Shiv Shankar School,



Shree Dipendra Primary School, Shree Jana Yuwa Primary School, and Aadarsha Secondary School. Construction volunteers from Lumbini, along with local villagers, carried materials along uneven paths to designated locations. Over the course of a month, by March 2024, they completed 31 classrooms and 3 dormitories, and provided solar panels, multipurpose foldable beds, and blankets, ensuring a protected learning environment away from the elements. At the inauguration, the volunteers brought woolen hats and handmade soap, crafted by the residents of Lumbini.



Hurricane Otis in Mexico

On October 25, Hurricane Otis struck Guerrero, Mexico, causing severe damage, with 47 deaths and impacting over a million people. Tzu Chi launched an international relief operation, collaborating with local and US volunteers to assess and plan the relief efforts. From January 5 to 7, 2024, Tzu Chi distributed aid at the Parroquia Nuestra Señora de Fátima in Acapulco, assisting 1,183 families with material aid and emotional support. Volunteers from multiple countries participated, demonstrating a spirit of compassion and selflessness.

Tzu Chi also supported the nuns at the Consecrated Sisters of the Most Holy Savior, who actively participated in the relief efforts despite being affected themselves. Tzu Chi provided them with material aid and donated funds to help rebuild the church.

Action 3

Address Declining Birthrates and Aging Society



3-1 Paving the Way for a Hopeful Future

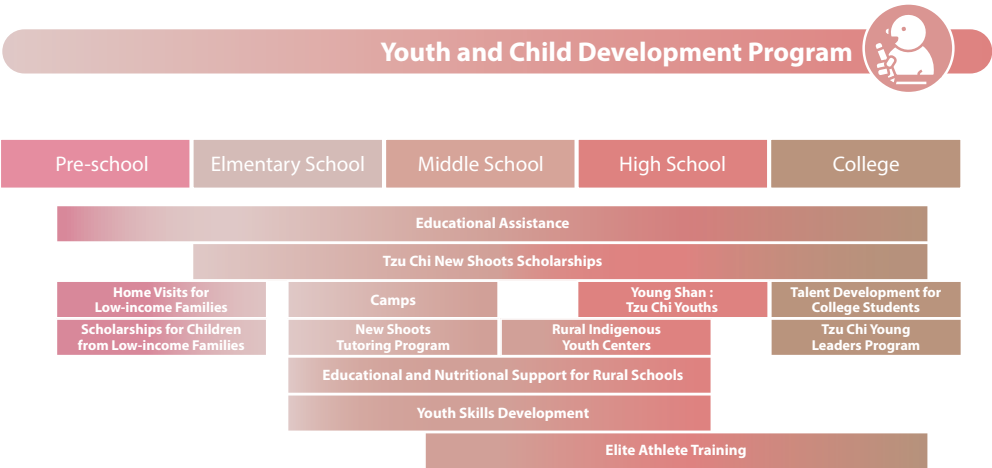
Education is not just about passing on knowledge; it's also the key to breaking the cycle of poverty. Young people are the driving force behind societal change and the fresh lifeblood of our communities. Many children face obstacles that prevent them from receiving the education and opportunities they deserve, but we believe that everyone has the potential to shine and the power to realize their dreams.

An aging population and declining birth rates are among the most significant challenges facing contemporary society in Taiwan. As society ages, the labor force supply diminishes, leading to restricted economic growth and increased social welfare burdens. This situation, in turn, affects young people's willingness to have children, exacerbating the decline in birth rates. Conversely, declining birth rates lead to an imbalanced population structure, with a higher proportion of elderly people, further accelerating the trend of population aging. Creating a more balanced and sustainable social structure, where people of all ages can enjoy a high quality of life, requires comprehensive efforts.

Tzu Chi has implemented various measures, from preventive charity work to need-based care. This includes youth development, elderly care, intergenerational support, and community engagement. These efforts aim to create a more inclusive and supportive social environment to mitigate the challenges brought about by population aging and declining birth rates.

3-1-1 Supporting Disadvantaged Students

With the goal of "alleviating poverty through education and nurturing talents to support the disadvantaged," Tzu Chi provides online and in-person tutoring, nutritional support, specialized training, career development, and various learning resources for students from underprivileged families and rural schools. These initiatives ensure that over 20,000 children from disadvantaged backgrounds have access to development opportunities.



Pingxi Junior High: A Mother's Heart Nurturing Compassion

Pingxi District in New Taipei City is surrounded by mountains. As coal mining resources have gradually declined, young and middle-aged people have migrated away, resulting in fewer students. Pingxi Junior High is the only junior high school in the area. The family structure of the students is such that 70% come from single-parent, orphaned, or grandparent-led households.

Since 1996, in addition to local students, the school has operated a boarding program called "Ci Hui Class," specifically for students at risk of dropping out, providing accommodation and academic support.

With many students coming from economically disadvantaged families, Tzu Chi volunteers and social workers began collaborating with the school since 2020 to support students through a diverse talent cultivation program. This program

offers material assistance, scholarships, life skills workshops, and gender-specific activities for girls. They provide long-term care and promote stable education plans for graduates, assisting 30 students in continuing their education.

Tzu Chi also provides dietary and nutritional care and delivers jackets during the colder months. Volunteers noticed that some female students' bras no longer fit properly, so they invited experts to tailor fit new ones for them. Additionally, Tzu Chi provides monthly scholarships, with the school offering service opportunities for students. Guided by teachers, students develop proper attitudes and behaviors and are encouraged to document their service experiences. Through long-term care and companionship, these children grow up surrounded by love.



Bo-Yuan's Courage to Be Himself:
Overcoming 7 Years of Paralysis After Car Accident

Emergency Assistance: Timely relief for sudden family hardships to stabilize lives.
Educational Assistance: Ensuring a return to school to continue his education.
Rehabilitation Assistive Device: Increase frequency of rehabilitation to prevent muscle atrophy.
New Shoots Scholarship: Recognize academic achievements and support educational journey.



Bo-Yuan Chen, who loved sports, was paralyzed in a car accident at the age of 18. After seven years of rehabilitation, he returned to school and became a para-athlete. In 2022, he represented Tainan City in the National Disabled Games, winning three silver medals in shot put, discus, and javelin.

During his second year of high school, the cost of a rehabilitation chair troubled him: "Tzu Chi volunteers dressed in blue appeared at my home. Soon after, my tuition was secured, and the long-awaited sports training equipment arrived in my living room."

Long-term support allowed him to regain autonomy over his life. He joined the spinal cord injury support group "Fighters of Love," sharing his life story in schools and communities, hoping to inspire others.

3-1-2 Youth Public Welfare Program

In communities and schools, various innovative youth public welfare projects are promoted. With an international perspective and innovative public welfare initiatives, talents are nurtured to expand a new generation of public welfare education and practice capabilities, enhance competitiveness, and lead youths to participate in public welfare, grasp sustainable trends, and collectively seek solutions to social issues, embodying the power of societal good.

International Mentorship Program

3,284 sessions 4,688 hours of companionship 20 days of in-person interaction

The "El Menahil Promise - Mandarin Learning Program for Syrian Refugees" is a collaboration between the Tzu Chi Foundation and National Taiwan Normal University. Since 2023, the program has provided online Mandarin courses for Syrian refugee students, with Taiwanese youths accompanying them in learning, opening a window to the world for Syrian children.

This program recruits young adults aged 18-35 and provides six weeks of in-person training. Using an innovative Mandarin teaching platform and remote teaching methods, they accompany students online every

week, enhancing their foreign language skills and expanding their future possibilities.

During the summer of 2023 and the winter of 2024, outstanding university companions participating in the program were given the opportunity to go to Türkiye to interact with the Syrian refugee students, engaging in cross-cultural exchange and Mandarin teaching.

Student Jing Chen shared how she was moved by the resilience and optimism of these students. She returned with gratitude and inspiration, inviting more people to take part in international volunteer services.

When visiting a refugee family, Curry Chang learned that a child's father was shot dead at their doorstep. The child had to stop schooling to care for his brother with nerve damage, yet they had no money and no legal status to access proper medical care. Witnessing these injustices fueled his motivation to help others and change the world.

The team's outstanding performance was recognized by the Ministry of Education's Youth Development Administration, receiving top and excellence awards for the "International Youth Volunteer Service Excellence Team."

The "Online Youth Mentorship Program" began in 2021 during the height of the pandemic in Taiwan, providing tutoring services through online platforms to ensure continuous learning despite school closures. Besides Syrian refugees, the program has also extended to Africa, serving more students and aligning with sustainable development goals SDG4 (Quality Education), SDG10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



Vision Future Incubator: Tzu Chi Establishes Incubation Platform for Youths

- The Vision Future Incubator has entered its 7th year
- Sponsored 66 teams to date
 - Engaged with 117,200 youths
 - Completed 750 incubation training courses
 - Guided 6 teams to formally establish organizations

Participant Testimonials:

"Immediate financial assistance helped our team go from zero to one, making that crucial first step."

"It turned our social issue solutions into reality, from training to funding, creating real impact."

"Even after the program ended, Tzu Chi treated us like family, continuously supporting each innovative team to grow."

This platform allows young people to realize their public welfare dreams, encouraging those under 40 to engage in charitable work and focus on social issues. CEO Po-wen Yen emphasized that Tzu Chi

is dedicated to nurturing ambitious youth, guiding them into social innovation, and providing a rich learning environment through connections with industry experts and resources. This support helps them progress further on their path of public welfare.

Anyone with a clear concept and wants to give back to society, believes in the value of your work, and aims to positively impact society, are welcome to join.

Areas of Focus	Charitable innovation, circular economy, regional revitalization, environmental protection, food supply innovation, educational innovation, intergenerational collaboration, etc.
Methods of Practice	Provide action grants, connect with industry mentors for guidance, organize training courses, and support network resource connections.
Impact Goals	1. Lead youths to understand sustainable trends 2. Collaboratively seek solutions to social issues 3. Engage youths in public welfare and practice the power of social good



**Life Maker:
Helping College Students
Navigate their Future**

This is a youth camp specifically designed for college students and high school seniors. It focuses on four major learning themes: life goals, social engagement, self-exploration, and global citizenship. Through design thinking methods, participants gain insights into themselves, including exploring their own traits, learning life design tools, gaining insights into social issues and engaging in service practices, and exchanging ideas with exemplary youth. The camp encourages participants to think outside the box, create influential lives, and inspire social impact.



Reasons for Joining

- "To step out of my comfort zone, find my life direction, meet like-minded friends, learn about Tzu Chi, find my life's focus, understand myself better, and change myself."
- "The pandemic left us feeling disconnected from the world. This activity broadened my horizons and confirmed my goal to use my skills to make the world a better place."

Post-camp Feedback

- "I was nervous before participating but found each day filled with joy and happiness. I also met many like-minded friends, and the camp was free, offering great value."
- "I learned great tools here, which helped me explore my traits and use design thinking to ponder my life goals, reigniting my learning motivation. Four days and three nights, well worth it!"



The Compassionate Technology Innovation Competition: Advancing Social Welfare Through Technology

The Compassionate Technology Innovation Competition aims to encourage young creators to identify social issues related to "medical care" and "charity." Participants are invited to showcase their innovative ideas, which are evaluated and guided by experts

to help them further refine their projects.

In 2023, the competition entered its seventh year, with 24 teams reaching the finals.

The championship in the university category was awarded to Cai-xuan Xiao from National Taiwan Ocean University and Ting-kai Lai from Fu Jen Catholic University. They invented a device that can convert and store energy, ideal for quickly supplying power to mobile phones or wearable devices during natural disasters or mountain emergencies.

In the high school category, the first prize went to the team from Yuli High School in Hualien. They developed an earthquake-resistant modular furniture set in response to the frequent earthquakes in Taiwan. This set is specifically designed for the elderly and people with mobility issues, providing practical solutions during earthquakes.

Participants have the opportunity to contribute to social welfare through technology and inspire more innovative applications in the field.

Ministry of Education's First Youth Volunteer Award: KMU Tzu Ching Wins "Service Innovation Award"

The Youth Development Administration of the Ministry of Education encourages young people to engage in volunteer service and has been promoting volunteer team competitions for many years, recognizing outstanding youth volunteer teams and their host organizations. The Kaohsiung Medical University Tzu Chi Collegiate Association formed the Kaohsiung Youth Medical Volunteers and participated in the first Youth Volunteer Award with the theme "Protecting Your Teeth." Their practical actions in health education and free clinics earned them the "Service Innovation Award."

For the 2023 competition, the team went beyond the campus to serve spinal cord injury as well as physically and mentally disabled patients, elderly individuals with dementia, and children in rural areas of Kaohsiung, Pingtung, and Taitung. They also organized regular training sessions on dental volunteerism, practical dental clinic operations, assistive device operations, dementia care, and basic life-saving skills certification, training volunteers in dental clinic knowledge, and assisting as dental assistants at free clinics.



International Youth Leadership Program: Sustainable Youth Power

The International Youth Leadership Program (IYLP) recruits young people globally to focus on sustainable development, offering thirteen courses on climate change, food systems, water resources, and gender equality. Through educational training, practical participation, and international exchanges, young people learn how to advocate for society and have the opportunity to stand on international stages such as the United Nations to discuss crucial global issues, accumulating professional knowledge and influence.

The second Tzu Chi International Youth Sustainability Conference, themed "Sustainable, I DO!", showcased a year's worth of sustainable achievements. The event featured a series of creative exhibitions organized by the teams, including project introductions, sustainability results, and future prospects.

A total of 17 youth teams participated, presenting diverse and unique projects such as volunteering at prisons, second-hand assistive device repairs, environmental volunteering, programming teams, online tutoring volunteers, Tzu Ching cultural exchanges, the navigator program, medical volunteer teams, rural summer camps, tutoring teams, youth public welfare projects, and the International Youth Leadership Program. Participation increased by 75% compared to 2022. The instructors also led members in sustainable workshops, discussing and overcoming challenges.

Huey Yi Lee from Malaysia participated in the "IYLP International Youth Leadership Program" and signed up for the United Nations summit. He found that gaining access to the UN platform was challenging, but Tzu Chi has been involved with the UN for many years and has experience collaborating with many countries. Lee expressed that with Tzu Chi's training platform, young people can have a broader impact.



3-2 An-Mei Elderly Care Project



Loneliness, health issues, and financial difficulties are challenges that many elderly people face. How can we ensure that those who have worked all their lives do not feel helpless or anxious? How can we help them age with peace, happiness, and confidence, creating a society where the elderly are cared for and the youth can pursue their ambitions without worry?

Our goal is "Stable Homes and Friendly Communities," focusing on home safety improvements, an eco-friendly assistive device platform for extending the life of assistive devices, meal delivery services for the vulnerable elderly, community care centers for health promotion and disability prevention, and the utilization of digital health care systems. These efforts aim to enhance home medical care and health services for disadvantaged groups, accompanying the elderly to enjoy a healthy, peaceful, and happy later life.

Tzu Chi Eco-Friendly Assistive Devices: One Platform Per County

Operating under the "One Platform Per County" model, the Tzu Chi Eco-Friendly Assistive Devices Platform has established an assistive device reconditioning process. It provides safe, sanitary, and appropriate assistive devices to those in need, improving public health and welfare, easing economic difficulties for disadvantaged families, and promoting environmental sustainability.

64,998 volunteer participations

21,666 households served

31,874 assistive devices provided

68% increase compared to 2022

136 storage and distribution points

Received the 2023 TSAA SDG3 Good Health Taiwan Sustainable Action Gold Award for and Well-being

2,999,350 Instances of Care
8,137,161 Volunteers Mobilizations

Elderly Care Actions



Home Visits
Financial aid, living material support, home visits, and phone companionship.



Living Condition Improvement
Improving the safety of living spaces for the elderly and disabled, and providing reconditioned assistive devices.



Health Care
Nutritional supplements for the elderly, community meal delivery, community center care, medication consultations, physical fitness enhancement, and digital health care.



Long-term Care
Home care and home nursing services, daycare center services, Unit C long-term care service points, community service points, and health promotion for the community elderly.



Solitary Elderly Project
Undertaking projects for the care of seniors living alone in Taipei City, Kaohsiung City, and Tainan City.



Health Care Stations
Establishing Tzu Chi blood pressure monitoring systems at recycling stations, introducing "balanced diet" and "regular exercise" courses, and providing comprehensive care from physical care to dietary nutrition for elderly volunteers.

Wheelchairs	Hospital Beds	Commode Chairs	Walkers	Air Mattresses	Quad Canes	Special Wheelchairs
7,113	6,766	3,953	2,947	2,773	1,234	1,152
Oxygen Concentrators	Suction Machines	Single Tip Canes	Crutches	Nebulizers	Electric Mobility Scooters	Other Items
802	792	355	414	266	127	3,180

Care Actions



Collecting
Volunteers collect pre-loved assistive devices.



Processing
Reconditioning, cleaning, and storage of assistive devices.



Delivering
Volunteers deliver assistive devices to the homes of recipients and teach families how to use them properly.

Community Teamwork: Creating a Safe and Comfortable Home

Seventy-two-year-old Mr. Lu had been bedridden for a year after a fall, with no family to care for him, which accelerated his physical decline. Living alone in a house filled with clutter from the first to the third floor, he faced safety hazards and limited mobility.

Referred by the township office, Tzu Chi, the village chief, and the day care center came together to discuss Mr. Lu's needs, forming a 46-member team to help. On the day of the cleanup, the items removed nearly filled the street, including items untouched for 21 years.

When Mr. Lu returned to a clean and tidy home, he was overwhelmed with disbelief and joy. He noted that neighbors, who previously avoided interaction with him, now showed concern and offered well-wishes. Some neighbors even stepped into his home for the first time.

Volunteers also brought a reconditioned medical bed as well as other assistive devices. Fresh new bed linen and pillows were also provided. The clean environment, free from pests, promises better rest for Mr. Lu.



Home Safety Improvements

According to the Ministry of Health and Welfare's Health Promotion Administration, common causes of falls among the elderly at home include inadequate lighting and safety handrails, clutter, and slippery bathroom conditions.

To improve home safety, Tzu Chi mobilized 22,586 volunteer participations to improve living conditions for 2,829 dwellings of elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged households. Improvements included installing safety handrails, creating barrier-free ramps, applying non-slip measures, and enhancing lighting, all to prevent accidents and create a safe living environment.

Recognizing Needs
Grandpa Chang used to grab a rope to help himself stand up. With the installation of a handrail, he no longer needs to exert as much effort, making it safer for him.



Tailored Solutions
Volunteers observe the daily movement patterns of the elderly to measure and plan the types of installations required.



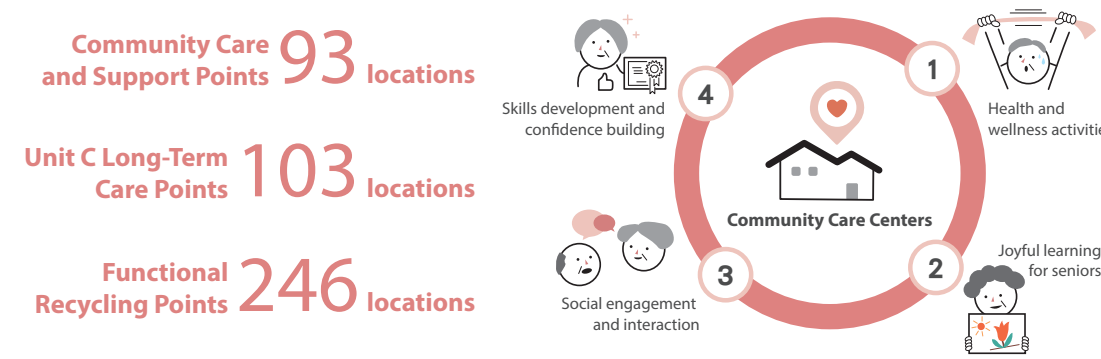
Construction and Installation
Technician volunteers mindfully help install safety handrails, bathroom facilities, and lighting fixtures.



Testing Usability
Volunteers accompany the elderly who are frail and have limited mobility to test the new installations, ensuring there are no problems.

Community Care: Nearby Protection for the Elderly

In Jing Si Halls, recycling stations, or through collaboration with community neighbors, we provide a support system that functions like "daycare for the elderly" and "community long-term care." This allows the elderly to enjoy a healthy life in a familiar environment.



Happiness at Any Age



In Tainan, Kaohsiung, Taichung, and other places, community care centers held exhibitions and performances titled "Together, Shining Brightly." Whether through static displays or dynamic performances, every grandpa and grandma was the star of the show.

At the Jing Si Hall in Changhua, a special event called "Sharing Our Stories: Weaving the Wisdom of Life" made the elders' stories the focal point. This was more than just a competition; it was a reunion and sharing session.

Elders from seven communities in the central region participated. Initially unsure of what to share, with the help of volunteers and social workers, they brainstormed, organized, rehearsed, and eventually crafted their life stories into compelling narratives. For many, performing on stage was a first, bringing both nervousness and excitement. To prepare, they rehearsed at community centers and continued practicing at home, keeping them more active and engaged.

On the day of the competition, even 100-year-old Grandpa Chen took to the stage with joy, sharing how participating in the center's activities had made him feel more relaxed and happy. The atmosphere was lively, with everyone enjoying snacks while watching the performances, turning the event into a joyous "senior class reunion." This unique competition aimed to add fun and a sense of competition, but more importantly, the process allowed them to revisit and share life's moments with one another.

Digital Health Care Beneficiaries:



Nutritional Support for the Elderly:



To care for the health of community elders, especially those living alone, Tzu Chi launched the "Silver Health Care" project alongside promoting digital health care.

Tzu Chi recycling stations, scattered in various neighborhoods, have developed comprehensive recycling mechanisms and various value-added inventions, fulfilling environmental education roles while also providing social assistance and care. Elderly participants in recycling activities engage in



physical exercise and social interaction, which helps them find a renewed sense of purpose and significantly improves their physical, mental, and spiritual well-being, effectively serving as another form of long-term elderly care.

To protect the health of recycling volunteers, Tzu Chi conducts regular checks including blood pressure measurements and atrial fibrillation detection using digital measurement devices, ensuring ongoing monitoring and follow-up.

Action 4

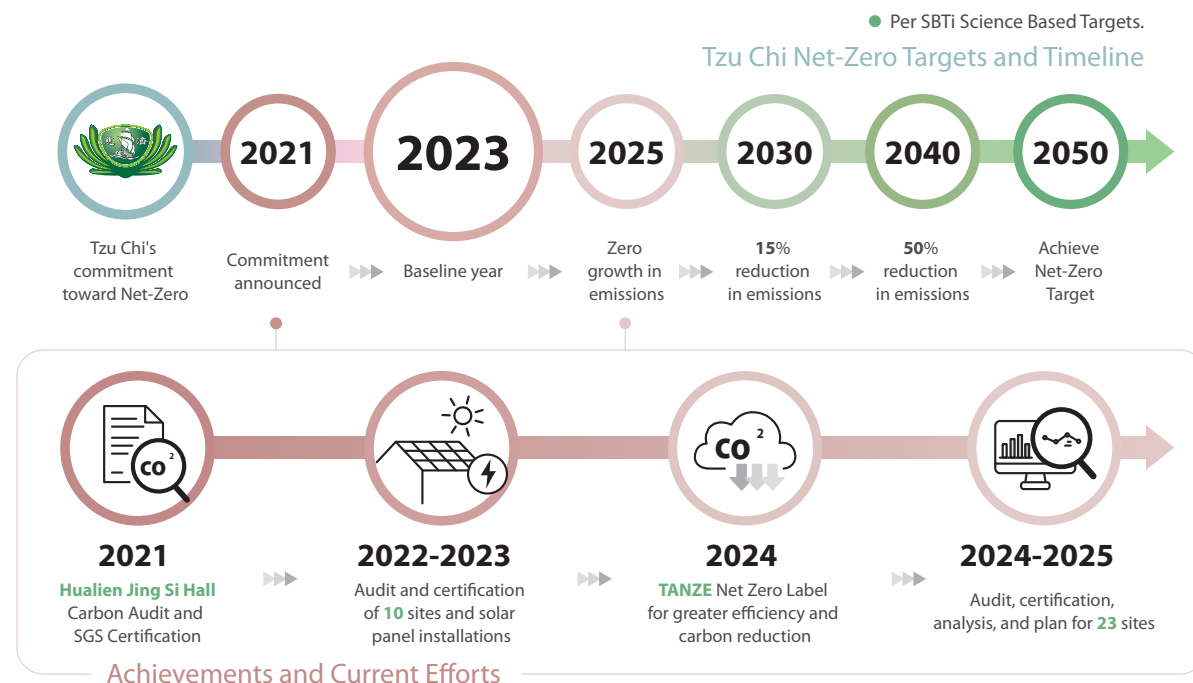
Protect the Environment and Raise Awareness



The Earth is heating up, the weather is getting hotter, and climate change impacts children and adolescents the most and for the longest. As abnormal weather intensifies and climate disasters worsen, how can we regulate and prevent these unpredictable climate disasters?

Climate change is closely linked to and affects nature; Earth's resources are not infinite. If the Earth continues to be overburdened, it will lead to more extreme heatwaves, wildfires, droughts, and floods, threatening global food production. Scientists indicate that human actions are the main cause of global warming. Hence, Tzu Chi is committed to disaster education, promoting healthy low-impact diets, and achieving net-zero sustainability to address climate emergencies and reduce disasters.

4-1 Striving for Net-Zero, Sustainability, and Greater Social Impact



To accelerate net-zero carbon action and address critical sustainability issues, Tzu Chi announced its 2050 net-zero emission goal in 2021. This goal is pursued through four major steps: auditing, analyzing, reducing, and offsetting, driving the net-zero transformation. In 2022, Hualien Jing Si Hall served as a Striving for Net-Zero, Sustainability, and Greater Social Impact, initiating ISO14064-1:2018 greenhouse gas emission verification and obtaining certification. By 2023, ten sites were completed, with plans to extend to 23 locations across Taiwan. Using 2023 as the baseline year, we set operational carbon reduction targets, continuously promoting energy-saving and carbon-reduction efforts in operations and green energy deployment, including energy transition toward RE100. Tzu Chi is pushing for transformations through its operations, lifestyle, and society.

In 2023, referencing the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), we initiated the first phase of risk identification, establishing a climate-related risk assessment mechanism. Through systematic adaptation and mitigation measures, we proactively respond to the impacts of climate change on operations, finance, and services, enhancing overall service and operational resilience, and supporting international and

government commitments to 2050 net-zero goals.

As an NGO, although not in the first wave of net-zero transformation targets, environmental sustainability is a key concern for Tzu Chi. Led by Master Cheng Yen, global volunteers strive towards reducing their carbon footprint through vegetarianism and environmental efforts. CEO Po-wen Yen believes that despite the challenges of achieving net-zero emissions, Tzu Chi must actively participate.



4-1-1 2023 Earth Solutions: Focusing on 12 Major Industry Issues

The "2023 Earth Solutions: Sustainable Design Action Conference" centered on "Breakthrough Innovation, Accelerate Action" featured six thematic sessions focusing on sustainable transformation, sustainable finance, smart transportation, holistic health, and sustainable cities, addressing 12 major topics. Key leaders from industry, government, academia, and research sectors shared their expertise and experiences to explore strategies and actions for sustainable development.



CEO Po-wen Yen shared Tzu Chi's approach to promoting sustainable environmental education under the theme "Let's Action: Connecting Intergenerational Forces," emphasizing the critical role of intergenerational collaboration in advancing sustainable environmental education. This forum served not only as an exchange platform but also as a call to action, encouraging all sectors to contribute to the planet's future.

Mobile Environmental Education Truck 2.0: Learning About Net-Zero

Launched in 2020 as part of Tzu Chi's 30th anniversary of promoting environmental protection, the Mobile Environmental Education Truck was created in collaboration with Da.Ai Technology. The truck toured counties, cities, and campuses, receiving enthusiastic responses. In response to the global net-zero trend, the 2023 upgraded 2.0 version featured a "Net-Zero Future Pavilion." The 40-foot trailer, equipped with 20 solar panels, promotes green renewable energy and includes seven checkpoints. Interactive games using technology and digital screens guide participants to understand the causes of global warming, net-zero targets, carbon reduction, and carbon neutrality, and explore implementation methods. Solar-generated power is stored in batteries to ensure sufficient power supply even during low sunlight, demonstrating energy-saving, energy-creating, and energy-storing functions.



PaGamO Learning Platform: Cultivating Environmental and Disaster Relief Warriors



The "Tzu Chi x PaGamO Environmental Education E-sports World Cup" entered its third year. This cross-sector collaboration between Tzu Chi, BoniO, the Ministry of Environment, and the Department of Information and Technology Education promotes "environmental education and disaster preparedness knowledge." Through the competition, students and teachers will learn about global warming and extreme climate issues. Each participant writes a learning reflection on environmental practices, turning online learning into concrete actions for the Earth, aiming to enhance national disaster prevention awareness and environmental education literacy.



This year, a friendly match with Environmental Protection Bureaus across Taiwan included 54 representatives from 22 counties and cities.

The intra-school competition kicked off on August 30, involving 1,551 schools, 5,241 classes, and 123,453 participants. From class preliminaries and school semi-finals to 21 county and city cup finals, the grand finale on April 14, 2024, was held in Taipei, Taichung, Hualien, and Kaohsiung. Contestants from the US and Malaysia also participated online.



BoniO founder Benson Yeh noted that over 3 million children in Taiwan use the PaGamO platform, with more than 200,000 users weekly. The third year of collaboration with Tzu Chi for the environmental and disaster preparedness e-sports competition has seen growing participation and international outreach, exporting Taiwan's educational influence to other countries.

Tzu Chi x PaGamO Environmental Warrior Training Program

Online Learning Task Book	On-campus Class Interactions	Environmental Education Competition
Follow KOKO Protect the Earth Together	Class Preliminary Rounds Intra-school Semi-finals County and City Cup Finals	Global Cup Finals

4-2 Sustainable Living Starts with You and Me



Recycling is essential to the circular economy and everyone can do it. It conserves resources, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and decreases energy, air, and water pollution. By transforming waste into resources, recycling lowers dependence on natural resources, minimizes environmental damage and carbon emissions, and reduces the need for new resource extraction, helping to mitigate climate change.

- 91,982 certified recycling volunteers in Taiwan
- 7,059 recycling stations or community recycling points
- 3,287,957 metric tons of CO2 reduced (2023 cumulative benefit from recycling)
- Equivalent to the annual carbon sequestration of 644 New York Central Parks
- 3,405,756 kg of plastic bags collected (not typically recycled)



In April 2023, the "Tzu Chi Foundation Environmental Protection Missions (SROI) Analysis Report" was verified by the Report Database for Social Value UK and shared on its platform for global reference. Then in July, Tzu Chi received the Bronze Award for "Environmental Behavior Change" at the Global Good Awards. This award highlighted Taiwan's environmental protection efforts and used SROI to showcase the changes and impacts brought about by Tzu Chi and its recycling volunteers."

Plant-Based Diets to Save the Earth: Zero-Waste Eating

This is not only a call to environmental action but showing respect for life and a commitment to sustainable living.

Our food and agricultural systems profoundly affect both human and planetary health. Tzu Chi promotes vegetarianism and zero-waste eating as solutions to mitigate global warming.

According to the Sixth Assessment Report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), transitioning to plant-based food systems is crucial for alleviating the climate crisis. At the UNFCCC's COP 28, over ninety restaurants offered the "1.5°C Menu," featuring primarily vegan or vegetarian options with clearly labeled carbon footprints. This is how plant-based diets have transcended religious boundaries to become a new lifestyle embraced by mainstream society.

Plantarium (an integrated plant-based lifestyle space) - Opened on June 5, 2023

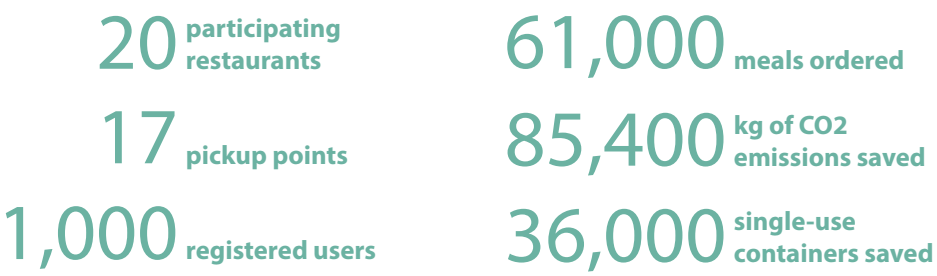
This co-creation space is dedicated to fostering a green economy, empowering youth, and promoting low-carbon plant-based diets. It is a resource-rich exhibition space where young people, experts, and industry leaders passionate about sustainable development can collaborate. This platform drives the green trend and serves as a gateway for the public to embrace plant-based diets, embodying the "Do Good Together" philosophy.

The space features a cooking classroom, a baking classroom, a Jing Si Books & Cafe, a plant-based supermarket, and a buffet restaurant specializing in light vegan meals. The aim is to make plant-based culture widespread, encouraging more people to integrate respect for life and responsibility for the Earth into every meal and choice, contributing to a healthier planet.



Vegetarian Eco-Friendly Meal Ordering Platform--Since 2021

With the outbreak of COVID-19 and the rise of delivery services, the volume of single-use containers increased dramatically. In 2021, Tzu Chi launched Taiwan's first eco-friendly vegetarian meal ordering platform, with the goal of "Order VO2 to Reduce CO2." Starting as a pilot in Hualien, the platform includes meal ordering, online payment, dedicated delivery vehicles, fixed pickup points, and reusable meal boxes, providing a zero-waste delivery service to promote plant-based diets and reduce carbon emissions.



Received the 2023 TSAA Taiwan Sustainable Action Gold Award for

SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production



Eco-Friendly International Tourism--Since 2021

In collaboration with the Hualien County Environmental Protection Bureau, Tzu Chi is helping to promote net-zero green living and encouraging the hospitality industry to increase the proportion of vegetarian options in their breakfast menus. The aim is to make Hualien an eco-friendly international tourist city. By 2023, 12 hotels had been certified as vegetarian-friendly. The plan will continue in 2024 with the certification of "Plant-based Hotels for a Tourist Friendly Hualien," contributing to environmental sustainability.



Future Market--Since December 2022

The Future Market combines vegetarian food, music, and environmental protection to promote a healthy, eco-friendly, and sustainable lifestyle. The market encourages more plant-based eating to reduce environmental impact, supports the use of reusable tableware to cut down on single-use plastics, and reduces waste production. Small changes by individuals can collectively lessen the burden on the planet.



Action 5

Foster Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development



How can we break down the barriers between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and drive collective progress towards multiple goals?

Through collaboration between public and private sectors, and promoting corporate social responsibility, we foster professional partnerships, enabling resource sharing and synergies that amplify the impact of charitable endeavors. Active participation in UN conferences and forums generates frequent collaborations between Tzu Chi and external partners, enhancing Tzu Chi's visibility in mainstream society, promoting interfaith dialogue and charitable cooperation, and strengthening the influence of goodness.

5-1 Global Partnerships for a Sustainable Future

In 2023, Tzu Chi continued to collaborate with over 30 international charitable organizations and local charities, expanding global charitable reach.

Tzu Chi is a global charity that, in addition to local grassroots efforts, actively promotes humanitarian aid, environmental protection, and social development through participation in United Nations conferences and collaboration with global partners. We strive towards the goal of "Aligning with SDGs and Deepening ESG."

We actively participate in international affairs, playing a crucial role in various United Nations meetings. Since 2010, Tzu Chi has been a special consultative member of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and has participated in multiple UN Climate Change Conferences (COP) and other significant international meetings. Moreover, we work with global partners to promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In disaster relief operations worldwide, Tzu Chi demonstrates its spirit of "Great Love Without Borders" through cross-national, interfaith, and cross-organizational collaborations. This approach expands the range and scope of aid, helping more people in need.



5-2 Collaborating for the Common Good of Society

In 2023, Tzu Chi expanded its "Corporate Goodness" initiative to include partnerships with 55 companies. This initiative integrates resources from various industries to address significant sustainable development issues, such as supporting disadvantaged families, children's education, elderly safety, youth development, international disaster relief, and achieving net-zero carbon emissions. These efforts align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and embody corporate social responsibility (CSR) and the core values of environmental, social, and governance (ESG).

Through these partnerships, we enhance social cohesion, promote compassion, and play a critical role in disaster prevention and relief. These collaborations allow companies to showcase their brand value and social impact, contributing to creating a better society.



Public and Private Sector Collaborations: Amplifying Charitable Efforts

Companies	Collaborative Projects
PX Mart	Issuance of Tzu Chi Charity Cash Cards, and Emergency Relief Cash Cards.
Carrefour Taiwan	Provision of disaster relief materials, customized manufacturing of disaster relief supplies, and collaboration on public welfare activities.
Taiwan Water Corporation	Provision of emergency water supply and water purification technology for international disaster relief, along with technical consultation and guidance for water purification technology education and training.
HCT Logistics	Transportation and dispatch of disaster relief materials through warehouse management systems, as well as operations and education training for material management.
FamilyMart	Provision of disaster-specific e-wallets for accessing supplies at nearby convenience stores during emergencies.
Foxconn Technology Group	Provision of hardware and health monitoring systems, and digital health care for the elderly.
Sunfar Computer	Provision of refurbished computers to support digital education for underprivileged students.

5-3 Tzu Chi Discourse for Global Engagement

Tzu Chi emphasizes selfless love, humanitarian spirit, social responsibility, and economic value. Volunteers of Tzu Chi receive no compensation, pay for their own expenses, take leave from work, make their own arrangements, and make regular donations. Such dedication is why Tzu Chi has a high social return on investment (SROI). For example, based on Tzu Chi's model, every dollar invested in Jing Si Halls generates \$8.50 in charitable benefits, recycling efforts produce \$6.30 in benefits, and recycling assistive devices create \$81.18 in societal benefits, reducing the financial burden on beneficiaries.

Tzu Chi actively participates in United Nations activities, presenting at UN General Assembly sessions to showcase its contributions and achievements toward climate change, food crises, and environmental protection. This increases Tzu Chi's global engagement while making substantial contributions to global sustainable development.

Tzu Chi is dedicated to three major goals: "organizational optimization," "information transparency," and "sustainable social responsibility." In 2015, Tzu Chi published its first sustainability report, demonstrating its commitment to social responsibility. Tzu Chi's "Six Pillars of Compassionate Action" promotes international certification of its discourse, spreading its love and good deeds globally. For the "2020-2021 Sustainability Report," Tzu Chi was the sole recipient of the "2023 SGS ESG Awards for Diversity and Inclusion." This award primarily recognizes Tzu Chi's spirit of diversity and inclusion, which is implemented in its organizational culture, employee care, and the creation of a diverse, equitable, and inclusive work environment. Additionally, through international relief efforts, Tzu Chi contributes to and responds to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, including the procurement and donation of vaccines during the pandemic, exerting a positive influence.

Public and Private Sector Collaborations: Amplifying Charitable Efforts

Participation in UN and International Conferences	UN Women's Conference UN Vesak Day UN Asia-Pacific Climate Forum UNHCR General Assembly UN High-Level Political Forum International Philanthropy Forum Parliament of the World's Religions UN Food Systems Summit UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) Global Refugee Forum Global Faith Leaders Summit
Forums and Symposiums Hosted by Tzu Chi	8th Tzu Chi Forum Global Symposium for Common Goodness Symposium on the Theory and Practice of the Teachings of Dharma Master Yin Shun
Key Collaborative Projects	- Tzu Chi signed a memorandum of cooperation with Berkeley Haas School of Business and Tzu Chi University of Science and Technology to conduct joint programs related to innovation and knowledge sharing at the educational level. - Signed MOU with Harvard University's Faculty of Arts and Sciences CAMLab for an immersive multimedia exhibition project featuring the story of Ven. Cheng Yen and Tzu Chi.

2023 Parliament of the World's Religions:
Showcasing Tzu Chi's Charitable Actions

The Parliament of the World's Religions is the largest global interfaith gathering, founded in 1893, promoting interreligious dialogue and harmony. The theme for 2023 was A Call to Conscience: Defending Freedom & Human Rights, with exhibitions and forums highlighting the influence of global compassion and action.

Tzu Chi participated in parallel forums, interactive exchanges, and showcased exhibitions like "The Life of Buddha," "The Climate Village," and "Green Buddhism: Turning Trash into Treasure." A Buddhist prayer room was also established, where three Jing Si Abode masters led a collective Buddha bathing ceremony to introduce more people to Tzu Chi.

Master Cheng Yen was invited to speak at the closing ceremony via video, emphasizing the urgency of adopting a plant-based diet and responsible consumption to combat extreme climate events. She highlighted Tzu Chi's humanitarian aid in Nepal, India, Türkiye, and Poland, urging everyone to act with compassion to alleviate global suffering. She emphasized, "Regardless of faith, our goal is to purify hearts and bring harmony to the world. This is a shared vision between you, me and every person. Therefore, we must seize this life to purify people's hearts. This is the grand path."



COP28: Dialogue Through Action and Collaboration

The UNFCCC's COP28 was held in Dubai from November 30 to December 12, with nearly 200 countries and regions and over 90,000 attendees. Tzu Chi participated by presenting its efforts.

Key themes included reviewing global carbon reduction targets of the Paris Agreement, reducing fossil fuels, and discussing details of the "Loss and Damage Fund," with climate-related health impacts addressed for the first time.

As the rotating chair of the UN Faith-Based Organizations Council and UNEP observer, Tzu Chi participated in forums, dialogues, interviews, and prayer meetings, sharing practical climate change projects and collaborating with multiple religious organizations to promote climate action, focusing on the relationship between climate, refugees, and food systems.

CEO Po-wen Yen and Mozambican Tzu Chi volunteer Dino Foi shared via video conference from Jing Si Abode in Taiwan about the disasters brought by climate change and Tzu Chi's response actions. They emphasized plant-based diets, responsible consumption, and spiritual purification to reduce harm to the Earth. Dino Foi highlighted the severe climate impacts in Mozambique, calling for enhanced education and community activities to address climate issues.

Tzu Chi's commitment to climate action and the importance of interfaith and cross-cultural cooperation in solving the global climate crisis were highlighted.



Participated in and collaborated on **10** forums, **2** interfaith dialogues, **2** interviews, and **1** prayer meeting.

Showcased Tzu Chi's climate care activities at the **Faith Pavilion**.

Shared the **Great Love Farm** project to build sustainable food systems in multiple African countries, enhancing local climate resilience.

Promoted experiences in **vegetarianism** and **energy-saving carbon reduction**, enhancing climate adaptation capabilities through international exchanges.

What more can we do in the face of resource inequality?

The 8th Tzu Chi Forum theme, Towards a New Era of Equality, explored six major areas: Distributive Justice and Labor Equality, Homeless Care and Housing Justice, Urban Transformation and Appropriate Development of Urban and Rural Areas, Lifestyle Transformation and Community Climate Action, Green Energy and Just Transition, and Agro-food Imaginations and Global Food.

There were also two sub-forums. The Tzu Chi Studies Sub-Forum explored topics including Compassionate Relief and Humanistic Altruism, Internationalization of Tzu Chi Study, and Tzu Chi Study on Women's Leadership. The Youth Sub-Forum addressed issues such as Youth Poverty and Menstrual Equality.

Renowned scholars and experts from domestic and international backgrounds participated in lectures, seminars, thematic forums, and sub-forums to collectively seek strategies to address social inequality. The event included five keynote speeches, six panel discussions, four Tzu Chi Studies sub-

forums, and six youth sub-forums, with 35 papers presented in total.

Among the notable speakers was Solomon Darwin, Executive Director of the Garwood Center for Corporate Innovation at UC Berkeley. As an Indian immigrant to the United States and growing up with the caste system, he has long been concerned about poverty in Indian society and founded hospitals in India to give back to his community. Another prominent speaker was Yotam Polizer, CEO of IsraAID, Israel's largest humanitarian NGO, leading over 300 members in humanitarian relief efforts across 15 countries, including collaboration with Tzu Chi to assist Ukrainian refugees in Poland.

During the closing ceremony, alongside speeches and expectations from various experts and scholars, Solomon Darwin, on behalf of UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business, signed an MOU with Tzu Chi University of Science and Technology and Tzu Chi Foundation. This collaboration aims to foster curriculum cooperation, with the hope that knowledge innovation and sharing will take root through education, collectively promoting social equality and sustainable development.

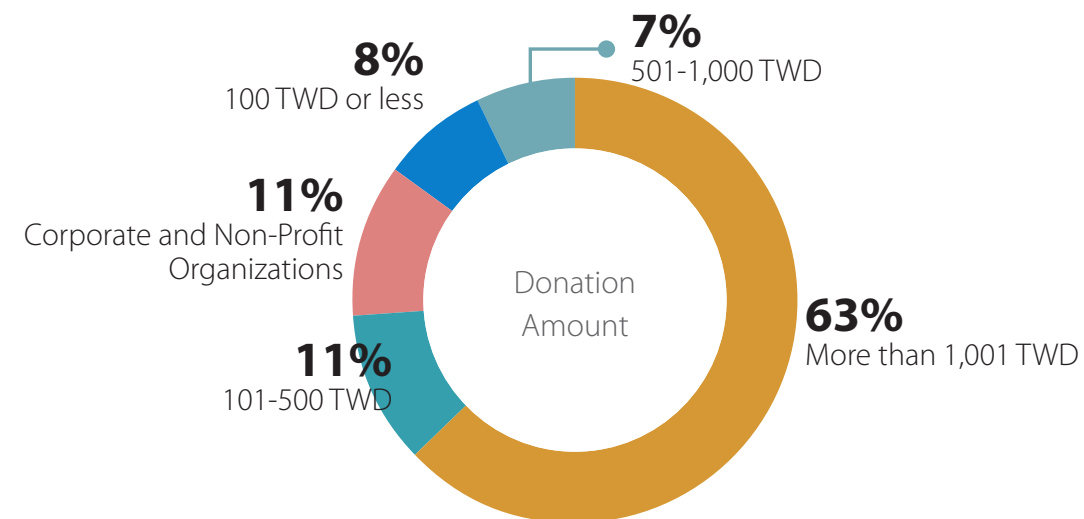
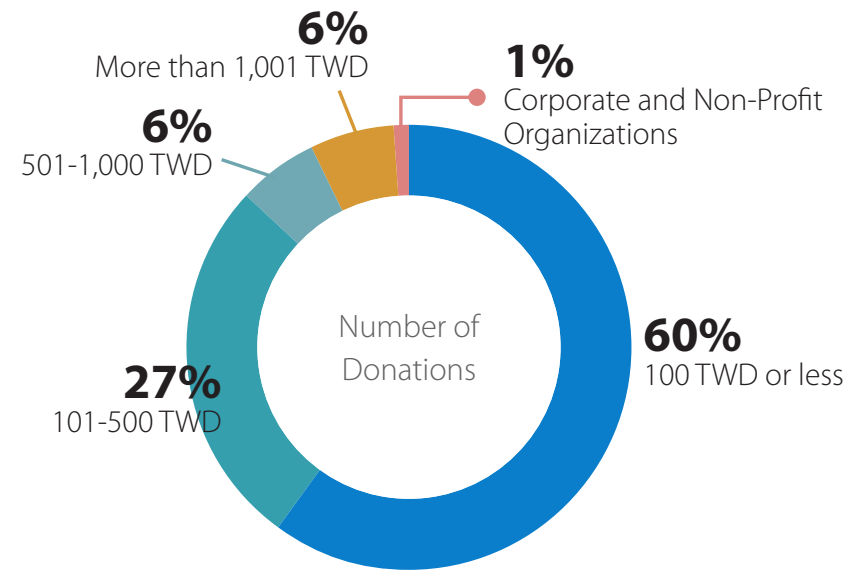


2023 Financial Overview

Tzu Chi Foundation's financial statements for 2023 were audited by KPMG Taiwan. The audit report, issued on May 23, 2023, received an unqualified opinion, as follows:

Tzu Chi Charity Foundation's financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, have been audited. These statements include the balance sheets, income statements, statements of changes in net assets, cash flow statements, and notes to the financial statements (summarizing significant accounting policies). The auditors have concluded that these statements fairly present the Foundation's financial position at year-end 2023 and 2022, its operating results, and its cash flows for those years, in accordance with relevant accounting standards of the Republic of China.

The donation income in 2023 was calculated according to the number and amount of donations.

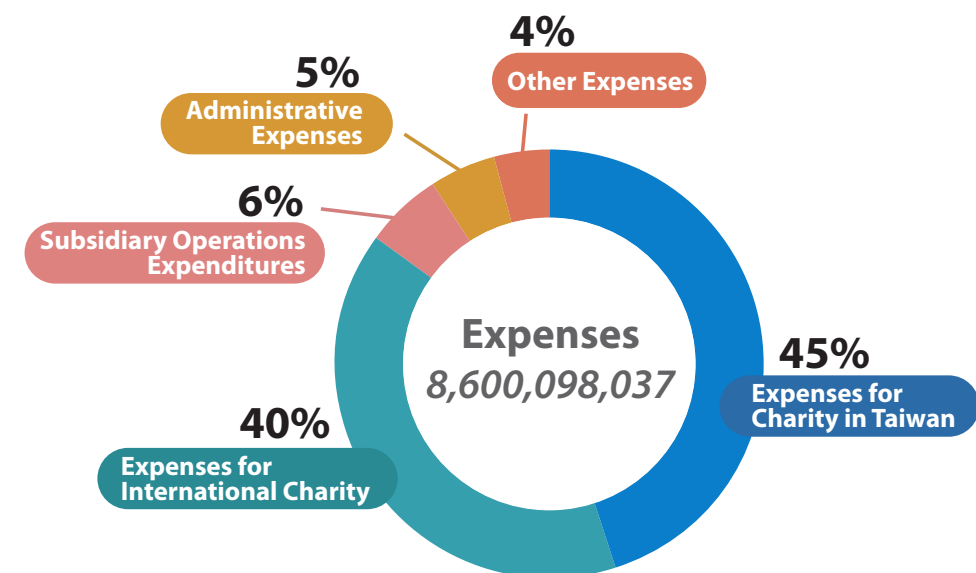
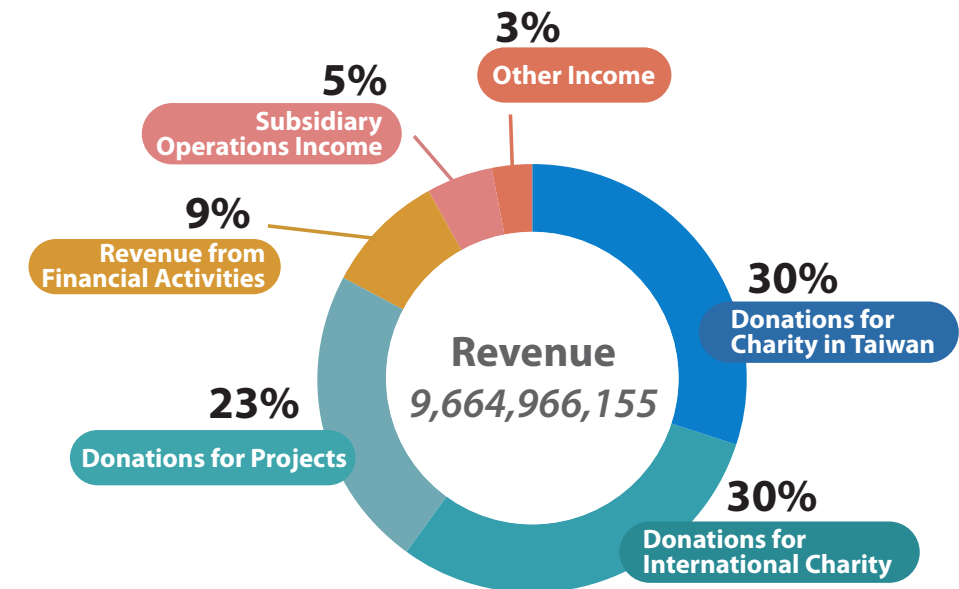


Explanation:

- The donations to the Tzu Chi Foundation are based on the core values of inspiring compassion and promoting a cycle of goodness in society. Every act of kindness is invaluable.
- We are grateful to Tzu Chi volunteers who regularly visit donating members to share updates on Tzu Chi's missions and raise funds. The use of technology to solicit donations has amplified the power of good deeds. In 2023, individual donations of 1,000 TWD or less accounted for 93% of total donations.
- We also appreciate the contributions from corporate and non-profit organizations, which accounted for 11% of the donation amount in 2023, collectively alleviating suffering and fostering social well-being.

2023 Revenue and Expenses

Unit: TWD



I. Charity in Taiwan:

- Community and rural poverty alleviation: Long-term assistance for disadvantaged families and groups, home care, scholarships and grants, emergency relief, health promotion, and community development.
- Long-term care services: Promotion of long-term care services and establishment of long-term care centers, care for elderly living alone, and management of community care centers.
- Youth public welfare development: Promotion of youth public welfare development, talent cultivation, youth spiritual growth, and participation in public welfare services.
- Welfare services for women, children, and the disabled: Institutional care and financial support, school resource support, and nutritional support.
- Disaster prevention, preparedness, and relief: Disaster relief, disaster reduction, and preparedness projects, development of disaster relief materials and equipment, activation of disaster relief and housing, school reconstruction projects, and provision of PPEs.
- Environmental sustainability projects: Promotion of environmental protection education, recycling and reuse of resources, innovative technology development, and activation of net-zero carbon emission projects.

II. Charity Internationally:

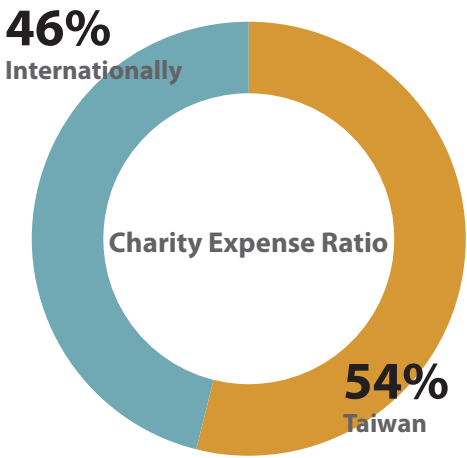
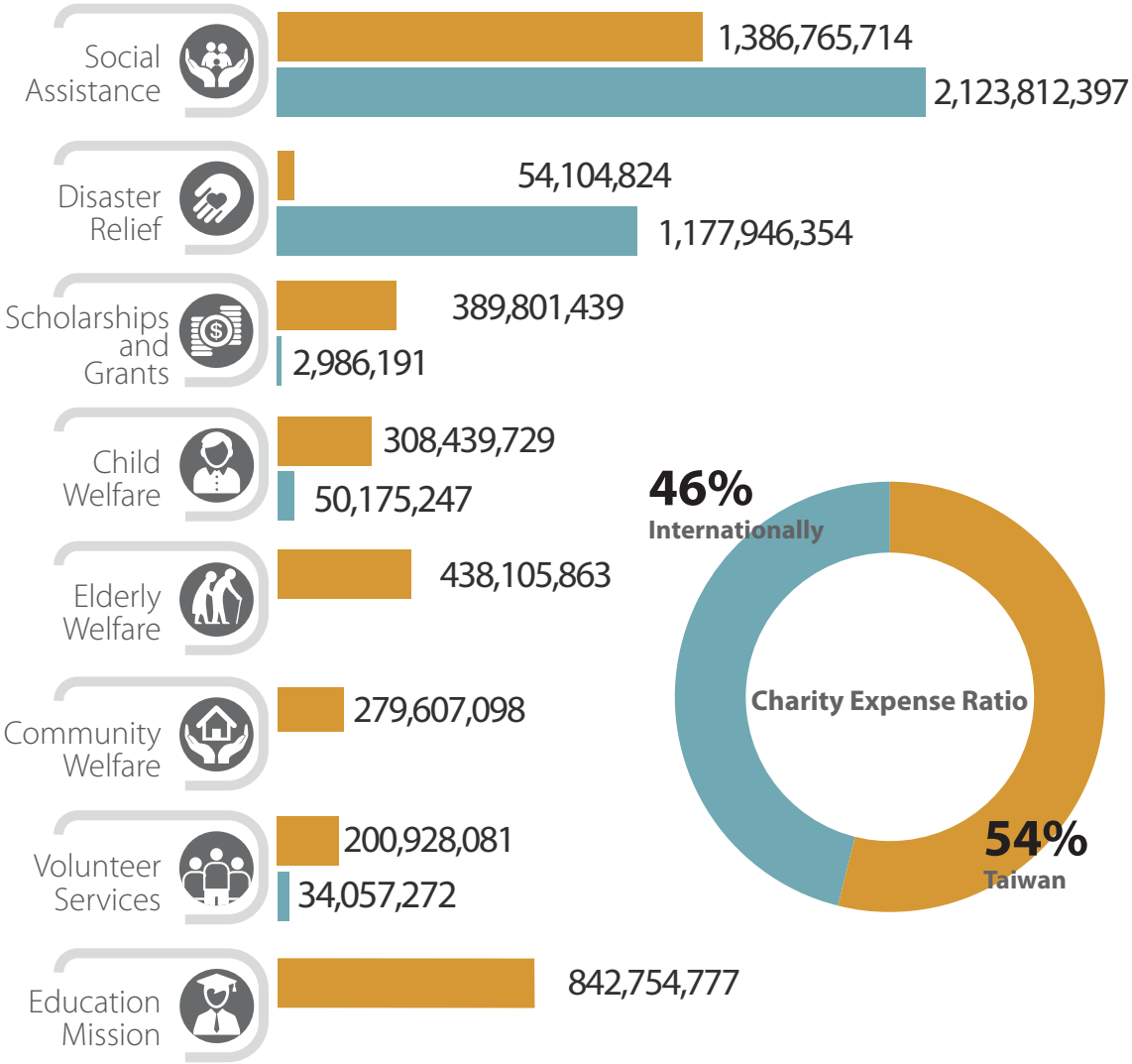
- Disaster relief and post-disaster reconstruction: In 2023, in response to the Türkiye-Syria earthquake, we initiated relief actions for quake survivors in Türkiye and Syria.
- Long-term assistance for refugees: Provision of living, education, and medical subsidies for displaced refugees around the world.
- Relief for hunger, out-of-school children, orphans, and impoverished families: Various poverty alleviation projects to support global efforts against hunger, ensure education for children, provide aid for orphans, and assist impoverished families.

2023 Charity Expenses in Taiwan and Internationally

Thank you to all donors worldwide who help us protect Taiwan and extend Taiwan's love to countries facing major disasters and poverty.

Charity Expenses in Taiwan
Charity Expenses Internationally

Unit: TWD



*We are Here
and
We are Willing!
Illuminating the World with Love and Kindness*

● Everyone can embrace the value of life.
When you give and help others,
you will receive something valuable in return.
True joy comes from giving selflessly
while remaining grateful.
Guided by wisdom and compassion,
we diligently walk the Bodhisattva path,
making a genuine difference.



Learn more
about Tzu Chi



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