

## **China Everbright Limited sponsors Lifeline Express's first International Sight Saving Mission in Sri-Lanka to help underprivileged patients restore their eyesight**

16 December 2016 - **China Everbright Charitable Foundation** and its long-term charity partner, **Lifeline Express** organised an “**Lifeline Express International Sight Saving Mission**” in Sri-Lanka providing free surgeries for the underprivileged cataract patients to regain their eyesight. This is the first sight saving mission outside Mainland China and is supported and well-recognised by both the Chinese and Sri-Lankan governments. Deputy Director of National Health and Family Planning Commission of PRC Ms Li CUI, Honorary Ambassador, Commission on Poverty in Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ms Aimei LE, Former Deputy Director of Department of Health in China Mr Dakui YIN, Founding Chairman of Lifeline Express Hong Kong Foundation Mrs Nellie FONG and Member of the Management Decision Committee and Director of the CEO Office of CEL Mr Kevin SO went to Sri-Lanka to attend the officiating ceremony and visited the patients in General Hospital Kalutara. Mr Rajitha SENARATNE, Director of Department of Health in Sri-Lanka and Mr Xianliang YI, Embassy of China in Sri Lanka also attended the ceremony and expressed the gratitude to China and Lifeline Express for their support and contributions to Sri-Lanka. In line with China's “One Belt One Road” policy, the two countries will continue to deepen the collaboration in the health sector and fully utilise the strengths of each other to benefit the people.

“Lifeline Express International Sight Saving Mission” is the first international service point that provides cataract operations held by the Lifeline Express Hong Kong Foundation. During 21 November to 31 December, medical team from Union Medical College Hospital in Beijing stations in Sri-Lanka to conduct over 500 free cataract operations for the underprivileged patients. In order to enhance medical skills in Sri-Lanka, medical team from Lifeline Express provided guidance and education on cataract operations to the local surgical team.

Over the past few years, CEL has formed a close partnership with Lifeline Express and becomes one of the largest funding sources helping the charity treat cataract patients in poverty-stricken areas in Mainland China. CEL has been sponsoring Lifeline Express's annual gala dinner for 5 consecutive years and made substantial donations to support their fund-raising events such as the charity Golf Days and fundraising concerts. In 2014, 2015 and 2016, CEL arranged parent-child volunteer team to visit the eye-train hospitals and cataract patients in Shandong, Heilongjiang and Guiyang, providing help to paramedics and bringing love to patients. This year, CEL supported Lifeline Express's International Sight Saving Mission, hoping to bring its sight-saving services to benefit more people in different areas around the world.





### **Everbright Charitable Foundation**

Since 2009, the China Everbright Charitable Foundation (“CECF”) has sustainably sponsored a number of social service projects including: Title-sponsored the “China Everbright Voice of The Stars Story-Telling Scheme”, to help cultivate a better understanding and greater awareness of Chinese history among Hong Kong’s young people; jointly launched “The Everbright Project” with Caritas Family Crisis Support Centre to provide community services targeting Hong Kong’s middle class, advocate an attitude of life –“Making Life Simple” ; “Project Companion – Professional Social Workers in Greater China Scheme”, jointly established with Social Workers Across Borders to train professional social workers in the Mainland; “Everbright Teachers’ Heritage Discovery Tour” organized by Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers to provide Hong Kong teachers travelling opportunities to the Mainland China cities for experiencing and learning China culture and history; Over the past couple of years, CECF has also formed a close partnership with Lifeline Express, becoming one of its largest funding sources to help cure cataract patients in poverty-stricken areas in the Mainland. For details, please visit: <http://www.everbright165.com/CorporateSocialResponsibility/CECF>.

### **Lifeline Express**

The Lifeline Express Hospital Eye-Train first embarked on its mission to provide free operations and treatment to the underprivileged cataract sufferers in China in July 1997. Over the past 19 years, the Hospital Eye-Trains have helped restore vision to more than 150,000 cataract patients in China by offering them free operations on the Trains. Lifeline Express has also established training centres for ophthalmology microsurgery and cataract treatment centres in the rural areas of mainland China. Moreover, Lifeline Express has introduced an international examination and other learning opportunities for the eye doctors in China, so as to improve their level of knowledge and enhance to a higher level. For more information about Lifeline Express, please see: <http://www.lifeline-express.com/>.