



ANNUAL REPORT 2017 - 2018

THE FRENCH CHAMBER FOUNDATION

“oui” Care for a Better Hong Hong

THE FRENCH
CHAMBER
FOUNDATION



法國商會慈善基金

Table of Content

07

Who's who at the
Foundation

04

President's and
Honorary President's
notes

06

Highlights

08

Foundation's key project:
The Lunch Club

- The Lunch Club
- Lunch Club members' profiles
- Healthy and sustainable lunch sets
- Job Matching
- Trainings and information talks
- Social events

15

Fundraising initiatives

- French Chamber Gala Dinner 2017 & 2018, membership renewal campaign
- A Cocktail for a cause February 2018, Green party and Lulu Cheung charity sale
- New Facebook page, new LinkedIn page

21

Partners and Sponsors

18

Communication

20

Financials

THE FRENCH
CHAMBER
FOUNDATION



法國商會慈善基金



President's Note

Jean-Baptiste Dabadie

President of the French Chamber Foundation



If you read those lines, you are most probably part of HONG KONG Community, for a few months, few years or forever. As foreigner, we tend to stay longer than originally anticipated, because Hong Kong gives us, opportunities & successes. But what is success if we cannot share and give back?

The French Chamber Foundation, created by the French business community, is dedicated to relieving poverty locally. This year, we worked at raising awareness about the local situation. Given the good performance of local economy, it is hard to believe that employees cannot make a decent living. But 1 in 5 Hongkongers live below poverty line set at HK\$ 4,000 per month for a single people, at HK\$ 9,000 per month for a two-person household, and HK\$ 15,000 per month for a three-person household. According to the 2016 Hong Kong poverty report, 475,000 persons live in low-income working households struggling to meet their basic needs. Working but still unable to make ends meet.

The Chinese proverb: "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach him how to fish and you feed him for a life time" depicts our vision. In the same way as they French Chamber of Commerce connects business people together, the French Chamber Foundation connects low-income workers with new employment opportunities. We serve 200 people per day, we give them social inclusion, training, coaching and help them finding a better job with higher salary. Last year, we coached over 300 people and more than 100 of them found a better job. For each of them and for their family, this is life changing.

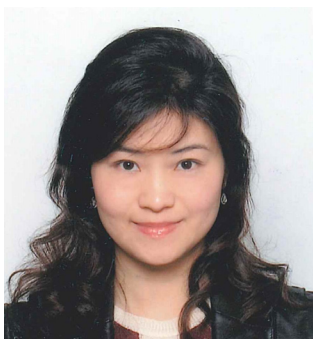
This year was a year of consolidation, making our Foundation even stronger and efficient. We need your help to keep running this project, to launch new initiatives and to bring more & more long-lasting smiles in Hong Kong.

I would like to thank you all, donors, partners, board members, staff members and volunteers for your ongoing commitment. Together we will continue to support the underprivileged in Hong Kong.

Honorary President's Note

Cecilia Cheung

Honorary President of
the French Chamber
Foundation



As a citizen of Hong Kong, I must thank the French Chamber Foundation for creating the Lunch Club project, which provides the much-needed care and support to the underprivileged people in our community. My special gratitude goes to both the President and the Honorary President Emeritus, and many others who have laid a very good foundation before me, making my job here much easier.

In the past year, it has been my pleasure to witness and oversee the new developments of the Lunch Club operations – adding multi-faceted interactive elements to the project has brought to the Lunch Club a new-found energy and, most importantly, more warmth and compassion.

While participating in these activities, I was able to meet some regular Lunch Club members. They generously shared with me their life stories and thoughts, providing me with a better understanding and deeper insight of those who are using our services. Responses from them have been overwhelmingly positive, and most of them view the Lunch Club as a warm and dependable family in their hearts.

Besides providing a low-cost, nutritious meal, the Lunch Club also focuses on providing assistance with job searches for the members. Staff and social workers are able to better identify their capabilities, needs, location and commute to improve their quality of life and work. Through hosting vocational training workshops and other activities in a vibrant and spacious environment, members feel confident to build friendships and give support to one another.

I believe that through our concerted efforts the Lunch Club will continue to develop our own unique characteristics and thrive in order to reach out further to those in need.

Highlights

April 2017 - June 2018

55,200 meals served to the underprivileged A community of 970+ members **160+ successful job placements for the unemployed and low-income workers** **Around 120 talks & workshops** **200 meals served daily in 4 lunch clubs** **New corporate volunteering from companies' members of the French Chamber of Commerce: Alstom, Kingfisher and Wild at Heart** **A taste of France thanks to the French Consulate, Kayser and Janat Paris** **Key partnerships with NGOs such as Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service, Kwun Tong Baptist Swatow Church, Food Angel** **Caring Company title awarded for the 2nd time by the Hong Kong Council Social Service**

Who's who at the Foundation

The French Chamber Foundation is a project launched by the French business community to give back to the city that nurtured its prosperity. It has been created at the initiative of the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Hong Kong.

Board composition

Honorary President: Mrs. Cecilia Cheung
President & Director: Mr. Jean-Baptiste Dabadie
Directors as of June 30, 2018:
Mr. Armen Ekmekdjé
Mr. Thomas Feld
Mr. Matthieu Gaonach
Mr. Hans-Gunther Herrmann
Mrs. Olivia Lo Tai Chuen
Mrs. Marie-Hélène Prevot

In May 2018, the Foundation was pleased to welcome 3 new directors to strengthen the team: Mrs. Celine Heuls-Vidal, Mr. Thierry Neveux and Mr. Gilles-Alexandre Salansy.

French Chamber Foundation staff

General Manager: Mrs. Servane Delahaye

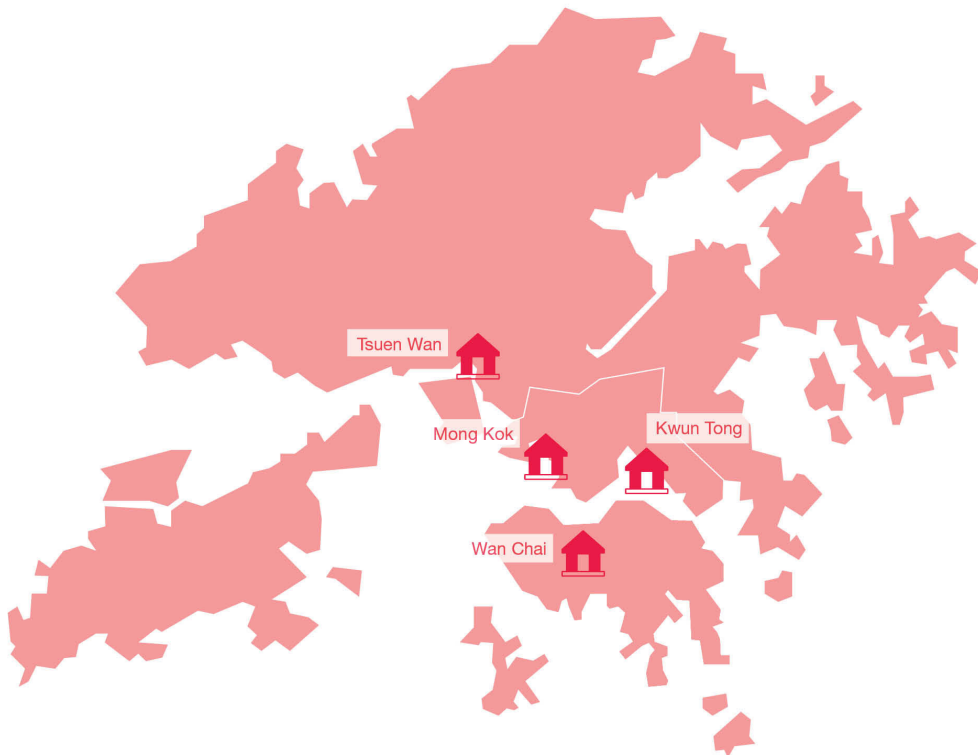
French Chamber of Commerce

Executive Director: Mrs. Sophie Leconte

French Chamber Foundation's Key project: The Lunch Club

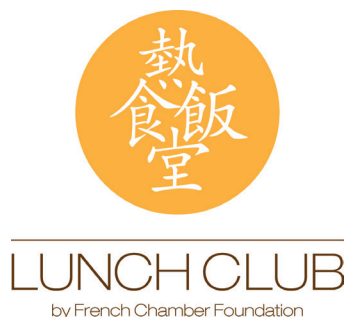
A Lunch Club is a meeting place for low income workers to find personalized and warm support; it helps its members strengthen their working skills and finally attain better opportunities in line with their needs. Each Lunch Clubs provides 3 offerings: lunch, network and employment services.

Daily operations in the 4 Lunch Clubs are handled by Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service for 3 of them. The fourth one in Kwun Tong is handled by Kwun Tong Baptist Swatow Church.



The 4 centres are opened from Monday to Friday, from 12 to 2.30PM.
The daily occupation for each Lunch Club is above 80%.

What is a “Lunch Club”?



Open every Monday to Friday during lunch hours,
a Lunch Club offers:

Healthy lunch
sets
for HK\$8

A place to
mingle and
meet with
peers

Personal Counselling with social workers
Career enhancement service
Job skills training programmes
and career opportunities

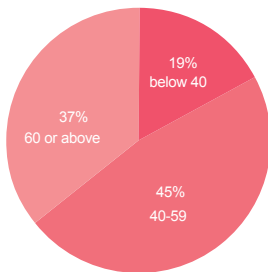
=
Empowered
people

Since early 2015, the French Chamber Foundation has opened
4 Lunch Clubs in Mong Kok, Tsuen Wan, Wan Chai and Kwun Tong.

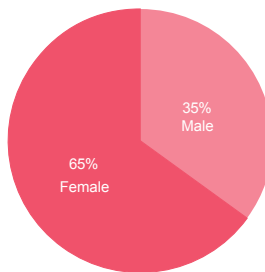
Who do we serve?

Each Lunch Club welcomes at least 50 members every day. Participants are usually employed but are unable to make ends meet. Most of the time, they are the sole breadwinner of their household and have a strong need for employment services.

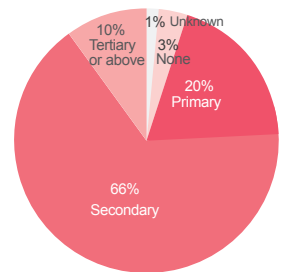
Age Group



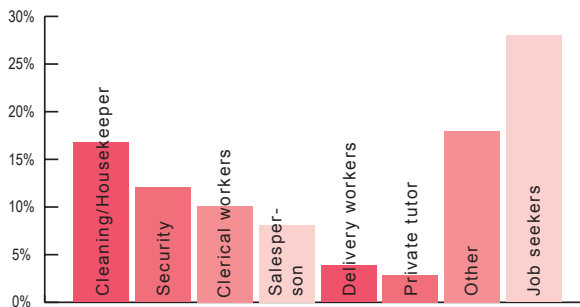
Gender



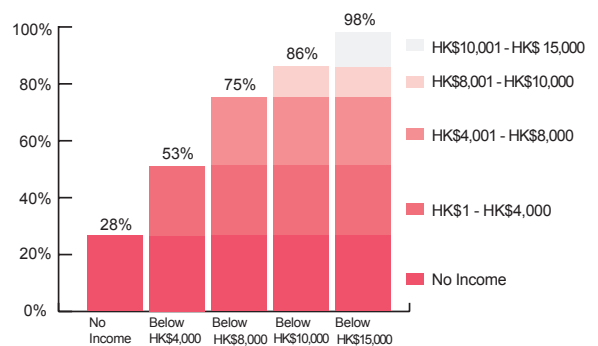
Education



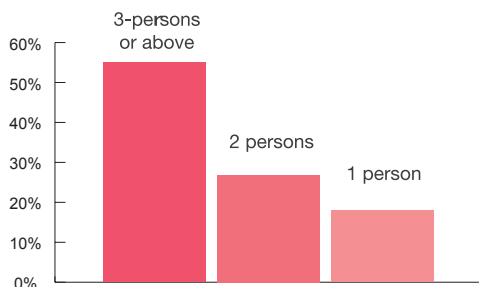
Career profiles



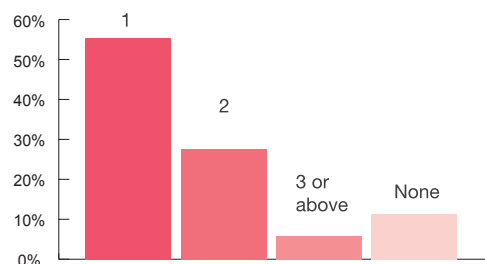
Monthly Salary Range



Household size



No. of employed members per household



Healthy and Sustainable Lunch sets

Each Lunch Club offers every day to its members a lunch menu, served with rice and once a week with soup. On top of the regular lunch sets, the French Chamber Foundation constantly activates its network to offer nice extras to the Lunch Club members.

Activity and Achievements:

- 55,200 meals served in the 4 Lunch Clubs combined.
- Partnership with French companies to bring a French taste to the lunches served in the 4 centres: Maison Eric Kayser: weekly donation of pastries and cookies, and Janat Paris
- Voluntary work by corporates: partnership with Foundation Hermes, Alstom, Kingfisher and Wild at Heart. The encouragements and cares from corporate volunteers by serving the meals strengthen the sense of community in the lunch clubs.

Tea for Two Project, JANAT

The French Chamber Foundation is delighted to partner with JANAT Paris and its 'Tea for Two Project'. We are grateful to benefit from their generosity in offering tea bags to the beneficiaries of all our Lunch Clubs in Wan Chai, Kwun Tong, Tsuen Wan and Mong Kok



Job Matching

The French Chamber Foundation believes that the best way to actively lift people out of poverty is to assist and support them in their attempt to find better employment.

Each Lunch Club organizes a job-matching service collecting vacancies, preparing beneficiaries for interviews and supporting the new recruits in their first steps in their new role.

Activity and achievements:

- Every month more than 10 Lunch Clubs members successfully changed their job or earn a better salary thanks to the Lunch Club. The average increase in salary amounts to HK\$5,000. The Lunch Club members found their next jobs in various industries: Food and Beverage, Security, Retail or Healthcare.
- More than 450 Lunch Club members received career guidance service thanks to regular contact with the Lunch Club's social workers
- 35% of the coached members found a better job

Success stories in the lunch clubs:

Kwun
Tong

A 64-year-old unemployed man who lives with his wife in a rooftop shanties in Kwun Tong came to the Lunch Club to seek for help. After receiving personalized support enabling him to overcome the barriers to work, he found a job opportunity as a technician in a property management company with HK\$17,000 salary.

After attending a specific training in healthcare, a service user of 22 years old found support from the Foundation to find a job related to her new skills. She received information on job vacancies from different hospitals. Thanks to the social worker's assistance, she has started to work in a hospital in Eastern District with a monthly salary of HK\$13,000.

Mong
Kok

Tsuen
Wan

A 59-year-old woman was a part-time accountant and a tutorial teacher but with a very unstable work schedule and income. The French Chamber Foundation invited her to attend a professional training dedicated to baby care. The Foundation helped her find a job in Tsuen Wan related to baby caring. Her salary has been increased from HK\$13,000 to HK\$ 25,000.

A 36-year-old woman came to our service and studied a course of physical therapist. During the time she participated in the Foundation's service, the social worker provided some career planning and advices to help her applying for a new position. After completing the course, she found a full time job in a Clinic as Patient Care Assistant.

Wan
Chai

Trainings and Information Talks

The topics covered by the information sessions are focusing on members' work environment, safety and health issue, the current trends in the Hong Kong Labor market as well as introduction to specific industries (catering, hotel management, security etc.).

Lunch Club members are invited to join trainings sessions designed to strengthen their work skills and enhance their employability. Computer, English and Mandarin lessons are organized on a regular basis for an average of 10 participants.

Activity and achievements:

- +60 job information workshops and 57 skill training sessions
- A new series "Do It Yourself workshops" to teach the service users how to make their own products and explore their potential for having their own business in the future. The training was followed by bazar days where the beneficiaries had the opportunities to sell their products.
- Collaboration with well-known companies such as Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Group SEB or The Harborview Hotel to deliver a talk in order to introduce job opportunities.



Social Events

Each of the 4 Lunch Clubs organizes social activities involving Lunch Club members and on several occasions, other NGO's. These gatherings aim at breaking with our members' isolation, engaging them in new activities in order to help them developing their network and nurture a sense of belonging in the Lunch Club community.

Along the year several handicraft workshops, festive gatherings and outdoor activities were organized to encourage social interactions among members. Important public holidays were celebrated in the Lunch Clubs. Family members were also welcomed to join some events.

Also, members were encouraged to participate to bazaars in the city and hold a small bazaar shop to improve their self-confidence in selling products, their self-esteem and also increase their earnings.

Activity and achievements:

- A total number of 50 activities were organized in 4 Lunch Clubs during the period.
- These activities created a warm and friendly environment in the Lunch Clubs.
- Two outstanding examples:

Good France – March 2018

Thanks to the Good France/Gout de France operation organized by the French Consulate, the French Chamber Foundation was delighted to make French cuisine accessible to its Wan Chai lunch club's beneficiaries. The members were delighted to enjoy French meals prepared by the Culinary Arts Master Chef Vincent LEROUX.



Christmas celebration – December 2017



When Christmas time comes, our sponsors always show a great generosity and distribute gifts to the Foundation beneficiaries. Over 50 people gathered in each of the 4 lunch clubs to celebrate Christmas and enjoyed the wonderful gifts generously given by the French Chamber of Commerce's network.

Fundraising initiatives

In 2017-2018, the French Chamber Foundation pursues its efforts to raise awareness around the low income workers livelihood in Hong Kong. The communication tools are designed to communicate on fundraising events as well as regularly update Foundations friends and donors on our new developments.

The French Chamber Foundation worked on increasing its visibility among the local business community through various initiatives.

French Chamber Gala dinners – May 2017 & June 2018

The French Chamber in Hong Kong celebrated the strong bonds between the Hong Kong and French business communities with more than 580 prestigious guests. This event supported the French Chamber Foundation, organizing auctions and a generosity wave.

May 2017: Annual Gala on the theme “Irrational and Rational”

- More than 90 sponsors contributed to the silent auction helping the Foundation to raise KHK\$ 635.
- A live auction gathering 4 exclusive experiences helped the Foundation to raise KHK\$ 314.
- During the “generosity wave”, guests were invited to raise their hand in order to buy week(s) of operation at the Lunch Club. More than 60 weeks were bought, representing an amount of KHK\$ 478.
- HK\$ 1.43 million were raised during the evening.
- Adding Cecilia Cheung’s handsome donation of HK\$ 2 million, the total funds raised to HK \$3.43 million.



June 2018: Annual Gala on the theme “Elixir”

- 105 sponsors contributed to the silent auction helping the Foundation to raise KHK\$ 616.
- A live auction gathering 4 exclusive prizes helped the Foundation to raise KHK\$ 525.
- During the “generosity wave”, Guests were invited to raise their hand in order to buy week(s) of operation at the Lunch Club. 67 weeks were bought, representing an amount of KHK\$ 543.
- Thanks to the guests’ generosity, HK\$ 1.68 million were raised during the evening.
- Adding Cecilia Cheung’s handsome donation of HK\$ 1 million, the total funds raised to HK \$2.68 million.



Support from the French Chamber of Commerce members during the membership renewal campaign – June 2018

- Each year in June, the French Chamber’s members renew their membership. Supportive, the Chamber offer to their members the possibility, during the renewal process to donate to the Foundation through the FCCIHK one-line platform.
- Through donations of HK\$ 240 or HK\$ 480 a total of HK\$ 15,360 was raised during the campaign 2017-2018.

Lulu and the French – June 2018

Wellington Road-based fashion designer Lulu Cheung recently took a remarkable stand by sharing the fruits of her success to collaborate with the French Chamber Foundation and help people in need.

Lulu Cheung made the bold decision of funding the French Chamber Foundation with 3% of last June sales. The French Chamber Foundation expresses its deep gratitude to Lulu Cheung for its generosity and support in helping the low-income workers in Hong Kong. On the 21st a special cocktail was organized at Lulu Cheung boutique to celebrate this collaboration.



A cocktail for a cause – February 2018

On the 1st of February, The French Chamber Foundation organized a cocktail event at the Consul General of France residence. The Foundation invited the FCCIHK's members in order to share their latest achievements and future goals.

This event was the perfect opportunity to raise awareness about the living conditions and needs of the Hong Kong low-income workers. Lee Lee, one of the Mong Kok Centre' beneficiary explained the sense of the Lunch Club initiative in providing a supporting environment and empowering self-confidence among the local community.



Communication

Within this third year of activity, the French Chamber Foundation thanks to its communication tools broadly communicate about the Foundation's work and activities.

Facebook: a new communication strategy: Human First

The Foundation launched a new communication strategy on social media. Each week, Facebook users will meet the people who constitute the French Chamber Foundation. Beneficiaries, volunteers or donors will share their stories and thoughts on why the Foundation matters to them. A new LinkedIn page dedicated to the Foundation will share its latest news to raise awareness among the business community.

On top of its website and Facebook page, the Foundation publishes articles in the French Chamber's HongKong Echo magazine and a quarterly newsletter giving news about its actions and achievements.

HongKongEcho

Your business insights since 1993

Spring/2018

88



THE FRENCH
CHAMBER
FOUNDATION



法國商會慈善基金

[ABOUT US](#) [THE PROJECT](#) [GET INVOLVED](#) [SPONSORS](#) [NEWS](#) [CONTACT](#) [DONATE](#)



The poorest spend half of their monthly budget in food

"Oui" CARE FOR A BETTER HONG KONG

The French Chamber Foundation A series of participatory and tailor-made programs to support underprivileged workers and families in Hong Kong and enable them to live a better life.

Humans of the French Chamber Foundation est à Kwun Tong ***
District.
30 avril •

Mr. Christopher CHUI, Kwun Tong Centre Beneficiary

"No words would be able to describe my feelings right now. This place means so much to me. I met dedicated and extraordinary staff members here: K.K, Sam and Marco; I'm so blessed to know such people. For sure, that the French Chamber Foundation truly changed my life. This is something that people should know."

Christopher is one of the numerous beneficiaries we help. Thanks to the French Chamber Foundation, he managed to fi... Afficher la suite



Humans of the French Chamber Foundation
20 juillet •

Leslie CHAN, Wan Chai Club's Beneficiary

"I worked as a clerk for almost 22 years and 11 years in the same company. Even if I already have a job, the affordable meals play a huge role in reducing my financial burden."

But I am primarily looking for something more at the club of Wan Chai. When I am half-way of my working day, it is the best way I have found to reduce the work pressure, meet friends, find supportive staff and learn how to better interact with colleagues throu... Afficher la suite



Humans of the French Chamber Foundation
6 juillet •

Ms. Ling Ling Cheung, Wan Chai Club's Beneficiary

"Having a lunch outside would cost me 50 HKD on average. I even don't imagine the price for attending professional trainings. Here, the knowledge and support I receive is entirely free and the price of meals is very affordable."

Finding a long-term job when you have low qualifications is very difficult. I received support from the Foundation and I am now a home helper, I take care of the elderly. I have been here for only two months but I already feel that the skills and friendships will help me a lot in the future."



OUR 'HUMAN' OF THE MONTH

Since mid-January, the Foundation has begun to put a spotlight on the donors, partners, beneficiaries, volunteers, social workers, board or staff members who make this project a success. Every week, meet the 'Humans of the French Chamber Foundation' on our Facebook page.

Let's meet Mr. Armen Ekmekdjé, Former President of the French Chamber Foundation between 2014 and 2017.

"I like to say that when it comes to charities, success is never a good thing – rather it is the best reason to do more. The less Hong Kong needs us, the more it means our mission has been accomplished. As an entrepreneur, my specialty is to create small and medium-size businesses from scratch. I found some similarities while running a project like this; constantly trying to convince new donors and sharing our enthusiasm. As expats, we know that we will most likely not end up here for good. But after spending years in this city, it becomes also your home somehow, the place where you raised your children. My commitment to giving back to this city has allowed me to feel as though I can look Hong Kong and its people straight in the eye."

Like our Facebook page: 'Humans of the French Chamber Foundation' www.facebook.com/FrenchChamberFoundation/



Mr. Armen Ekmekdjé

GOGENIE APP TRAINING

We are thankful to have GoGENIE, a start-up innovative job matching app, to provide a training seminar on the utilisation of the app to Lunch Club members in Mong Kok. Co-founder, Mary Cheung, introduced her company's app to our beneficiaries on how to easily find a job in a fast-paced environment. GoGENIE stands out by providing flexibility and accessibility to both employers and employees.

Its social mission aims to help low-income groups and other disadvantaged people to find an extra income through temporary jobs, mostly in F&B and retail. The French Chamber Foundation received great feedback from the beneficiaries and we are looking forward to having other training sessions at other Clubs.



GoGENIE training at Mong Kok Lunch Club

You will have the opportunity to help the French Chamber Foundation to make a difference for low-income workers in Hong Kong at the next Gala Dinner of the French Chamber of Commerce on 1 June. All the funds raised during the evening will contribute to our actions towards the underprivileged providing them with healthy lunches, trainings and recruitment opportunities.

Financials

This summary was extracted from the Independent Auditor's report and Audited financial statement for the year ended on 30 June 2018 audited by Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited, Certified Public Accountant.

Baker Tilly opinion:

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the period from 1 April 2017 to 30 June 2018 in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

Financial situation for the 15 month ended 30 June 2018 (HKH\$)

Incomes:	Expenses:
Charitable auction income: 2,075 Donation income: 4,253 Sponsorship: 101 Total Incomes: 6,429*	Lunch Clubs operation : 2,287 Adm and other operating expenses : 1,066 Total Expenses: 3,353*

** During the period, The French Chamber Foundation Limited changed its financial year end date from 31 March to 30 June with effect from the period ended on 30 June 2018. The financial statements presented therefore cover a fifteen-month period from 1 April 2017 to 30 June 2018.*

The French Chamber Foundation changed financial year-end last period to align with the French Chamber. As a result, the revenue and expenses are not in line, with double the gala revenue but only 3 additional months of operations.

Key Partners

OUR OPERATION PARTNERS

Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service

BOKSS was founded in 1978 in Wan Chai district and came into service in 1982.

BOKSS provides a wide range of services in areas such as Children and Youth Services, Integrated Family Services, Integrated Elderly Services, Integrated Mental Health Services, Clinical Psychological and Counselling Services, Integrated Training and Employment Services, Catering Services and OK link (emergence mobile service).

Kwun Tong Swatow Baptist Church

Kwun Tong Swatow Baptist Church is a Christian Church founded in 1952 at the squatter areas of Tiger Tail Village, Lo Fu Ngam. The church located at 11 Tsui Ping Road, Kwun Tong provides services and fellowships for different age groups, serves people and takes care of the needs of the community.

OUR FOOD PARTNER

Food Angel

Food Angel is a food assistance program launched in 2011 by Bo Charity Foundation with the mission of "WASTE NOT, HUNGER NOT." The program rescues edible surplus food from different sectors of the food industry that would otherwise be disposed of as waste. Following strict safety protocols, the donated food items will then be prepared as nutritious hot meals in their central kitchen and be redistributed to serve the underprivileged communities in Hong Kong.

OUR COMMUNICATION PARTNER

Wild at Heart | Digital Business Makers

Digital savvy team focusing on growing clients' businesses by boosting traffic, increasing social engagement and creating efficient web experiences that people love. Holistic approach: SEO, social media, web development, online sales, content creation, and web analytics.

Site: wild-at-heart.net





Contact us

For more enquiries and donations:

Visit www.fcf.hk

Follow us at



www.facebook.com/FrenchChamberFoundation/
www.linkedin.com/company/the-french-chamber-foundation

21/F, On Hing Building
1 On Hing Terrace
Central
+852 2294 77 34
foundation@fccihk.com