

## FOCUS

### Bringing a Young Talent on Board Interview with Ms Jenny Kong, Board Member of YWCA

Ms Jenny Kong has started her journey with the Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) since she was a tertiary student. Joining YWCA's activities at the very beginning, she then devoted herself to various frontline engagements as a volunteer and was invited to join as a committee member in a few years ago to support service planning. Jenny now plays the role of a board member and participates in formulating policies and development direction of the agency. Throughout the experience, her memory is filled with happy moments.

Despite the busy schedule as an associate director of an investment bank, Jenny always tries to attend YWCA board meetings and various events. With better understanding of the agency and contact with frontline staff, she believes she could help make appropriate decisions for the agency. She recalled the first time she entered the board room after being elected as Board Member four years ago, she was a bit anxious. She revealed, "I lacked confidence and experience at that time, which drove me to keep on learning. Corporate governance is really important. Every vote and every decision by the Board will have great impact on the agency and service users. I am pleased when knowing that the policies I took part in making are well received by the staff."

There are 83 service units in YWCA providing diversified social services to different sectors of the society, from children to the elderly. To equip new board members with the knowledge of their roles and responsibilities, the Board has produced its "Handbook of Corporate Governance", arranged mentorship and organized regular Christian fellowship gatherings. Moreover, there are different kinds of activities that board members may join from time to time so that they can have a more comprehensive understanding of the agency's service operation.

Jenny joined the first "Women's Voice: Young Women Leadership Training Programme" which was tailored for tertiary students. From this programme, she developed a boarder view on social issues and shared the spirit of YWCA Movement. While Jenny seems to be a seed sowed by YWCA earlier, the focus of the agency's five-year strategic plan is 'Inter-generation Leadership' that aims at cultivating young ladies to join the Board and succeed the agency's mission and culture. Jenny is passionate about advocating the YWCA Movement and motivating more young women to join the governance bodies of NGOs to contribute to the society.

*Jenny took part in various activities of YWCA:*



*As officiating guest at a YWCA event*



*Joined the field trip to mainland China*



*Supported the YWCA Flag Day*



*Jenny (right) made a performance in unity with other board members, committee members and the management in the YWCA 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner.*