

梁德威 David Leung

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寓公益服務於爱好 從未感覺苦與累

從少年時期離家求學,到退休後去貧困山區助學,梁德威這一 生遊歷了很多國家:最後心屬貧窮落後的中國山區,成為親身 進駐貧困山區資助艾滋孤兒教育的先驅,也見證了中國從貧窮 落後到發展進步的巨大變化。雖然受過傷、生過病,但他一點 不覺得苦不覺得累。梁德威說,經過了十多年,最滿足就是見 到涼山的教育理念和程度有著超越的進步。

梁德威1948年在香港出生,有兄弟姐妹四人,良好的家庭環境和教育培養,讓"愛"的種子深深紮根在梁德威的內心深處。

艱苦付出, 奠定事業成功基礎

1974年,梁德威初到加拿大,好不容易才找到一個倉庫工作。他白天在倉庫上班,晚上進修電腦科學和會計課程,堅持了兩年之久。當公司添置了計算機並需專人管理操作的時候,梁德威主動跟老闆自我推薦,靠著專業知識和勤奮,得到了這個機會,工作發展漸入佳境。

隨著專業知識與技能的累積,梁德威找到了更適合發展的專業工作,成為一家軟體公司的計算機分析員。這份工作一干就是12年,也逐步晉升到副總裁,負責軟體的開發和客戶服務支援,每天10-12小時的工作成為日常。所幸團隊的良好運作,公司也從最初的8人發展壯大為200多人的企業。

後來他與幾位原同事合夥成立了新的軟體公司,專門開 發建築和服務行業的會計軟體。經營自己的公司不僅需要原來 的專業知識,全方位的管理技能亦給他帶來巨大壓力。好在自己和團隊在業界的聲譽良好,公司逐漸獲得越來越多的客戶信任,運作非常成功,最後被另外一家大公司收購,給梁德威的專業事業劃上圓滿的句號。

培養年輕人,寓公益服務於愛好

音樂和攝影是David的兩大愛好,而'寓公益服務於愛好'更是他的社會服務的動力。

梁德威自幼學習鋼琴,對音樂充滿濃厚的興趣。1980年代,他加入安省華人音樂協會,以義工的身份成為總經理,主要管理和組織多倫多華人樂團的活動,促進華人音樂發展,向社區展現華人音樂家的才華。

十多年來,梁德威幾乎是這個協會所有主要音樂會的製作人,還曾邀請當時世界知名的中國頂級音樂家包括傅聰、劉詩昆、殷承宗、許斐平、梁寧、呂思清等到多倫多演出,其中最為矚目的是,1990年作為第33屆國際"亞洲和北非研究大會"的一部分,華人音樂協會舉辦了中國當代和傳統音樂周活動,梁德威負責的三場中國音樂會在社區得到廣泛關注,「明報月刊」香港版特邀請他做專訪,大幅報導他舉辦音樂會的心得。

從1984年到1992年,安省音樂協會的運作還成功地培養了一批年輕的音樂人才,至少為五六十名年輕人提供參與音樂表演的機會。

加入福慧,改變涼山一代人的生活方式

2005年梁德威從工作中退休了,但他全情投入的慈善事業 才剛剛拉開序幕。

他與福慧教育基金會的先鋒隊一起前往中國四川涼山,沒 想到在那裡梁德威掉淚了。涼山地區真窮真落後啊,更令人痛 心的是很多孤兒和女童無學可上,看不到未來的人生希望。他 想幫助這些孩子去讀書、去改變生活,於是加入了福慧,開啟 四川山區的助學之旅。

當時四川山區缺少的並不是學校而是學生。當地的彝族家庭對讀書的興趣不大,特別是孤兒和女童的家長和監護人,與其送孩子讀書還不如讓他們幫忙幹活,福慧決定挨家挨戶走訪,説服這些學生家庭。

自古有蜀道難難於上青天之説,在四川山區家訪的困難可 想而知。山區居民住的比較散,各家各戶之間距離比較遠,而 且山路難走,梁德威就靠雙腳一走幾個小時。他的誠意終於打 動了這些家庭,答應送孩子去學校讀書。

梁德威説,自己一直有捐款的習慣,但要想幫助這些孩子,只靠捐款不是最有效的,他們更需要關心、鼓勵。所以他每年都會親自到涼山探望孩子們。涼山作為當時中國最貧困山區之一,福慧是少有的幾個進山開展孤兒教育資助的先驅隊伍。而梁德威作為福慧的副會長、團隊的核心成員,除了每年兩次的常規探訪,加上特別安排的學生出遊、家訪等活動,過往18年他共自費前往探訪30多次。

身受重傷,忍痛參加女子班畢業典禮

在涼山助教當然不會輕鬆,梁德威雖然爬過危險的山,走過危險的路,但沒想到自己會在涼山受傷。

2012年女子班畢業典禮的日子,梁德威在清晨不小心跌了一跤,他費了很大的力才站起來,但後背劇痛。但他依然忍痛參加了畢業典禮,看到一個個畢業生歡喜的面容感到無比欣慰。強烈的痛楚襲來,他再也忍不住了。同事立即安排車子送他去醫院。山路十分顛簸,兩個小時的車程如臨酷刑煎熬。終於到了醫院,一檢查才知道是肋骨骨折,在醫院裡住了四天,又養了很長一段時間身體才轉好。

還有一年,梁德威從涼山下來剛到達香港就暈倒了,原來 是因為涼山的飲用水不衛生,螺旋桿菌引發了胃潰瘍。這一次 他又住了三天醫院。

梁德威雖然經歷過受傷及生病,但他說自己一點也不覺 得苦不覺得累。難能可貴的是梁德威的家人雖然很擔心他的身 體,依然對他的公益善行十分支持,太太也先後三次跟著梁德 威前往涼山,探望和資助這些失學兒童。

為涼山留下寶貴的影像資料

作為福慧"御用"的攝影師,梁德威走過最深最遠的山路,到過最貧困的地區,用鏡頭記錄每次探訪的歷程,並分門別類整理歸檔。福慧所有的宣傳活動都離不開梁德威拍攝的照片,他在涼山拍攝的照片超過10萬張,記錄了福慧完整的助學旅程。

隨著資助學生的增加,梁德威又主動承擔起畢業生動向的 收集工作,花費大量的時間建立畢業生通信群組,盡力追蹤畢 業生動向。他建立的資料庫保存了過萬名學生的最新情況,隨 時隨地就能與福慧同仁娓娓道出某個學生的最新消息,並找出 學生的照片對照説明。

梁德威非常疼愛學生,他自己熱愛攝影,對喜愛攝影的學生也給予最大的幫助。他會收集相機帶給學生練習拍照,並耐心傳授技巧,教會學生捕捉生活的美好。日常與學生的聯繫溝通會留意學生所需,探訪時為他們特意準備。梁德威對孩子們真誠而深厚的關愛贏得了學生們的愛戴,成為無人不知的梁叔叔。

梁德威説,經過了十多年,最滿足就是見到涼山的教育理 念和程度有著超越的進步,國家的脱貧措施也改善了農村的生 活水準,今天的涼山不是十八年前所目見的了。

如今福慧把目光轉回到加拿大的原住民社區,計劃為原住 民學生援建圖書館,為優秀學生提供獎學金。梁德威是一個溫 文而謙卑的人,除了福慧之外,他還參與了社區不少其他慈善 活動,出錢又出力,只是他極少向旁人談及,只是默默地用行 動和善良闡釋著公益的意義。



Performance at 10 on Hong Kong televsion



Christmas family gathering



With my two daughters



A family music gathering



Giving advice to primary school graduating class



Fuhui



與會理女子班合照 With the Huili all girls class



Playing games with primary school student



An exchange with middle school students



Give some encouragement to a very young student



Encouraging a primary school student



Visiting an old age home in China



2017年赴海地進行人 道主義援助 Humanitarian work in Haiti 2017





Visiting an indigenous school in Nova Scotia 2017

Tireless Charity Work Powered by Love - David Leung

From studying abroad to helping impoverished children's education post-retirement, David Leung has travelled to many countries in his life. A poor under-developed mountainous region in China tugs at his heart the most, when David became one of the pioneers to help AIDS orphans with getting an education. In the process, he has also witnessed tremendous progress in China. Injuries and illness did not discourage him. David says that the most satisfying part is seeing the great improvement in Liang Shan's educational strategy and standards in the past almost two decades.

David Leung was born in 1948 in Hong Kong. He has four siblings and grew up in a stable home environment and enjoyed a good education. That was where the seeds of love were firmly embedded in his soul.

Hard Work - Foundation for Success

When 26 year-old David first arrived in Canada in 1974, he struggled to land a warehouse job. While working full time, he studied computer science and accounting at night for two years. When his employer purchased a computer and needed someone to operate and care for it, David saw his opportunity and offered his services. This began his information technology career.

As he gained skills and work experience, David continued to develop and grow in his profession, becoming a computer analyst for a software company. After 12 years, David was the vice president responsible for software development and client support, working 10-12 hours a day. With the team's good performance, the company grew from an eight-person start up to an organization with over 200 employees.

Later, David partnered with several colleagues to form their own software company, specializing in construction and service industry accounting software. Running a business required more than technical knowledge, overall management of the business brought tremendous pressure. Fortunately David and his team enjoyed a good reputation, gaining more and more clients' trust. The company did so well that it was acquired by a larger competitor, thus concluding David's professional work life.

Nurturing Youth - Integrating charity Work into his Hobbies

Music and photography are two of David's great loves. Integrating charity work into his hobbies is a key motivator for him.

David has played piano from a young age and his love for music has been a constant. Since joining the Ontario Chinese Music Association in the 1980s, he became its volunteer general manager and has produced and organized numerous Toronto Chinese Choir activities to promote Chinese music and profile musical talents to the community.

For more than ten years, David has been a key concert producer for the association. Over the years, many top Chinese musicians including Fou Ts'ong, Liu Shikun, Yin Cheng Zong, Hsu Fei Ping, Liang Ning, Lu Siqing were invited to perform in Toronto. Most notably, at the 33rd international "Asia and North America Conference" in 1990, David produced 3 Chinese music concerts that garnered much media attention, including an exclusive interview by Hong Kong Ming Pao to discuss his experience. From 1984 to 1992, the Ontario Chinese Music Association profiled 50-60 young musicians to help launch their performing careers.

Transforming a Generation in Liangshan as a member of Fu Hui

When David retired in 2005, he turned his attention to charity work full time.

When David went to Liangshan in Sichuan, China with leaders of the Fu Hui Education Foundation, he couldn't hold back his tears. The mountainous area was so poor and so backward. Most heartbreaking was the number of orphans and girls who were not in school, with no promising future to look forward to. He wanted to help them go to school, change their lives, so he joined Fu Hui to begin the education aid journey in Sichuan.

At the time, the region did not lack schools, but it lacked students. The Yi ethnic minority families were not interested in education, especially the parents of girls and guardians of orphans. They preferred to send the children to work. So Fu Hui volunteers did

home visits to persuade these children's families.

These home visits were particularly challenging. The families lived in dispersed mountainous areas, often requiring many hours of travel on foot over rugged terrains. David's sincerity paid off, and families agreed to send their children to school.

David said he was used to making donations to help, but cash donations alone would not be effective. The children also needed encouragement and care. So every year, David made trips to Liang Shan to visit the children. As one of the poorest areas in China, Liang Shan did not receive much support at the time. Fu Hui was one of only a handful of organizations supporting these orphans' education. As Fu Hui's vice president and key visiting team member, David visited twice annually with a group of volunteers. In addition, he coordinated field trips, home visits and other activities for the students, visiting the region over 30 times in 18 years, at his own expense.

Painful Graduation

As difficult as the terrain was, David never expected to get hurt in Liangshan.

Early morning of graduation day for the girls in 2012, David had a tumble. Though he managed to pick himself up, his back was in severe pain. But he still attended the graduation ceremony; to see each graduate's beaming face was extremely gratifying. When the

pain persisted he was taken to the hospital. Those two hours in the car driving over bumpy roads was excruciating. At the hospital he found out he had fractured his ribs which required a four day stay in the hospital and a rather lengthy recovery period.

In another year, David fainted as he arrived in Hong Kong from Liangshan. He was diagnosed with an ulcer caused by helicobacter pylori bacteria from contaminated water in Liang Shan. That time he was in hospital for 3 days.

Despite injuries and illness, David said he never felt any hardship. More importantly, even though his family was concerned about his well being they were always supportive of his volunteer work. His wife even accompanied him to Liangshan on three trips.

Precious Liangshan Photographic Memories

As Fu Hui's "official" photographer, David has documented his many journeys deep into the mountainous, impoverished areas with his camera. He has painstakingly cataloged them. All Fu Hui activities have been captured by David who has chronicled Fu Hui's education aid experience in over one hundred thousand photographs.

As the number of students receiving aid increased, David took on the responsibility of documenting achievements of the graduates. He built a database of the latest updates and photographs of over ten thousand students, readily retrievable by Fu Hui colleagues. David loves the students, and he loves photography. Whenever students expressed an interest in photography, he was quick to support their interest. He brought cameras on his visits so students could practice with them. And he patiently mentored them to capture memorable moments in their lives. In his regular interactions with the students, David paid close attention to what the students needed and always made sure he would bring the items with him on his visits. His sincere and deep concern for the students was reciprocated, making him a beloved Uncle Leung.

David said that in the almost twenty years working with Fu Hui, he is most gratified to see the exceptional progress in Liang Shan's educational strategy and standards and the country's poverty alleviation program that has improved standard of living in the region. Today's Liang Shan is very different from that of eighteen years ago.

Currently, Fu Hui has shifted focus to Indigenous communities in Canada, helping with establishing school libraries, and creating scholarships for outstanding students.

Besides Fu Hui, David is involved in many other charitable activities in the community. He gives generously of his time and money but he doesn't like to talk about that. He exemplifies beneficence through his actions and kindness.