



# Empowering Young People to Thrive and Flourish

THE D. H. CHEN FOUNDATION

A STRATEGIC ROADMAP IN  
EDUCATION AND CHILDREN & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Driven by our Founder Dr. Din-hwa Chen’s ardent belief in effecting positive change through education, **The D. H. Chen Foundation** (the “Foundation”) has, over recent years, initiated two milestone programs ([The D. H. Chen Foundation Scholarship Program](#) and [Youth ImpACT Award](#)) and supported a wide range of NGOs, education-related institutions and initiatives to **cultivate young people’s life skills, positive values and community spirit**. While these initiatives and programs complement each other well to achieve an extensive scope of objectives, goals and impacts in education and children & youth development, the Foundation is well aware that the world and our society are moving and transforming at an unprecedented pace and many Hong Kong young people nowadays are facing and struggling with numerous challenges.

Through research, literature review, interviews and focus groups, the Foundation had examined some of these major challenges arising in **school, family and society** and concerning different stakeholders including **educators, parents, youth workers and the community**. These selected challenges are not only daunting, massive and complex, many of them are also interrelated with their aggregate effects exerting adverse impact on young people’s emotional, social and mental wellbeing:

<b>School</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standardized and high stakes tests</li> <li>• Lack of personalized and diversified learning</li> <li>• Isolation of less academically able students</li> <li>• Lack of support for teachers</li> </ul>
<b>Family</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expectation gaps across generations</li> <li>• Dysfunctional family structure</li> </ul>
<b>Society</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of mutual empathetic understanding</li> <li>• Negative feelings towards current social and political circumstances</li> </ul>

Drawing on the study of these selected challenges, the Foundation has formulated a **Strategic Roadmap** with the hope to address them by leveraging our financial, social and intellectual resources and engaging all three focus areas: education, medical research & healthcare and promotion of Buddhist values. The Strategic Roadmap not only aligns with the Foundation’s distinctive core values and echoes our commitment in engaged philanthropy, it also aims to enable the Foundation to incubate, develop and/or identify worthy opportunities that further advance our efforts in education and children & youth development:

<b>Core Value</b> (unique to the Foundation’s vision in being a role model in engaged philanthropy)		<b>Strategy</b> (already developed or to be further explored by the Foundation in the future)		<b>Strategic Priorities</b> (effective in alleviating specific issues, and capitalizing the Foundation’s expertise, network and experiences)
<b>Initiate</b>  <b>Catalyst for collaboration</b>  <b>Innovate</b>  <b>Capacity building</b>  <b>Impact</b>	X	<b>Core partnership</b>  <b>Cross-focus area collaboration</b>  <b>Multi-year program</b>  <b>Enriching and expanding Foundation’s current initiatives</b>	X	<b>Diversification, integration and innovation in formal education</b>  <b>Life and value education</b>  <b>Community engagement and global citizenship</b>  <b>Mental wellbeing</b>

Guided by this Strategic Roadmap, the Foundation envisions to actualize strategic partnerships that:

- create a resourceful, enabling and empowering environment for young people and other different stakeholders in youth development;
- nurture young people’s positive values and attributes and enhance their empathetic understanding;
- develop young people’s diversified competencies, especially emotional intelligence and social competence;
- build and consolidate young people’s life skills and generic abilities;
- expand young people’s vision and global perspectives;
- equip young people with the skills to do knowledge transfer.

To keep deepening our understanding of young people’s needs and the respective service gaps, the Foundation will continue to reach out and seek the best and most effective measures and interventions to respond to them. Throughout this journey, we look forward to collaborating with different stakeholders and together build a better tomorrow for our young people.