



Press Release

## **HKBCF Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon) Breaks Ground Providing Easier Access to Breast Screening and Patient Support Service**

(4 October 2016) Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation (HKBCF) hosted a special groundbreaking ceremony today for the construction of its first service center in Kowloon - HKBCF Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon). The project is realized by the land grant by the Government and a funding support of HKD79 million by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. The Kowloon Centre will come into service upon completion in July 2017 under the three-year “Jockey Club Breast Care for You Programme”.

Mrs Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet Ngor, Chief Secretary for Administration, Dr Ko Wing Man, Secretary for Food and Health of Hong Kong and Mrs Rita Fan Hsu Lai Tai, Honorary President of HKBCF, together with Mrs Margaret Leung, Steward of The Hong Kong Jockey Club officiated at the ground breaking ceremony, witnessing a new milestone of the Foundation.

### Demand for Patient Support & Breast Screening in Kowloon & New Territories

In a speech delivered at the groundbreaking ceremony of the Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation (HKBCF) Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon), **Mrs Carrie Lam, Chief Secretary for Administration**, spoke highly of HKBCF’s long-time devotion to the fight against breast cancer by increasing public awareness, promoting breast health, and providing support and financial assistance for patients and their families. She said, “For women in Hong Kong, breast cancer is the most common type of cancer and the third most deadly one after lung cancer and colorectal cancer. The Government puts cancer prevention and treatment high on its agenda. We have set up a high-level Cancer Coordinating Committee to review updated scientific evidence regularly and formulate local recommendations on prevention and screening. We are also enhancing public education, promoting healthy lifestyles and encouraging regular checkups and monitoring of bodily changes to facilitate early detection and treatment. But on top of medical and support services from the Government to the patients and their families, HKBCF and



the community also play a crucial role in promoting prevention of the disease and giving support to the patients."

**Mrs Eliza Fok, the Chairman of HKBCF** said, "Kowloon is a strategically vital area for HKBCF. According to the Foundation's statistics, breast cancer patients living in the districts with a lower household income in Kowloon and the New Territories tend to have poorer breast health. In districts like Wong Tai Sin, Kwun Tong and New Territories North and Shams Shui Po, 15-18% of the breast cancer patients had delayed their medical care, and were diagnosed at advanced stages. As much as 80% of them had never had mammography screening. HKBCF sees an urgency to expand its service to Kowloon and New Territories. "

**Mrs Margaret Leung, Steward of The Hong Kong Jockey Club** remarked, "The Jockey Club has been supporting the work of HKBCF - it funded the establishment of the Breast Health Centre in North Point in 2010, and sponsored a breast health and screening programme in 2014. The three-year 'Jockey Club Breast Care for You Programme' which will roll out upon the completion of the Kowloon Centre will support 36,000 women, including 5,000 low-income or financially challenged women to undertake mammography screening free of charge. The Jockey Club, as always, will continue to support the development of healthcare services with a view to benefit more people in Hong Kong."

#### The Government and Jockey Club Support in recognition of HKBCF's deed

In the past 11 years, HKBCF has

- provided 84,000 times of support service to breast cancer patients and their families;
- given educational talks to 62,000 people;
- provided breast cancer screening to 36,000 women, of whom 14,000 received the service for free. A total 608 people turned out to be diagnosed with breast cancer
- collected data from 17,000 breast cancer patients/survivors for analysis, facilitating local patients, medical professionals, the public and the government to better understand the disease

Mrs Fok added, the grant of land from the government, as well as the funding support from Hong Kong Jockey Club for the construction of the Kowloon Centre in

Ngau Chi Wan, reflected a recognition of the work of HKBCF and its positive impact on the community. Following the completion of the Kowloon Centre, HKBCF will expand its current services to allow more people to access breast health education, breast screening and patient support services.

The HKBCF Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon) located near Choi Hung MTR station is planned to be completed in July 2017, providing convenient and affordable service to the local community. The 2 storey-building with a total floor area 556 square meters will mainly deliver breast screening and patient support service. The screening service will be aided with mammography machine and ultrasound imaging equipment, and managed by a team of medical professionals. Doctor consultation will be arranged if necessary.

The new centre is also a place for patients and their families or caretakers to receive support and share experiences in fighting breast cancer. Patients can also access lymphoema measuring service and related paramedical care.

(End)

### Event Photos





Mrs Carrie Lam, Chief Secretary for Administration, Dr Ko Wing Man, Secretary for Food and Health of Hong Kong, Mrs Margaret Leung, Steward of The Hong Kong Jockey Club, Mrs Rita Fan, Honorary President of HKBCF, Dr Polly Cheung, Founder of HKBCF, Mrs Eliza Fok, Chairman of HKBCF & Dr Derrick Pang, Deputy Chairman of Chun Wo Development Holdings, break the ground for the construction of Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon).



Mrs Eliza Fok, Chairman of HKBCF viewed the future look of Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation Jockey Club Breast Health Centre (Kowloon) with a virtual reality headset.

Download Photos: <https://goo.gl/irhbm0>

Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation [www.hkbcf.org](http://www.hkbcf.org)

The Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation was set up on 8 March 2005 as Hong Kong's first non-profit charitable organization dedicated to mitigate the threat of breast cancer to the local community through education, support and research & advocacy. Its missions are to promote public awareness of breast cancer and the importance of breast health; to support breast cancer patients on their road to recovery; and to advocate better breast cancer care in Hong Kong.

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