



| A Caring Company |

## GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP

Our social services cover sectors as diverse as culture, education, recreation, medical and health, environmental protection and assistance to the needy. We will continue to adhere strongly to our motto: **Where we have our roots, there lies our service, by supporting a wide spectrum of community and charity activities.**



*Dr Liu Jinbao (4th from left) and the officiating guests, including Mr Donald Tsang, Chief Secretary of HKSAR (5th from the left), Prof. Zhang Wen-kang, Minister of Health of PRC (4th from right), and Mr Xiang Huai-cheng, Minister of Finance of PRC (3rd from right), officiated at the "BOCHK Walkalong for Light" which helped bring light to blind cataract patients in the Mainland of China*

Economic progress and the growth of enterprises are closely related to the healthy development of the society in which they operate. Alongside our commitment to maximising shareholder value and offering comprehensive financial services to our customers, the Group devotes considerable efforts to its social responsibilities as a good corporate citizen and aims at developing harmonious relationships with different sectors of the community. Through the cooperation with BOCHK Charitable Foundation<sup>1</sup> (hereafter referred as the "Foundation", and formerly known as the "Bank of China Group Charitable Foundation", which was established in July 1994), the Group has pioneered a number of social and community activities. Our services cover sectors as diverse as culture, education, recreation, medical and health, environmental protection and assistance to the needy. Our contribution to the well being of Hong Kong has received widespread recognition from the general public.

### Education and Receptions

We realise that the education of the younger generation and nurturing talented people are indispensable for the future development of our society. During the year, the Foundation set up new scholarships and bursaries schemes with the University of Hong Kong, Lingnan University and Shue Yan College respectively, in order to recognise outstanding students and to assist those who have financial difficulties. Meanwhile,

<sup>1</sup> "BOCHK Charitable Foundation" is a locally incorporated independent legal entity. Its annual funding is based on the investment returns generated by both the proceeds received from the public sale of the "BOC New Notes Commemorative Set" in 1994 and donations from the 14 sister banks of the former Bank of China Group in Hong Kong and Macau, together with an annual appropriation from BOCHK.

we continued to provide scholarships and bursaries to the Chinese University, the Polytechnic University, the City University, the University of Science & Technology, the Baptist University, the Open University and the Hong Kong Institute of Education. As at end-2002, a total of 467 undergraduates have been benefited from our tertiary education scholarships and bursaries.

Promoting sports activities is an important way to contribute to the health of the general public. To further support the development of local badminton, the Foundation undertook to continue its sponsorship of the “Hong Kong Badminton Promotion Scheme 2002-2004”. We based our participation on the remarkable achievements of the past three years. From 1999 to 2002, total participants in the schemes reached 130,000.

We pay attention to youth sports development by sponsoring “The Inter-school Sports Competition Hong Kong Island and Kowloon Secondary Schools Region”, the largest schools sports competition of its kind. Among various sports items, we set up the “BOCHK Bauhinia Bowls Award” to grant the highest recognition to the most distinguished students. The Foundation sponsored the 16th “Olympic Day Run”, conveying the Olympic message and the idea of “sports for all citizens” to the general public.

With an aim to encourage young people to contribute to the society, the Foundation pioneered the “BOC Dynamic Teams of Love and Care Campaign”, which included a series of activities during a two-month summer holiday period in 2002. Five special teams, including teams for basketball,

volleyball, badminton, Chinese calligraphy and guitar, were organised to pay visits to a number of youth charity organisations for sharing skills and experiences, with a total number of 1,200 admissions.

In the field of Mainland education, we supported “Jiangxi Province Women Research Centre”, helping women enhance their learning capabilities and realise their full potential in the society. From 1995 to 2002, the Foundation made donations to support “Project Hope” primary schools and other education programmes in the Mainland.

### Environmental Protection

Emphasis continues to be placed on the promotion of environmental awareness for building a better future in a “Green Hong Kong”. The Foundation has sponsored a “Hong Kong Green School Award” ever since 2000, with the objective of fostering a good sense of environmental protection among primary and secondary students. The number of participating schools has increased from year to year, with a total of 200 schools in 2002.

The Foundation was a Diamond Corporate Member of the “World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong” for three years, and served as title sponsor for the 8th and 9th “BOC Discover Mai Po Charity Walk”.



*In support of local youth sports development by sponsoring inter-school sports competition*



Members of "BOC Dynamic Teams of Love and Care" shared guitar-playing experience with youths

### Social Welfare and Charity

Against the backdrop of a weak economy and high unemployment rates, the Foundation sponsored the "Wong Tai Sin Dragon Market" to help boost the local economy and alleviate the unemployment situation. This three-month large-scale market scheme succeeded in offering entrepreneurial training opportunities to over 300 job seekers, as well as creating over 1,000 job placements.

The Foundation continued to sponsor fund raising events organised by local charitable foundations. To name just a few, we made donations to "The Community Chest Green Day" and "The \$10 Donation Drive" initiated by the Community Chest of Hong Kong. We acted as one of the major sponsors of the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals' annual "Charity Gala Show", and served as the Diamond Sponsor for the fifth consecutive year under the Annual Diamond Sponsor Scheme of Po Leung Kuk as well as the key sponsor of the "Po Leung Charity Walk". The Foundation also supported fund-raising events

organised by Caritas Hospital, Pok Oi Hospital and Yan Chai Hospital.

During the year, the Foundation assisted nine charitable organisations to send out a total of 3,100,000 appeal leaflets and pamphlets in the Group's bank statement inserts. These received positive responses from our broad customer base.

### Medical and Health

People become more health conscious as the society becomes more sophisticated. During the year, the Foundation sponsored the establishment of the "Yan Chai Hospital BOC Medical Centre". This operates a Chinese medical centre and a dental centre, offering modern "one-stop" Chinese medical service and advanced dental service to the community neighbourhood.

A brand new Mobile Blood Donation Vehicle donated by the Foundation was brought into service in April 2002, adding a dynamic participant with advanced equipment to the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service.

In 2002, the Foundation sponsored the "BOCHK Walkalong for Light" organised by the Lifeline Express, a charity walk aimed at raising funds for providing free medical treatment to blind cataract patients in remote areas of the Mainland of China. The Group had a total of 1,400 employees joining thousands of citizens in the walk.

### Relief for disaster victims

Because of our close ties with the motherland, the Foundation made a number of donations to disaster relief funds in the Mainland of China, helping out in times of natural disasters. To provide further assistance, we took advantage of our extensive branch network to help collect donations from all sectors of society. During the year, the Foundation made a donation to help relieve the hardship caused by the spread of floods to Northwest China. A special account was set up to collect donations from the public for disaster victims.

Looking ahead, we will continue to adhere strongly to our motto: Where we have our roots, there lies our service. We remain firmly committed to fulfilling our social obligations by providing support to a wide spectrum of community and charity activities.