



# Kuanshan

**Helping the Disadvantaged  
in a Cold Winter  
to Welcome a New Year  
January 22, 2015**

Kuanshan Tzu Chi Hospital recently received a diabetic case from Haiduan County Health Clinic. Grandma Qiu of Bunun tribe is 81 years old. She is an alcoholic, and her health condition is poor. She has difficulty moving on her own and has been in bed for years due to a car accident. After a social worker's evaluation, we found out that Grandma's life is rough also because of the lack of

a care giver. Her home is empty with no electricity, no doors nor windows and the roof leaks. She lives with her son who barely works to support the family, but often goes out drinking.

When the weather gets cold, Grandma has to crawl outside to burn woods for warmth. If there is no wood, she would burn trash or clothing. She even has an umbrella opened indoor when she goes to sleep because she worries if it rains at night. The police said Grandma has several children who are well to do, but how can they watch their mother living in such poor conditions. Grandma always finds an excuse for her children that they are busy at work, and therefore do not have time to care for her.



Kuanshan Tzu Chi Hospital staff and Tzu Chi volunteers visit Grandma Qiu's home.



Once, hospital Superintendent Poon Win-Him found out about Grandma's situation, he urged a social worker to help her apply for assistance, and asked the administrative and financial departments to order doors and windows to shield the weather elements. He also asked for at-home services, hoping to help Grandma clean her home before the New Year.



Deputy Director Huang Kuan-Feng of the Administrative Office and staff of the General Affairs ordered new wooden door and bed.

### **Medical Volunteers Work Together Hoping to Resolve the Urgent Need**

In the afternoon of January 22, 2015, over ten people, including Superintendent Poon Win-Him, staffs, and volunteers brought wheel chair, closet, bed, and other items to visit Grandma. Grandma sat outside to welcome everyone. After the meet and greet, everyone worked as a team to clean Grandma's home. Poon and volunteers cleaned the grease on the floor, and others helped to clean rest of the home and the trash.

In conjunction with the Taitung Provincial Social Services who will be

helping Grandma to fixup her house in the long-term, the volunteers focus on her urgent need. Volunteers use simple temporary method to fix the leaking roof and rebuild the bed. Wood boards were placed around the bed with waterproofing canvas on top, so Grandma no longer needs to sleep with an umbrella.

After the cleanup, the entire place looks refreshing. Things were then reorganized and put back into the house. Grandma watched as everyone helped, she wanted to help out also but everyone did not let her. The only thing she could

do was keep saying thank you. Before leaving, Grandma was ushered back to her new bed. Grandma prayed happily, holding the hands of Poon in gratitude and expressing her thanks in tribal Bunong language.

Although we completed the trip delivering care to Grandma, we worry about Grandma and her son's drinking habit. Poon said that they will monitor Grandma's health, and hope her families feel the sincerity of volunteers' love, and wish Grandma a peaceful life.



**Grandma thanks Kuanshan Tzu Chi Hospital Poon Win-Him and his staff.**