

## Introduction of Association for the Rights of Industrial Accident Victims (“ARIAV”)

The Association for the Rights of Industrial Accident Victims (“the Association”) was founded in 1981 by a group of Industrial accident victims, occupational diseases sufferers and families of industrial fatalities.

The goals of the ARIAV are:

- a) to fight for the rights of work injury victims, occupational diseases sufferers and families of industrial fatalities,
- b) to urge the Government to improve the standard of occupational safety and health so as to protect the workers,
- c) to promote the awareness of occupational safety and health among the general public of Hong Kong.

Each year, we handle more than 10,000 cases by hotline. As of 2013, there are more than 5,000 members and the permanent venue was established. We have expanded our services to provide a variety of professional social services for industrial accident victims, Occupational diseases sufferers and their families. The Association is mainly supported by general donation while part of service income is funded by the Community Chest and Social Welfare Department.

Our Routine Services include:

### **Occupational Accident**

1. Occupational Accident Sufferers Support Service Project (Funded by Community Chest)

In this project, we provide Consultation about Occupational Accident and the Employees’ Compensation Ordinance, Counseling and reducing stress groups, talks about the Ordinance and Rehabilitation and recreation activities

2. Supporting and Counseling For the Carers of Occupational Accident Victims (Funded by Community Chest)

We handle and follow cases about occupational accidents, counseling groups, Training projects and workshops and recreation activities

3. Families of Occupational Fatalities Supporting Group (Funded by Community Chest)

Families of occupational fatalities are also one of our service targets. We provide an immediate emotion support to them and keep updating their situations. Also, we organize recreation activities and trainings for volunteers to strengthen the

relationship in between parents and children.

### **Occupational Diseases**

4. “Fun in the Community” Rehabilitation Networks for Pneumoconiosis Patients (Funded by Pneumoconiosis Compensation Fund)

As Pneumoconiosis is one of the main occupational diseases in Hong Kong, we include services about it. We support the Pneumoconiosis Patients after they finish their treatments in the hospitals, rehabilitation, gatherings in different districts, cases following, recreation activities and education promoting functions.

5. Supporting and Counseling For the Carer of Pneumoconiosis Patients Project (Funded by Pneumoconiosis Compensation Fund)

Meanwhile, we handle and follow carers’ cases. We will have regular gatherings with them according to different districts. We also organize recreation activities and training workshops for them to share their knowledge and experiences with each other.

6. Occupational Deafness Rehabilitation Network (Funded by Occupational Deafness Compensation Board)

We build this network is to gather the Occupational Deafness patients. We will have regular home visit and telephone counseling, educating and counseling groups and recreation activities.

### **Career**

7. On the job Training Programme for People with Disabilities (Subvention by Social Welfare Department)

AND

Rehabilitation Vocational Program (Funded by Occupational Deafness Compensation Board)

These two programs are mainly for occupational accidents’ victims and occupational deafness patients. For those workers who got a serious injuries cannot return back to their original job, so we will assist them to change to the other job nature; for the occupational deafness victims, we encourage them to find another job which has lower noise. We will organize workshops about the career, professional techniques trainings and jobs matching and follow-up service for them.

## **Education and Promotion on Occupational Safety**

8. **Victims' Right Advocacy and Occupational Safety and Health Policy Advocacy**  
We not only provide services to our target groups, but also striving our best to advocate victims' right and occupational safety. Occupational safety is the fundamental point that to decrease the number of Industrial Accident Victims and Occupational Disease Patients. Therefore, we organize regular talks about occupational safety, exhibitions with different topics and competitions (e.g. occupational safety match competition, four boxes comics designing competition, etc.).

## **Occupational Safety and Health Education Centre**

9. Moreover, we set up an Occupational Safety and Health Education Centre for holding courses. For example, Mandatory Basic Safety Training Revalidation Course for Construction Industry (Construction Industry Safety Card Revalidation Course), professional hygiene courses for school workers, QAS Security Training Certificate and trainings for occupational safety.

## **Our work in 2012**

### **Case following**

We handled around 10,000 cases by hotline to solve the workers' initial problem, after that we provide interview or visiting service to some clients who in need. Furthermore, there are 34 fatal cases that we provided our services in 2012. During July and August of 2012, there were 10 deaths because of industrial accidents. Most of the fatal cases were found in construction sites and all of them were related to overhead working. We showed our concerns by sending proposals to Labour Department and having demonstrations.

Also, we will be a median to negotiate for the victims and their families. If there are any difficulties, we will have immediate further actions for getting a better compensation for the victims and families of fatalities.



## Talks

OHS and compensation talks to the injured workers



## **Policy Advocacy**

On 20 January 2012, there was a meeting about reviewing compensation amount in the Employees' Compensation Ordinance, the Pneumoconiosis and Mesothelioma (Compensation) Ordinance and the Occupational Deafness (Compensation) Ordinance that was held by Human Resources committees of Legislative Council. We handed in our proposal with the following suggestions:

- i. To cancel the maximum amount of monthly earning
- ii. Compensation for death should be calculated based on the ages of victims' sons or daughters
- iii. Compensation for permanent incapacity should be calculated based on the retired age of 65
- iv. Maximum amount for paying funeral expenses should be \$85,000
- v. Victims should get the full pay of monthly earnings during the period of temporary incapacity
- vi. Maximum of medical attendance should be raised to \$500
- vii. To include the period while employees are traveling as a passenger to or from his place of work under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance
- viii. To request the employers to encourage victims to get back to their work and increase their competitive edge
- ix. To establish "Central Compensation Fund"
- x. To set up a specialized hospital for Industrial Accidents

## **OHS competitions**

On 25 March 2012, we organized competitions for occupational safety match and mud trolley. Apart from the competitions, there were 11 game booths to promote and educate occupational safety.



We held an OHS Comic Competition and launched an award ceremony for the winners.



the winning entries from the public competitor



award ceremony



## Press Conference

During July and August of 2012, there were 10 deaths because of industrial accidents.



Concerned the accident of overhead work

We pointed out some usual ways of the employers who do not or delay to report working injury cases to the Labour Department.



We also very concern the falling accident since there were at less 30 serious accident happened by falling, 22 workers died and 8 were serious injured. We urged the government, employers and employees to raise their awareness.



#### 4.28 Memorial Day for dead and injured workers in 2012



March



Assembly and  
flowers to the  
monument