

# Media Release

### Fundraising for Hubei Province to Fight the Coronavirus!

Wherever we are, even at the far corners of the earth, all Chinese have the same roots. When our motherland is in pain, overseas Chinese should join forces all over the world to have a common voice.

Since the outbreak of coronavirus in Wuhan at the end of December 2019, China has made great efforts and sacrifices to control the epidemic. However, the epidemic is still severe. Every day there are a significant number of new infected cases, with the total official number of fatalities now more than SARS.

What is even more distressing is that due to an insufficient supply of protective materials, a large number of front line medical staff in Hubei have also become victims of the virus. There is an acute shortage of medical masks, protective suits and other medical essentials. Many hospitals in Hubei have had to turn to the public for urgent help. At present more than 460 hospitals and health institutions in Hubei have a shortage of medical supplies, more than 300 need the supplies urgently and more than 100 need the supplies "extremely urgently"

The economic impact of the coronavirus is spreading globally and the Australian economy has also been affected. "Being in Australia, Caring about Hubei" has become a true reflection of the minds of all Chinese in Australia recently. This coronavirus epidemic is no longer a battle that relates to only a certain group of people. Compatriots at home and abroad are working hard to contribute money and efforts to pool resources within their ability to join the fight against coronavirus.

In order to support the frontline of this anti-epidemic work, ACCF is co-ordinating this initiative to purchase medical protection materials overseas and to provide them directly to the public hospitals in Wuhan and Hubei Province. Hence, we are calling on the Australian and Chinese business community and individuals in Australia to donate and to support the initiative.

#### > ACCF

ACCF has been operating as a community charity organisation with its own charity fund for 30 years. ACCF donates annually to specific projects of other non-profit or charity organisations in Australia. ACCF is highly active in international disaster response including the 2015 Nepal Earthquake, 2013 Sichuan Earthquake and 2004 Tsunami etc. ACCF is a PwC Australia audit client. All audited financial reports of ACCF are published on ACCF's official website <a href="https://accfnsw.org/">https://accfnsw.org/</a>.

## > WUAABB

Mr. Dongsheng Chen, Chairman of WUAABB, is also the founder, chairman and CEO of Taikang Insurance Group, One of the largest life insurance companies in China. Since 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020, WUAABB has collected demand information and arranged procurement for more than 460 public hospitals in 15 regions of Hubei Province. As of 26<sup>th</sup> February, the WUAABB has raised more than RMB 27,497,038m in China and spent RMB22,074,075 on medical supply procurement. The recipient hospitals include more than 80 medical institutions like Wuhan University People's Hospital, Wuhan University Zhongnan Hospital and various local hospitals in Hubei Province. For Funds raised in China, WUAABB established a donation tracking system and continues to publish donations and expenditure details to the public on daily basis. The dedicated WUAABB team has 14 working groups with more than 100 volunteers working on fundraising, sourcing and purchasing medical suppliers in China. (Please follow the WUAABB's official WeChat account "武汉大学北京校友会" for more details).

#### > The initiative

- Donors and supporters: Individuals, Australian and Chinese community in Australia
- **Currency of the funds**: Australian dollars (foreign exchange will be arranged as required for overseas purchases).
- Use of funds: To purchase urgently needed medical supplies from overseas suppliers recommended by WUAABB such as protective suits, medical masks, surgery gloves, medical goggles and air purifiers.
- Beneficiaries of donated funds: All medical supplies purchased from this initiative will be donated to the designated Coronavirus treatment public hospitals in Hubei Province as recommended by WUAABB. WUAABB's recommendation is based on demand and information received from the Wuhan and Hubei hospitals.
- ACCF will not charge any fee for this charity project.

The donation Bank Account: Donations to ACCF

## **Donation Options:**

1. Online donation via the ACCF website – www.accfnsw.org or

2. Direct Deposit

Bank: National Australia Bank

Account Name: Australian Chinese Charity Foundation Inc., Special Appeal

BSB: 083-088 A/C No: 15-056-7010

Please email monica.chu@accfnsw.org with the following information after the bank transfer:

**Donation Amount:** 

First Name: Last Name: Address:

Contact Number: Email Address:

- Tax deduction: Donations over \$2 are tax deductible with tax receipts provided by ACCF.
- Project life: The designated fund will close in 6 months since its launch but may end sooner if all funds are used. If there are any residual funds that are not needed, ACCF will have the right to decide on the disbursement of these funds that support the post-Coronavirus recoveries. However, this does not preclude ACCF to seek advice and/or recommendations from the initiative supporters and/or WUAABB.
- **Project auditor**: ShineWing Australia will be appointed to conduct a review of the financial and operational compliance in the delivery of this initiative on a pro bono basis.
- **Project Legal Advisor**: Hall & Wilcox Lawyers has been appointed as the legal advisor to ACCF in relation to this funding initiative on a pro bono basis.
- This initiative is also supported by 3 Australian professional service firms PwC, EY & KPG, Australia China Business Council (ACBC) and Australian Chinese Financial Media-Australian Financial News (AFN).