

Over 3,100 walkers unite with one heart to save sight worldwide at 16th Orbis Walk for Sight

The 16th Orbis Walk for Sight attracted a bumper field of over 3,100 kind-hearted participants. Held at Tai Tam Country Park, the event succeeded in raising an encouraging HK\$2,000,000. Orbis's global sight-saving teams will use to build a brighter future for countless thousands of blind or visually impaired people worldwide.

Held every year since 2000, this highlight of Hong Kong's annual fund raising calendar has raised over HK\$30,000,000 for Orbis's global sight-saving projects to date. Tragically, over 39,000,000 people worldwide – some 90% of them from remote rural areas – still live in darkness. As impoverished families and societies need everyone to contribute in order to progress, loss of sight remains a huge burden.

At this year's opening ceremony, guests were not only encouraged to treasure and protect their vision, but also help share their love and positive energy with the blind. The ultimate aim was to help restore sufferers' sight and enable them to open their eyes to the beauty of nature. Expressing her heartfelt thanks to walkers at the ceremony, **Ms. Mary Lau, Director of Development, Orbis China and Hong Kong** said: "It's our great pleasure to welcome over 3,100 participants to today's walk and to thank everyone for helping to transform countless lives by freeing sufferers from darkness. Your kind donations and compassion are vital tools which continue to enable us to empower more medical professionals and create more sustainable eye care infrastructures across the developing world. We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Hong Kong International School for their continued support in providing us with such a wonderful venue. We also thank our other sponsors, volunteers and participants for their tireless efforts on behalf of the preventably blind."

This year's walkathon included a choice of 6km walks for families and 10km or 14km hikes for experienced walkers. A fun-packed post-event carnival made the day doubly memorable and meaningful.

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