

# LiA Blog Post – Week 2

## Hospital Volunteer in Taiwan

NGO: The Buddhist Tzu Chi Charity Foundation

Chia-Hsuan Chang



佛教慈濟醫療財團法人

**台北慈濟醫院**

**Taipei Tzu Chi Hospital,**  
Buddhist Tzu Chi Medical Foundation



# IMPERIAL

## Continue to work in the elderly care centre



This week, I continued to work in the elderly care centre (except for the day I helped assisting the new employee orientation). This week, I started to help measuring and documenting elders' blood pressure and body temperature. I continued to help collecting lunchboxes and distributing snacks. Like last week, I helped look after the elderly during exercise as well as other classes (sign language, recycling, etc).

## Fundraising for the Myanmar earthquake



For the Myanmar earthquake that happened on the Friday of the previous week, staff in the Taipei Tzu-chi hospital gathered in the lobby during lunchtime to pray for the victims and fundraised afterward. With other volunteers in the Department of Humanities, we helped collect and sort the paper money and coins by their values. We then took the fund to the Department of Finance to count the amount of fund raised using machine. Because my family operates a mart, and I help organising money everyday, I was quite good at sorting

paper money and coins. I was glad that my skill was helpful and made the process a lot faster (according to the senior volunteers).

## Children's book lending



Since staff in the hospital are usually busy and have little time to spend with their children, the Department of Humanities offer children books for lending so that the staff can have a media to connect with their children. Because children's day is on 4 April in Taiwan, during this month's book lending, we also give out gifts to the kids. The gifts include a bear accessory, and a piggy bank filled with snacks. The piggy bank encourages the kids to save money little by little, and to use the savings to help people in need.

## New employee orientation



The Department of Humanities runs new employee orientation on Wednesdays (if someone registered) to help new employees adapt the new workplace through hospital guide and meeting other new employees. Because I was also new to the hospital, my supervisor encouraged me to take part in the new employee orientation.

First, we meet in the meeting room to introduce each other. I listened to the new employees sharing the challenges they faced so far and the goals they wanted to achieve. Because it was my first time to have a chat with nurses and staff in hospital receptions, I was surprised when they talked about how it was like to deal with unrational patients. I also found it interesting to know the motivations for them to become nurses. For example, one of them said that they like to work in the ICU for the excitement and the sense of achievement.

We then took a tour around the hospital (the shops selling organic products made by the monks, the shop selling products made from recycled plastics, the outdoor gardens, etc). We then returned to the meeting room and listened to senior volunteers, who have worked

in the Taipei Tzu-chi hospital for decades, sharing how they could help with medical staff and their experience of interacting with patients.