

**Agency for Volunteer Service    Devoted for 40 years**  
**International Volunteer Day 2009 Recognition Ceremony**  
**2 Real-life Heroes to be honoured**

To mark the International Volunteer Day (IVD) on fifth of December each year which is declared by the United National, Agency for Volunteer Service (AVS) held the “International Volunteer Day (IVD) 2009 Recognition Ceremony” (17 October 2009) to launch its celebrations to recognize volunteers’ contribution to the community.

Officiated by Mr Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, GBS, JP, the Secretary for Labour and Welfare, the Ceremony is to commend the outstanding contribution and active participation of volunteers. Around 800 individual and corporate members of Hong Kong Community Volunteers (HKCV) were recognized in 2008/2009. Awards included “Long Service Award”, “Active Participation Award” & “VQ Volunteer Award” as well as “The Highest Service Hours Award” and “The Highest Participation Rate Award” of HKCV corporate member.

To celebrate 40 years of accomplishment in volunteer services, AVS has specially designed a logo on “Devoted for 40 Years” and presented a special award – “Heroic Volunteer Award” to recognize and honour 2 heroes who demonstrate great courage and fortitude in risking their own life to save others for a noble cause. There are precious few human acts that compare to the saving of another person's life.

In the Ceremony, AVS also organized “Donors and Fundraisers Award” and “Flag Day Award” to recognize the continuous support of donors, sponsors and supporting organizations.

The fifth day of December each year is the International Volunteer Day (IVD) promulgated by the United Nations to urge organizations all over the world to recognize the contributions of volunteers and to encourage more people to volunteer.

Agency for Volunteer Service (AVS), established in 1970, is a non-profit organization with missions to motivate individuals and organizations to provide volunteer service through partnership with all sectors of the community.

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**Recipient of Heroic Volunteer Award      Mr Liu Hai Kam, a diver**

**“Treasure our life. Help others anytime you can!”**

Jumped into strong currents

Swam to the the pregnant woman who gave birth to a baby after rescue

**Recipient of Heroic Volunteer Award      Mr Chiu Kin Tung, a restaurant waiter**

**“When I heard everyone clapping, I knew she was pulled to safety”**

Dived into the 15 degree Celsius water of the harbour

Save an 84-year-old elderly woman

**3,000 Volunteer Service Hours      Mr Ma Hing Wo, an active volunteer**

8 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year,

A full schedule in appointment of volunteer service

Volunteer services has brightened up his life

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