

A Jockey Club Initiative for Seniors

CADENZA: A Jockey Club Initiative for Seniors is a HK\$380 million project initiated and funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust in light of a rapidly ageing population. The Faculty of Social Sciences of The University of Hong Kong and the Faculty of Medicine of The Chinese University of Hong Kong are the project partners.

CADENZA aims at creating an elder-friendly community which fosters positive community attitudes towards older people and continually improves the quality of care and quality of life for Hong Kong's elderly.

CADENZA has 4 main components:

- 1. *Community Projects* are innovative and sustainable service models designed to cope with the changing needs of seniors.
- 2. *Leadership Training and Research* is to nurture academic leadership in gerontology, and to conduct research to advance gerontological knowledge and to evaluate the outcomes of different CADENZA projects.
- 3. *Public Awareness and Public Education Programmes* promote positive ageing and highlight important issues pertaining to the elderly population.
- 4. *Training Programme* includes on-line courses, workshops and public seminars to train different levels of professional front-line workers, care givers and the general public.

CADENZA Fellowship

Gerontology is a multi-disciplinary field of study of the biological, psychological and social aspects of ageing. In view of an ageing society and the lack of interest in this field in Hong Kong among the academic sector, CADENZA Fellowship, modeled after a similar programme funded by The John A. Hartford Foundation in the USA, could produce good leaders who would champion the cause of older people, help shape future government policy, and form a network of support to train the next generation of geriatric social and healthcare workers.

Since 2007, 30 CADENZA Fellows from different disciplines of various tertiary institutions, who have an interest in further gerontological research and teaching, have been trained. Their study areas include social work, nursing, allied health, rehabilitation engineering, psychology, optometry, and medicine.