



問：本人知道你們的「電器贈長者」計劃，是專門收取適合長者家居生活需要、運作良好、無需修理、使用不足5年的電器。為甚麼你們不收取傢俬，做同樣的用途呢？不是一樣可以一舉兩得，一方面改善貧老的生活，一方面環保嗎？

為甚麼不收取傢俬？

答：謝謝您欣賞我們的「電器贈長者」計劃。正如閣下所言，我們收取合適的電器轉送予貧老，不但可改善他們的家居生活質素，令他們感受到社會人士的關懷，亦可起環保作用。在此請容我先借介紹一下「電器贈長者」計劃的操作。我們除了需要義工及汽車往捐贈者家中收取電器外，還需要地方暫存收來的電器，以待維修義工進行檢查及清潔，確保電器安全，然後才能再賴義工用汽車運送予長者使用。我們現時連存放電器的地方都不夠用，實在無法處理體積更大的傢俬。加上我們人手有限，僅能勉強推行「電器贈長者」計劃，並無餘力擴大轉贈服務的範圍。我們同意您的看法，一些匱乏的弱勢社群很需要傢俬的捐贈，唯我們限於能力，暫時無法推出傢俬轉贈服務，盼善長們體諒。

我們懇切希望能通過「電器贈長者」計劃惠及更多貧老，也希望將捐贈服務擴展至傢俬。為了達到目的，讓我們在這裏先呼籲各位善長慷慨捐助，亦呼籲社會上關懷貧老的人士踴躍參加義工行列或撥出車輛，助我們收送運輸、檢查維修及安裝電器。我們尤其希望善長能撥出地方，供我們暫存各位的捐贈。這樣，我們便可以推行轉贈傢俬了。

有關襄助垂詢，懇請賜電與我們聯絡。電話：2835-4321或8107-8324。

Q: I know that your Electrical Appliances for the Elderly program collects less-than-5-year-old electrical appliances in good condition to send to needy elderly people. Why aren't you collecting furniture for the same purpose? Won't it also have the dual benefit of making life better for the elderly and protecting the environment?

WHY NOT COLLECT FURNITURE?

A: Thanks for your appreciation of our EAE program. As you said, our collecting suitable electrical appliances to send to the needy elderly not only improves their life quality and makes them feel that people care for them, but also serves to protect the environment. Here let me first explain how the EAE program is operated. We need volunteers and vehicles to pick up the donated appliances from the donors. Then we must find a place to store the appliances before our maintenance volunteers can examine and clean them, to make sure they are safe. After that, we need volunteers and transport again to deliver the appliances to the elderly recipients. At present we don't even have enough storage space for the electrical appliances, and are also short of hands. Straining to carry out the EAE program is all we are capable of doing. We share you view that some of the disadvantaged members of our community are in need of donated furniture, but our limited capability does not allow us to introduce a furniture program at present. We hope you understand our difficulty.

We earnestly hope to serve more needy elderly people with our EAE program, and would like to extend our donation service to include furniture also. To achieve these objectives, let us appeal for greater generosity from kind donors, and call on concerned members of the community to join the ranks of our volunteer work, or make vehicles available to us, to facilitate our EAE program. We particularly hope that our kind donors can make storage space available for us to temporarily store the donated articles. Given enough storage space, we will be able to accept donated furniture.

If you have other questions, please contact us by phone, at 2835-4321 or 8107-8324.



受惠者言 Client's Remark

「有覺」好睡， 無後顧之憂

每個人都會死亡，是鐵一般的肯定事實；若獨身一人，多會擔憂一旦身故後，缺乏後人照料；若或兩老相依為命，當中一位「先行」去時，另一半可能屆時亦年老體衰，餘下在世者也會乏力予以照料；而當另一在世者隨後逝世時，亦會乏親友照顧，致使那些「無後」的長者，憂心忡忡，不知後事如何被「擺佈」。

本會之「後顧無憂」規劃服務，是接受長者生前委託，按照其志願與其規劃有關後事的安排，以助其釋懷，而無後顧之憂，使可安心終老。

黎水伯伯(83歲)與潘少蘭婆婆(72歲)結婚40多年，因無生養，而他們在世的親友不多，且多已逝世，餘下的多於內地生活；而黎水伯伯在香港體弱的妹妹已70多歲，已沒有聯絡多年，故兩老常自稱他們是「孤苦無依，相依為命」的一對。

由於黎水伯伯年青時是從事「三行」工作，收入不多，60多歲退休後因身體不佳，致積蓄用罄，兩老需賴綜援為生。由於日漸年老，眼前的親友及所熟識的朋友相繼去世，而黎水伯伯亦患有慢性疾病，身體常有不適，需經常往醫院覆診，兩老漸感「死亡」有隨時到臨的一日，恐不能及乏人料理老伴及餘下一半的後事安排。唯遺顧在世的親友中，感覺在港的妹妹亦乏力予以協助。「根本不知到時誰可照顧誰。」黎水伯伯苦笑地說。

「我們又無錢，又識人不多，又無這方面的辦事經驗，我又不識字，若『伯爺公』先行而去，我也不知怎樣辦。」潘少蘭婆婆非常擔憂地說。「若任何一個先行逝世，我們商量過，另一個會隨後自殺。」黎水伯伯亦憂心地說。

「我們兩個都經常討論，但都發覺完全無人可予幫忙。我們有時憂心到晚上三時仍未能入睡。」兩老異口同聲說。

「好彩，在老人中心聽過聖雅各岑先生的「後顧無憂」規劃服務，再參加他們的「後顧無憂自遊行」活動及講解會，接觸及認識殯儀殮葬的實務安排，再由律師見證簽署委託書後，無論我們誰死先或誰死後，聖雅各都會為我們辦妥後事，現在我們安心可以「有覺」好睡，無後顧之憂了。」



Sound sleep. Worry free

It is a universal truth that all human beings are mortal. People who live alone often wonder who will take care of their funeral matters after they die. The same problem also occurs to an elderly couple. If one of them dies first, the surviving spouse may be too old and weak to take care of the funeral matters of the deceased. When the surviving spouse is about to die, the same problem arises.

The Funeral Navigation Service of St. James' will ensure that the whole funeral procedure will be arranged according to the wishes and instructions of the elderly provided that they authorize St. James' while they live. Mr. Lai Shui (83 years old) and Ms. Poon Siu Lan (72 years old) have been married for 40 years. They have no children and the majority of their relatives are dead. Those who are alive, live mostly in mainland China. Mr. Lai has a younger sister in Hong Kong. She is over 70 and has poor health. They have not heard from each other for years. Mr. Lai and Ms. Poon often say they have no one to fall back on, and they have only each other.

Mr. Lai was a renovation worker and did not earn much. When he retired some time after 60, he spent all his savings due to his poor health. They live on the government's CSSA. When they grow older and older, their friends and relatives pass away one after the other. Since Mr. Lai suffers from certain chronic illnesses, he often travels to the hospital for medical consultations. They feel death can come at any moment. They worry that they are unable to look after themselves in case one of them falls ill. They also worry that no one will take care of the funeral matters of the surviving spouse. None of their local relatives is in a position to render assistance, including Mr. Lai's younger sister. Mr. Lai remarked sadly, "If anything happens, we don't know who will be around to help."

"We have no money, we don't know any one here neither do we know anything about these matters after death. I am an illiterate. If my husband dies first, I don't know what to do." Ms. Poon Siu Lan remarked in a troubled tone. "We have decided that if one of us dies, the surviving one will commit suicide immediately following." Mr. Lai continued in a similar manner. They both added.

"We often discuss the matter and have come to the conclusion that no one will come to our assistance absolutely. Sometimes we stay wide awake till 3a.m. because we are so worried."

"Luckily, we learned of the Funeral Navigation Service when Mr. Gary Shum from St. James' gave a talk in the elderly centre. We joined the activities related to the actual arrangements of the Service. We have signed an authorization in the presence of a lawyer. No matter who dies first, St. James' will take care of all our funeral matters. Now we can sleep soundly because we are free of all worries."

「自從委託聖雅各辦理後事後，我們真係「有覺」好睡了。」

"We sleep well since we have signed an authorization with St. James' regarding our Funeral Navigation Service".