



ASIA/CHINA - Helping the sick and fighting AIDS is a lifelong commitment for Jinde Charities

Shi Jia Zhuang (Agenzia Fides) - Fighting AIDS, help the sick and those who have AIDS: is a permanent commitment for Jinde Charities, the charitable Chinese Catholic of He Bei. According to what was reported to Fides Agency by Faith, in view of World AIDS Day, which is celebrated on December 1, the Sisters of the Office have recently brought economic aid for the heating concerning 40 families who suffer from AIDS. With the contribution of the "Church of the Good Shepherd" and San Paolo Foundation in Hong Kong, for six years the Office of Jinde Charities has been able to offer this help to those who suffer from AIDS. At the end of October, a course was held for women infected with AIDS where the forms of care and prevention of further infection was presented: 20 sick and infected people from 17 villages attended the lessons of doctors and experts for 10 days. The sister of the Office of Jinde Charities urged to "never lose faith and hope, facing the disease with a positive attitude."

For years the Chinese Catholic Church, led by Jinde Charities, dedicate energy in every way to fighting AIDS on the continent. In recent years a network of activities with courses (for married, engaged couples, university students, migrant workers ...), meetings (with similar agencies, authorities, patients, pastoral workers, Catholic volunteers ...), public events (in the parishes, dioceses or basic ecclesial communities, in collaboration with the local authorities), along with the coordination of the work of support to the sick in specialized clinics has been created. From 2006 until the end of 2010 10,050 people attended the training. Among them were 500 AIDS patients and orphans. Since 2007 until today, the only center of Sha He of the Jinde Charities Office has offered aid to 48 families in 40 villages, 175 people and 52 orphans of AIDS.

The Jinde Charities Office was officially born with their own office in March 2006, but the nuns and Catholic volunteers had already started their work long before. From 2006 to 2007 they intensified the work to address the social discrimination against AIDS patients, providing counseling and medical care, education and prevention information. From 2007 to 2008 they also began to help people to become self-sufficient, both economically and morally. (NZ) (Agenzia Fides 30/11/2012)