

# Project Shine 2019 Summer Trip Report



## CRRS Partnership with Vancouver Urban Ministries

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**P**roject Shine Summer Trip is a two week English summer camp program where our North American team members facilitate English cross-cultural activities with students in rural areas of Guangxi, China. In the 2019 trip, our team went to teach 160 students at the Huan Jiang Senior High School 環江毛南族自治縣高級中學 located at Huan Jiang country, Hechi City in Guangxi. We are blessed with an intergenerational team of 24 people from Vancouver, Toronto, New York, California, and Hong Kong. Here are some sharing from our team members:

**Jerard Wong**

(University Student in California) – I am more grateful for what God has blessed me with now; while I had a deep appreciation before, my feelings are stronger now. Seeing all these kids being happy even if they do not have everything and are dealing with unimaginably difficult life circumstances was eye-opening for me.



**Melanie Choi**

(Recent graduate in Vancouver) – It was an amazing experience. I think I've become a more confident person even though before I thought I knew myself. The students' kind words and encouragements helped me. Some of the most memorable and meaningful experiences for me are spending time with the kids, and making memories in the classroom. I also believe that I learned a lot in our cultural exchanges.



**Timothy Peng**

(Working in Vancouver) It was really memorable as I teach the lesson and seeing their curious faces. Also, saying goodbye to the students was a meaningful experience for me. I didn't realize the extent of how much we have touched their hearts until we saw their tears.



**C**RRS began its annual sponsorship with Vancouver Urban Ministries (VUM) in September 2016, sponsoring 4 First Nation elementary students for the "Rising Above One-on-one Tutoring Program". Students with learning difficulties receive the proven "Orton-Gillingham" method to help improve their academics such as reading, writing and math. The community VUM serves is about 60% Indigenous and 40% from immigrant background. Their program is running out of an Aboriginal focus school and a school in the heart of China town in Vancouver. Here are two events that CRRS had

### Serving Inner-city families in East Vancouver

**In October 2019**, some of our Project Shine alumni volunteered to help serve inner-city families in East Vancouver with CRRS' local outreach ministry partner organization Vancouver Urban Ministries (VUM). CRRS sponsored the meal and activities for their October family gatherings. The volunteers helped serve the meal, sang songs, conducted music activities, played musical instrument while interacted with the children in a meaningful way.

**Esther Leung** our Outreach Ministry Manager gave a special talk presentation on "Music makes the heart glad". In the presentation various musical instruments from different cultures such as Indigenous, Chinese and western were displayed. Esther also provided musical instruments from her own collection such as clay or wooden flutes, percussion instruments and bells for the students to explore and play. It was a blessing to spend time with the students.



**In December 2019**, our local partner organization "Vancouver Urban Ministries (VUM)" held 2 Christmas Community Dinners for our community of students and family members! A message of "peace" and beautiful Christmas music was shared that night. For several years now, VUM has been collecting gifts and packing hampers for families in East Vancouver during the Christmas season. In the last few years, on top of sponsoring students in the VUM tutoring program CRRS



has also contributed to the Christmas hamper campaign. The dinners were held at Vancouver Chinese Pentecostal Church and Chinese Social Development Society. In total, 60 hampers were passed out in total, 87 gifts were given to the children who attended, 180 people



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**Pearl Lin**

(High School Student in New York) – The students have taught me how to always maintain a good attitude. I've learned that I can be patient and outgoing when given a bit of a push to it.



**Alice Ma**

(Mother in Toronto) – I've learned that small changes can have a big impact and I have a deep appreciation of all I have in life. I have more than I need, so I should try to help the poor more.



**Alan Cheung**

(High School Student in Toronto) – I can continue to serve others by practicing the lesson I have learned and try to continue to learn about other cultures. I can continue to serve others by loving others more and stop taking things for granted.



**Matthew Cheung**

(High School Student in Toronto) - This trip helped me spiritually as I have the change to be part of this once in a life time experience. I can continue to serve others by being positive at all times. With a positive attitude I will try to help out more people.

