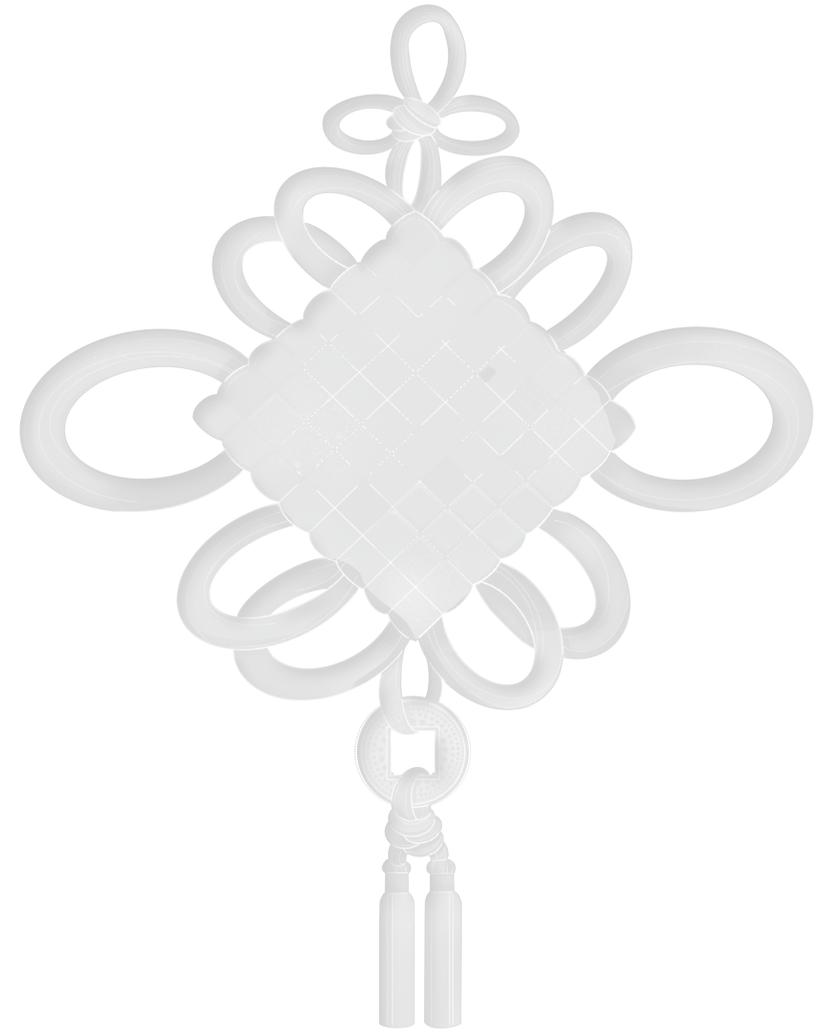


Table of Contents



President Xi Jinping's Care | 2

Policy Support | 4

Social Support | 23

People Overcome Disabilities to Find Success | 31

President Xi Jinping's Care

People with disabilities are confronted with extraordinary difficulties, and they need extra care and attention. Serving the people, including people with disabilities, wholeheartedly is an important manifestation of the Party's purpose. It is an inevitable requirement of the socialist system to enable people with disabilities to live and work in peace with no worries about food and clothing and to have a happy and better life.

— Remarks of General Secretary Xi Jinping in a congratulatory letter on the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the China Foundation for Disabled Persons on March 20, 2014

Poverty caused by illness or disability has occurred from time to time. The poverty alleviation mechanism must further improve the guarantee measures and provide more basic medical insurance and new types of rural cooperative medical insurance.

— Remarks of General Secretary Xi Jinping when inspecting poverty alleviation work in Jinzhai county, Anhui province, on April 24, 2016

By 2020, a moderately prosperous society in all respects will be built, and not a single person with disabilities should still be in poverty.

— Remarks of General Secretary Xi Jinping when inspecting a paraplegic nursing home in Tangshan city, Hebei province, on July 28, 2016

Nearly 11 million impoverished people need to be lifted out of poverty annually to achieve the goal of eradicating poverty on schedule, and the task of poverty alleviation will become more costly and complicated as it carries on. Structurally, most of the existing impoverished and underprivileged people are in areas featuring poor natural conditions, weak economic foundations, and deep poverty; these areas represent the most challenging mission of the country's battle against poverty. While considering the primary group of poor people, it is people with disabilities, the widowed elderly and the chronically ill who are unemployed and cannot get rid of poverty who are the main constituents. Those who have a low level of education and lack of skills are also prone to becoming trapped in poverty.

— Remarks of General Secretary Xi Jinping at a symposium on poverty alleviation in deeply impoverished areas on June 23, 2017

We are determined to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects by the end of the 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-2020). The most arduous part of this task is in rural areas, especially in the poverty-stricken areas. Party committees and governments at all levels must follow the schedule, strive to make up for shortcomings, work out a scientific plan for poverty alleviation and development work during the 13th Five-Year Plan period, and ensure that the poor are lifted out of poverty as scheduled by 2020.

— Remarks of General Secretary Xi Jinping at a meeting with leading officials of the CPC committees of some autonomous prefectures and cities in Guizhou province on June 18, 2015

We should focus on severely impoverished areas in regional poverty alleviation efforts, regard the poor elderly and people with disabilities as crucial groups in the battle against poverty, and pay special attention to getting rid of poverty caused by illness and ensuring housing safety, so as to accomplish the poverty relief targets as scheduled.

— Remarks of General Secretary Xi Jinping during the 39th collective study session held by the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, on February 21, 2017

We should ensure that rural poor people are free from worries over food and clothing and have access to compulsory education, essential medical services and safe housing. Effective measures should be taken to guard against a return to poverty. We must also have a social security system that guarantees special impoverished people who cannot work could be covered by social insurance.

— Remarks of General Secretary Xi Jinping at a symposium on securing a decisive victory in poverty alleviation on March 6, 2020

Policy Support



Policies issued by the CPC Central Committee and the Central Government

Decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Winning the Battle against Poverty

To ensure the rural poor could be lifted out of poverty by 2020, which represents the most arduous task in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council issued the *Decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Winning the Battle against Poverty* on November 29, 2015.

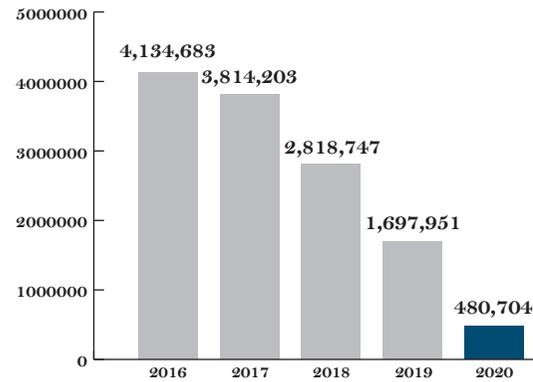
Guiding Opinions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on the Three-Year Action Plan of Winning the Battle against Poverty

On June 15, 2018, in accordance with the overall deployment of the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China on winning the battle against poverty, and based on the implementation of the *Decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Winning the Battle against Poverty* and prominent problems in practice, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council formulated the *Guiding Opinions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on the Three-Year Action Plan of Winning the Battle against Poverty*. The document of guiding opinions improves the top-level design, strengthens policy measures, enhances overall coordination and promotes practical poverty alleviation efforts.

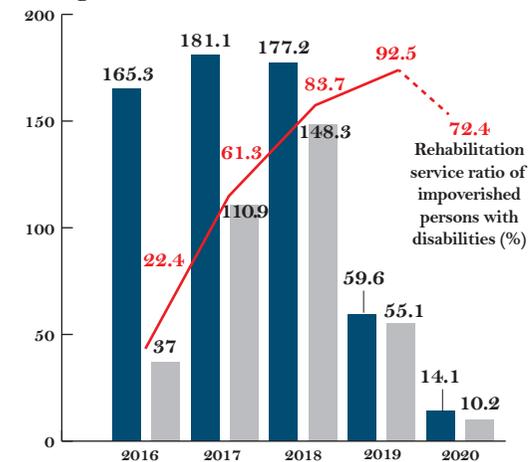
Poverty Alleviation Results

The problem of "two assurances and three guarantees" for the rural poor persons with disabilities has been fundamentally solved

Number of registered people with disabilities



Number of registered people with disabilities receiving rehabilitation services from 2016 to 2020



■ Number of impoverished persons with disabilities in need of rehabilitation (10,000) ■ Number of impoverished persons with disabilities receiving rehabilitation services (10,000)

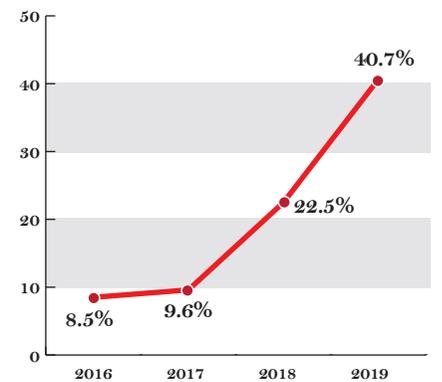


[IMAGE: VCG]

Data of barrier-free home renovations for families with members with disabilities from 2016 to 2019



Ratio of barrier-free home renovations for families with members with disabilities



The problem of "two assurances and three guarantees" for the rural impoverished persons with disabilities has been fundamentally solved

By the end of
2020

the goal of "two assurances and three guarantees," which refers to assurances of adequate food and clothing, and guarantees of access to compulsory education, basic medical services and safe housing, has been achieved for impoverished people with disabilities and their families.

As many as
9.634
million people with
disabilities

have been provided with subsistence allowances, and nearly three million poverty-stricken people with severe disabilities have received separate insurance.

All the impoverished people with disabilities have been included in the coverage of basic medical insurance and critical illness insurance, and

547,000
of them have received
medical assistance as well.

The housing safety goal has been achieved for 178.38 million impoverished families with members with disabilities, and 578,000 families with members with disabilities were relocated as part of the underprivileged resident relocation project.

About
190
million yuan

has been spent for 65,700 financially challenged children with disabilities to receive inclusive preschool education.

Over the past five years, more than
7
million registered poor people with disabilities

in line with China's poverty line have been lifted out of poverty as scheduled.

On average, more than
1 million
people

have been lifted out of poverty annually. This has created the miracle of eradicating poverty for people with disabilities in the history of mankind.



The per capita net income of poor families with members with disabilities has increased from 2,776.2 yuan in 2015 to 8,726.2 yuan in 2019, an average annual increase of 33.2 percent.



Poverty caused by disabilities attracts widespread attention

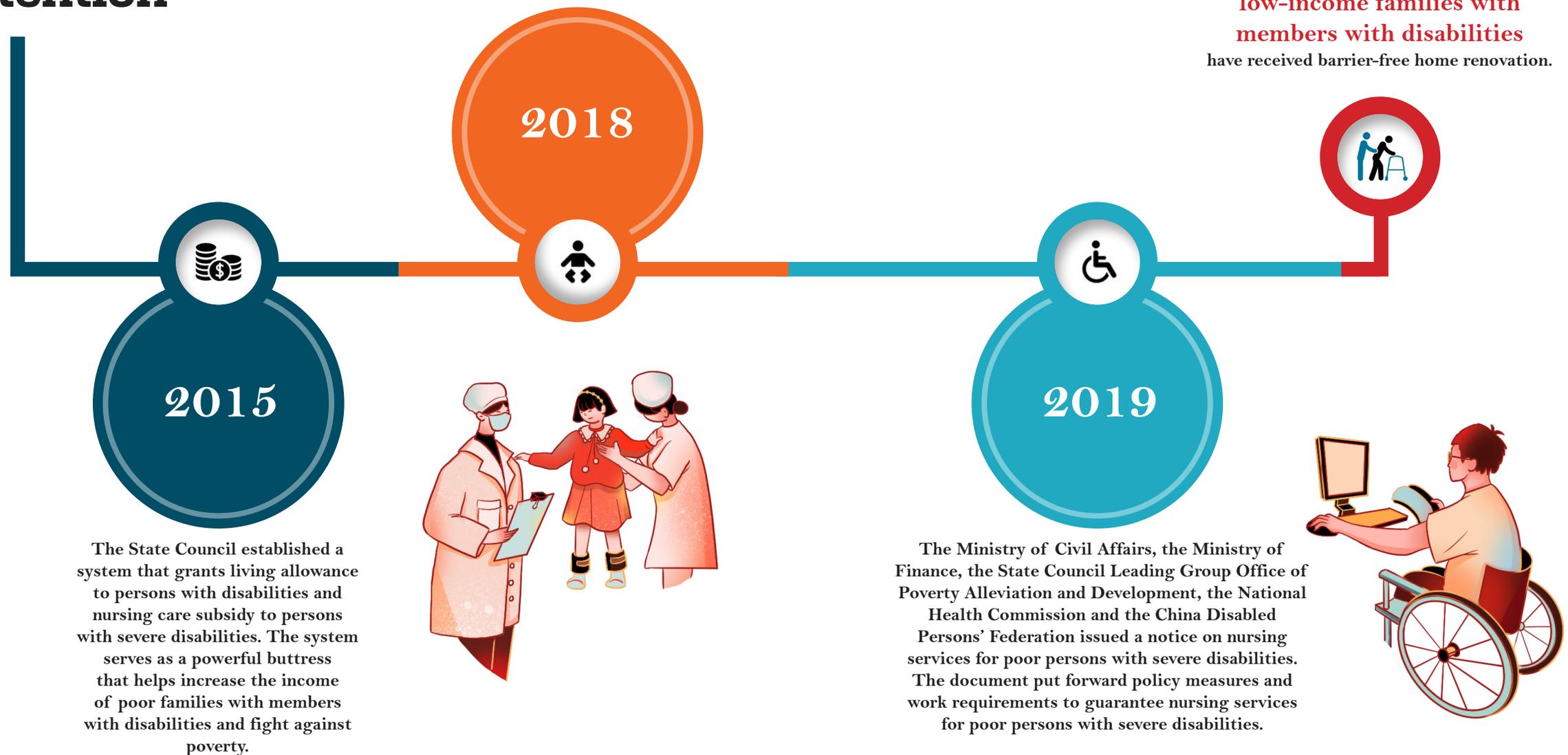
The State Council formulated and implemented a relief system for the rehabilitation of children with disabilities, which has significantly eased the medical rehabilitation burden of impoverished families with children with disabilities.

Rehabilitation services have been increasingly available for the poor people with disabilities in rural areas. China has helped

3.615
million poor people with disabilities

in rural areas with surgeries, rehabilitative training, and assistive devices. The government has also helped impoverished families with members with disabilities renovate their houses with barrier-free facilities. A total of

550,000
low-income families with members with disabilities have received barrier-free home renovation.



The innovative practice of providing care and nursing services for impoverished people with severe disabilities has achieved remarkable results.

CASE 1

Rehabilitation assistance for children with disabilities — Practice of rehabilitation assistance for children with disabilities in Nanchong city, Sichuan province

Practice

Nanchong city, in Southwest China's Sichuan province, has a population of 7.29 million. Of them, 551,800 people, accounting for 7.57 percent of the city's total population, are with disabilities, posing a considerable challenge for the city to offer them rehabilitation services. By offering tailor-made and personalized services, Nanchong explores innovative rehabilitation service measures, advances the construction of rehabilitation institutions, strengthens standardized management of rehabilitation services and improves rehabilitation services for children with disabilities in the city.

Results

Rehabilitation institutions for children with disabilities in Nanchong city are developing rapidly. As of May 2020, the city had established 22 rehabilitation service institutions for children with disabilities, covering nine counties, cities and districts under its jurisdiction. By the month, the area of rehabilitation institutions had expanded to 100,000 square meters from 3,300 square meters in 2010. Each year, they offer 56 rehabilitative training items for more than 1,000 children with disabilities in a convenient way.

Subsidies and investment in rehabilitation grow steadily. The Nanchong Disabled Persons' Federation has clarified the items, training time and costs of rehabilitation services and allocated funds accordingly. The funding mainly comes from subsidies from the China Disabled Persons' Federation and the Sichuan Disabled Persons' Federation. And the shortage is financed by disabled persons' federations at the municipal and county levels. For children with disabilities aged 0-6, the Sichuan provincial rehabilitation subsidy is 15,000 yuan, the rehabilitation training subsidy at the city and county level is no more than 20,000 yuan per person per year, surgical treatment subsidy is no



more than 30,000 yuan per person, and assistive devices subsidy is no more than 5,000 per person. The subsidies help guarantee children with disabilities receive ongoing rehabilitation services.

The process and management of rehabilitation services have become standardized and more stringent. Nanchong city conducts rehabilitation projects for children with disabilities in a unified five-step manner. First, the disabled persons' federations at the city, county and district level select designated institutions at the beginning of the year. Second, children with disabilities and their parents apply for project assistance at the disabled persons' federation where their household registration is. Third, the designated institutions provide children with disabilities with personalized rehabilitation training. Fourth, rehabilitation institutions report service provided for the children with disabilities to the local disabled persons' federations they are registered at and submit a performance report on rehabilitation assistance for the year. Fifth, the disabled persons' federations and fiscal institutions settle the project funding according to the institutions' performance.

Rehabilitation training is provided regularly, as children with disabilities require long-term treatment. The Nanchong Disabled Persons' Federation has extended the rehabilitation time for children with cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities and autism for better results. Also, the rehabilitation institutions are required to extend the training time for children with disabilities to one year.

From 2016 to July 2020, a total of 5,548 children with disabilities in Nanchong city received rehabilitation assistance, including 114 from registered poor households. Forty percent of the children with disabilities entered special education schools to receive compulsory education through rehabilitation assistance, while 8 percent were enrolled in regular schools. The city's rehabilitation assistance projects' success rate was above 90 percent, and over 98 percent of parents were satisfied.

* * *

CASE 2

Surgeries for people with physical disabilities — Experience and results of the projects conducted by the China Association of People with Physical Disabilities in the Ningxia Hui autonomous region

Practice

As of September 2019, there were 117,134 persons with physical disabilities in the Ningxia Hui autonomous region, and of them 26,425 were registered as impoverished. Previously, people with physical disabilities from low-income families had no access to treatment, which aggravated their poverty and affected their daily lives and their ability to be a productive member of society. In 2014, thanks to the efforts of the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region Disabled Persons' Federation, the "Reshaping the Future" campaign included Ningxia in its project. "Reshaping the Future" is a non-profit surgical treatment and rehabilitation project for poor people with physical disabilities sponsored by the China Association of People with Physical Disabilities.

Results

From 2013 to May 2020, the public welfare project “Reshaping the Future — Surgical Treatment and Rehabilitation for Poor Children with Physical Disabilities” initiated by the China Association of People with Physical Disabilities helped 517 young people with physical disabilities from impoverished families nationwide. Among them, 234 from the Ningxia Hui autonomous region received 305 surgeries, accounting for 45.3 percent of the total. As of July 2020, 130 recipients in Ningxia had achieved the expected therapeutic results and were able to live and study as healthy people. Meanwhile, the degree of disability of 50 recipients had been significantly reduced, and 54 recipients needed to receive one more surgical treatment.



An impoverished girl with disabilities from the Ningxia Hui autonomous region receives free surgical treatment at a designated hospital in Xi'an, Shaanxi province.

* * *

CASE 3

Community rehabilitation services for poor persons with physical disabilities — Longxian county, Baoji city, Shaanxi province guarantees assistive devices and services for persons with physical disabilities

Practice

Longxian county in Baoji city, Shaanxi province, has a population of about 273,000, of which 10,161 are with disabilities and 5,035 are registered as impoverished people with disabilities. Since Longxian was designated a pilot county for precise rehabilitation services for people with disabilities by the Shaanxi Disabled Persons' Federation in May 2017, the county's disabled persons' federation has been working on disability prevention and rehabilitation, assistive devices adaptation and the promotion of supporting services. It has maintained full dynamic coverage of assistive devices and services for people with disabilities for four consecutive years.

Results

From 2018 to 2020, the Longxian County Disabled Persons' Federation sent out 3,000 assistive devices to local people with disabilities. Family doctors conducted follow-up visits and helped with the correct use of assistive devices. Many people with disabilities said their physical functions and quality of life improved thanks to assistive devices. These devices also helped reduce the burden of nursing for families with persons with physical disabilities and create conditions for employment and families' increased incomes.

CASE 4

Home renovation with barrier-free facilities for impoverished families with members with severe disabilities — Practice of barrier-free home renovation in Zichang county, Yan'an city, Shaanxi province, and Xinxian county, Xinyang city, Henan province

Practice

Zichang county, Yan'an city, Shaanxi province and Xinxian county, Xinyang city, Henan province have set excellent examples of conducting practical barrier-free home renovations for impoverished people with severe disabilities in China. Zichang has 15,105 people with disabilities, and 485 families with persons with disabilities which need barrier-free home renovations. Xinxian has 25,600 persons with disabilities and 4,105 registered impoverished persons with disabilities, with 840 families with persons with disabilities which need a barrier-free home. The two counties completed the barrier-free home renovation work for low-income families with persons with severe disabilities in 2019. The China Disabled Persons' Federation held national meetings on barrier-free renovation for poor families with persons with severe disabilities in Zichang and Xinxian to promote their experience in this field.



Leaving the house was once a significant hassle for impoverished people with severe disabilities. However, thanks to the barrier-free home renovations, the dream of venturing outside their homes is now a reality.

Results

From 2016 to 2020, Zichang county finished barrier-free renovation for 2,535 families with persons with severe disabilities, including housing renovations for 389 families. The county invested 2.07 million yuan in barrier-free home renovations for 3,535 low-income families with persons with disabilities, which fundamentally improved the living conditions of families with members with disabilities, enabling them to conveniently move around, leave the house and use the toilet.

From 2014 to 2020, Xinxian county implemented more than 5,800 renovation projects, provided more than 5,300 assistive devices, and completed home renovations for 2,365 households, including all 1,670 registered families with persons with severe disabilities. The county's 225 public toilets in scenic spots were all equipped with barrier-free facilities.



Following a three-level growth training path, the Liuzhou No. 1 Vocational Technical School conducts practical activities.

CASE 5

Improving vocational skills of persons with disabilities — Practice of secondary vocational education for persons with disabilities in the Liuzhou No. 1 Vocational Technical School, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region

Practice

The results of the second national sample survey of persons with disabilities in the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region showed that the employment rate of persons with disabilities was low due to their low education level and poor professional skills. The survey also demonstrated that the phenomenon of poverty among families with persons with disabilities is more prominent. Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region addressed this issue by increasing its input and support for vocational education for people with disabilities.

The Liuzhou No. 1 Vocational Technical School is a public secondary vocational school established in 1983, and it is among the first group of national-level key secondary vocational schools. It is the first school in the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region to provide secondary vocational education for

people with disabilities and serve as a national vocational training base for people with disabilities. Since 2006, the school has addressed the difficulties faced by local persons with disabilities, such as receiving vocational education, lack of education and vocational skills, a low employment rate and employment level, and integration into society. By June 2020, the school had a total of 837 full-time students with hearing disabilities, visual disabilities, physical disabilities, or intellectual disabilities, and had conducted vocational and technical training for 5,535 persons with disabilities.

Results

The Liuzhou No. 1 Vocational and Technical School has been working on the teaching model of promoting vocational and technical education for people with disabilities and creating conditions for students with disabilities to participate in social life on an equal basis. The 837 full-time students with disabilities saw their employment rate reaching more than 90 percent and the rate of students with disabilities with both diploma and professional qualification certificate above 90 percent. Among 5,535 persons with disabilities who received short-term vocational-technical training, 4,762, accounting for 91 percent of the total, obtained the vocational qualification certificate. With a professional skill qualification certificate, students with disabilities become competitive in employment and can have a stable income and escape poverty.

The school's full-time students with disabilities have also won many awards in various competitions. Peng Qiuping won the gold medal in the women's S3 50-meter backstroke final at the Rio Paralympic Games in 2016. Mo Cantian won the second prize in the network competition for secondary vocational group of the 2009 national vocational college skills competition. Tan Shixi, a short-term vocational trainee, founded the Shixi Health Massage Center after taking the blind massage training class. Tan has provided employment for more than 10 people with disabilities, and he is also active in participating in grassroots cultural construction, disaster relief, and community donation activities. He won the honor of the "Fifth National Self-improvement Model" in 2014.

* * *

CASE 6

Getting rid of poverty through e-commerce — Qujing city, Yunnan province, incubates e-commerce businesses for persons with disabilities

Practice

• The E-commerce Entrepreneurship Incubation Center for people with disabilities in Qujing city helps local people with disabilities start businesses on the internet.

Located at the source of the Pearl River in the eastern part of Southwest China's Yunnan province, Qujing city is home to many ethnic groups such as Yi, Hui, Miao, Zhuang, Bouyei, Shui and Yao. As of June 2019, Qujing had 110,478 persons with disabilities at the working age, which is 16 to



“The county government has made excellent supporting policies these past years, allowing me to receive more orders. I would like to help more women start businesses and enable more people like me to realize their value in life,” said Pan Xiaohong. She always teaches her skills without reservation, and with her help, more and more left-behind women, people with disabilities and unemployed youth are finding a way to earn money. [IMAGE: XINHUA]

59 years old for men and 16 to 54 years old for women. Of this group, 26,298 were registered as impoverished persons with disabilities, accounting for 23.8 percent of the total.

From 2016 to 2019, the Qujing Disabled Persons' Federation and Yunnan A Pu E-Commerce Co Ltd conducted five e-commerce training sessions for local persons with disabilities, and the participants totaled more than 120 people. As more local persons with disabilities have engaged in e-commerce, the incubation mechanism has achieved better economic and social benefits.

• **Sunan Yugur autonomous county: Online sales increase incomes and promote traditional craftsmanship**

The Yugur is an ethnic group unique to Gansu province, and it is one of the ethnic groups with the smallest population in China. They are good at singing and dancing, and are well known for their wonderful handicrafts.

Pan Xiaohong, a person with physical disabilities in Sunan county, is a famous embroiderer of the Yugur ethnic group. Pan suffered two accidents in her early childhood, causing permanent damage to her left hand that rendered it unable to stretch. A brain injury made her lose most of her language skills. At 16, she developed a keen interest in embroidery and began to use her right hand and teeth to make embroidery. Later, when she was proficient in embroidery, she established her own studio and developed a company specializing in custom embroidery decorations and handicrafts.

As she has gained greater recognition for making embroidery with only one hand, under the

guidance of the local government and the county's disabled persons' federation, Pan designed several courses to train others. These classes focus on embroidery, cloth-cutting, hand-knitting and silk-netting. The local government helped her recruit people, purchase raw materials and provided venues for her to offer local people the training services.

In 2020, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Gansu Disabled Persons' Federation called for disabled persons' federations at all levels in the province to support vocational skills training bases and social assistance forces to conduct online training for persons with disabilities in need.

Sunan County Disabled Persons' Federation helped Pan switch her training from offline to online courses, enabling trainees with disabilities to make handicrafts at home. The trainees' works were collected by Pan's company and sold through online shops and telephone sales after passing inspection. The more they make, the more they will earn.

Results

• **Qujing E-commerce Entrepreneurship Incubation Center for People with Disabilities**

From 2016 to 2019, Qujing Disabled Persons' Federation and Yunnan A Pu E-Commerce Co Ltd conducted five e-commerce training sessions for more than 120 persons with disabilities, of which 10 were with severe disabilities. The federation has helped 38 persons with disabilities start their businesses, with 16 having registered business licenses and five having opened e-commerce stores. According to incomplete statistics, the average annual turnover of e-commerce enterprises owned by people with disabilities who successfully started their business through training is 100,000 yuan. These businesses have an annual per capita income of 20,000 yuan. As more local people with disabilities have engaged in e-commerce, the e-commerce incubation mechanism has shown its robust economic and social benefits.

• **E-commerce training for people with disabilities in Sunan Yugur autonomous county**

By giving full play to the advantages of online teaching, Pan Xiaohong has held more than 30 handicraft production training courses, enabling 23 people with disabilities to get employed and more than 200 people to learn a skill. Some trainees could earn up to 3,000 yuan a month thanks to what they learned through the online courses.

The Sunan county government has taken handicraft training as a powerful tool to lift local women out of poverty, and it plans to improve the handicraft skills of 3,200 women. As of 2020, there were 350 handicraft workers in the county, selling their works in and outside the province.

* * *

CASE 7

Increasing incomes for people with disabilities through characteristic planting — Practice of developing characteristic planting industry in Baise city, Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region



The technical experts of the Sunshine Poverty Alleviation Base in Tianyang county, Baise city, provide on-site technical guidance for poor households.

Practice

Baise city is located in the west of the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region and borders Yunnan and Guizhou provinces. The city has a population of 4 million people, with 270,200 persons with disabilities, accounting for 6.76 percent of the total population. Baise has set up poverty alleviation bases to help local people with disabilities achieve stable income growth through participation in characteristic farming and breeding industries.

Results

As of the end of 2019, Baise city had built 24 poverty alleviation bases for people with disabilities, motivating 4,718 impoverished persons with disabilities to develop farming and breeding operations. The city invested 6,199,500 yuan in providing free skills training for 9,135 persons with disabilities and their relatives to improve their employment and entrepreneurship capabilities. Over the four years since the Sunshine Poverty Alleviation Bases for persons with disabilities have been built by Baise city and Tianyang county, the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region allocated 800,000 yuan to the bases, and Tianyang county has contributed 100,000 yuan. This funding has provided support for no less than 400 poor persons with disabilities and helped generate 2 million yuan in income, an annual increase of 5,000 yuan per capita.

As of the end of 2019, the poverty alleviation base for people with disabilities in Pingguo county, Baise city, offered jobs for 40 individuals with disabilities, with a monthly salary of more than 1,800 yuan for each person. It attracted 137 registered impoverished persons with disabilities in the villages surrounding the base to engage in pig breeding. The base has helped people with disabilities obtain at least 2,000 yuan of material assistance each year, and the average annual income of households with disabilities has increased by more than 4,000 yuan. With help and support, the base effectively promotes poverty alleviation for the impoverished people with disabilities in Pingguo county.

CASE 8

Social services help overcome difficulties in poverty alleviation — Practice of providing care services for people with severe disabilities in Zhumadian, Henan province

Practice

Zhumadian city, located in Central China's Henan province, has nine counties and one district under its jurisdiction. The city has 605,000 persons with disabilities and more than 93,000 registered impoverished people with disabilities. As of the end of 2019, 8,758 people in Zhumadian city were still in poverty. At the end of 2020, people with mental and physical disabilities made up most of the people yet to be lifted out of poverty in the city.

The developments of industrial poverty alleviation and subsidies for individuals with severe disabilities are not enough to solve all of their difficulties. Providing care services is a most effective way to help them get rid of poverty. Since 2017, Zhumadian city has formulated various policies and has taken the lead in establishing a care provision model for poverty-stricken families with persons with severe disabilities. The city, counties, departments and the whole society play a role in helping with the care of persons with disabilities and raising incomes for families with persons with disabilities in rural areas.

Results

In 2016, Zhumadian explored care centers for impoverished rural people with severe disabilities in Shangcai county. By June 2020, Zhumadian had built 114 care centers for poverty-stricken persons with severe disabilities in the 11 counties and districts of the city, which has radically changed the living conditions of families with members with severe disabilities. In 2019, the nursing work for impoverished people with severe disabilities in Zhumadian, Henan province was selected as "Global Poverty Reduction Case" issued by the China National Forum on Poverty Alleviation. It was highlighted at the second China International Import Expo as a typical social security case resulting from China's poverty alleviation efforts.

Nursing jobs in the care centers for impoverished people with severe disabilities are prioritized to family members of registered poor households. More than 2,000 positions have been offered to the families of people with severe disabilities, and the monthly income of each caregiver is 2,000 yuan.

Nursing care has also changed the mental state of people with disabilities and improved their sense of gain and happiness. The care center has all the necessary facilities, offering comfortable accommodation and good food. Each person with disabilities at the facility has a personal health file and enjoys 24-hour nursing services and daily visits. The care centers can treat minor illnesses and ensure serious diseases are dealt with promptly. Also, nearby resettlement has addressed the mental depression experienced by people with severe disabilities — which is caused by being left alone for a long time — and significantly improved their life attitude and mental state.

CASE 9

Social participation and targeted support for people with disabilities — Xingtang county, Hebei province, establishes an innovation park focused on poverty alleviation for people with disabilities

Practice

Xingtang county, Hebei province, is located in the Taihang Mountains area, and the State Council designated it in 2012 as a critical county for national poverty alleviation and development. Xingtang has 32,000 persons with disabilities, including 11,984 registered persons with disabilities, accounting for 6.96 percent of the county's total population. To help people with disabilities and poor households find jobs and get rid of poverty, the Xingtang County Party Committee and the county government established an innovation park for people with disabilities, highlighting a poverty alleviation model that involves the government, enterprises, society and the impoverished households (people with disabilities). The park was officially put into use on May 19, 2018, aiming to help persons with disabilities and their family members to increase their incomes. The innovation park includes a local clothing company and a civil affairs service center.

The Xingtang County Party Committee and the county government provided land for the park free of charge. The innovation park is divided into two parts and covers a total area of 1.33 hectares. It boasts a multiple function site for people with disabilities, consisting of an occupational therapy area, an employment training area, an online operation center, a matchmaker platform, a rehabilitation exercise and health service function area, a vocational rehabilitation area, an inspirational education function area, a recreation area, a farming therapy area, and a poverty alleviation project area.

Results

Since the establishment of the innovation park, Xingtang has achieved good results in poverty alleviation and disability assistance.

First, it provides rehabilitation and nursing care services for the qualified persons with disabilities, aiming to offer support for the weak, medical care for the vulnerable, and pleasure for the weak.

Second, it provides jobs to persons with disabilities and ensures they receive a stable and increasing income.

Third, it has held 70 handicraft workshops to help persons with disabilities escape from poverty, allowing people with disabilities and their families to increase their income through work.

Fourth, it provides people with disabilities who can work but can't leave home with a home-based job. The handicraft workshops in the park offer training and assignments door-to-door.

Fifth, by providing people with disabilities with jobs, the innovation park also reduces the burden on families with members with disabilities.



Social Support

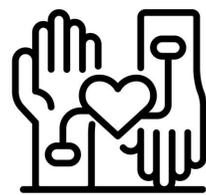
Poverty alleviation cooperation between eastern and western China

Poverty alleviation cooperation between eastern and western China has been promoted vigorously. In 2019 alone, the east-west coordination mechanism invested nearly 330 million yuan in poverty alleviation, benefiting more than 130,000 people with disabilities and their families.



Rehabilitation projects

Social organizations have been mobilized to help the impoverished people with disabilities. The China Foundation for Disabled Persons has conducted six public welfare projects, covering eye disease treatment, bone and joint replacement, autism rehabilitation, leprosy relief, ankylosing spondylitis as well as internet employment. These projects have been conducted in 31 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities across China and raised 372.5 million yuan. The anti-poverty projects have helped more than 200,000 persons with disabilities and supported nearly 100,000 impoverished ones to get rid of poverty.



Voluntary services

Also, voluntary services for people with disabilities are taking place. Youth league organizations and youth volunteer associations mobilized 67,000 volunteer teams to participate in the “Sunshine Action” project to help people with disabilities across China. More than 2.37 million young volunteers provided partner assistance with 3.1 million youths with disabilities.

Increasing support from disabled persons' federations at all levels

The advantages of disabled persons' federations at all levels should be given full play. Following the decisions and deployments of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council and the arrangements of the Party committees and governments at all levels, the disabled persons' federations at all levels regard poverty alleviation of people with disabilities as their most urgent and arduous task and obligatory responsibility.





By integrating nursing and employment, Minhou builds an employment platform in the nursing center for people with disabilities in Longde, allowing 143 persons with severe disabilities to find work.

CASE 1

Eastern-Western China Industrial Collaboration for Poverty Alleviation — Practice of Minhou county, Fujian province, helping Longde county in Ningxia Hui autonomous region

Practice

Longde county, located in the southern Ningxia Hui autonomous region and at the western foothill of Liupan Mountain, is part of the contiguous poverty-stricken areas of Xihaigu. In 2012, Minhou county of Fuzhou city, Fujian province, partnered with Longde and took assistance measures to help lift it out of poverty. In regard to financial support, by 2020 Minhou had allocated 15.5 million yuan for the Longde County Nursing Center for People with Disabilities. The two counties also integrated nursing, poverty alleviation workshops and e-commerce cooperatives to increase the income of registered persons with severe disabilities, which has achieved remarkable results.

Results

As of April 2020, the Ningxia Longde Artificial Flower Co Ltd had more than 1,000 employees in its main factory and poverty alleviation workshops, including 89 persons with disabilities. It also had 73 persons with disabilities working at home. Most people with disabilities working for the company can earn 800 to 2,000 yuan per month.

The nursing center for people with disabilities in Longde has taken care of 224 impoverished people with severe disabilities, and 143 of them have been employed. From February 2019 to July 2020, the center sold agricultural and sideline products worth more than 20 million yuan through e-commerce platforms, with a profit of more than 5 million yuan. A total of 1.86 million yuan in dividends was sent to all the 2,263 impoverished people with severe disabilities in the county and 127 low-income families with persons with disabilities, ranging from 600 yuan to 2,000 yuan per person.

The government departments, social organizations and people with disabilities in the county have shown vigorous enthusiasm for creating a healthy atmosphere for poverty alleviation and assistance. As a result, several advanced units and individuals have emerged. In May 2019, at the Sixth National Self-improvement Model and Advanced Unit for Helping People with Disabilities Commendation Conference, the Longde County Artificial Flower Co Ltd, which participated in the construction of poverty alleviation workshops for people with disabilities, was awarded the title of National Outstanding Group for Helping People with Disabilities. The Longde County Nursing Center for People with Disabilities was rated as “Home for People with Disabilities in Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region.” Meanwhile, Xin Baotong, head of the e-commerce entrepreneurship center and living with paraplegia, was awarded the title of Ningxia Hui autonomous region’s Model of Self-improvement for People with Disabilities. Xin once owed more than 200,000 yuan for medical treatment and he has a family with more than one person with disabilities. In 2020, Xin and his mother earn nearly 130,000 yuan. He and his family applied to give up the subsistence allowance and won the battle against poverty independently.

By selling agricultural and sideline products, the e-commerce cooperative has helped more than 300 registered households increase their income. It also promotes the development of characteristic local industries. It allows people with disabilities to work, help each other, and even help healthy people get rid of poverty and increase their incomes.

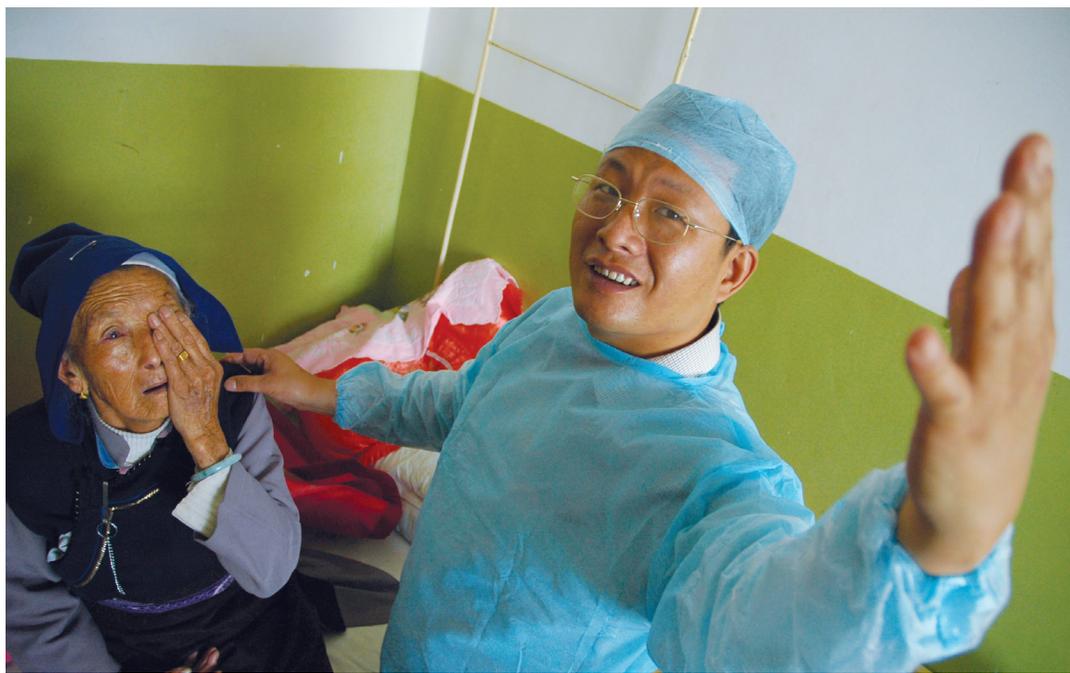
* * *

CASE 2

Cataract Rehabilitation Project

Practice

China has been conducting cataract operations and rehabilitation since 1988. The medical procedure has been rolled out in three phases: medical teams bringing healthcare services to the



A doctor checks a patient's vision recovery after cataract surgery.

countryside, the “Qiming Action of the Jishan Project”, and the Vision Rehabilitation Project of Millions of Poor Cataract Patients. Currently, China has completed its transformation from projects led by disabled persons' federations to projects organized by governments and supporting funds.

Results

From 1988 to 1992, China made considerable achievements in the three rehabilitation scopes: curing cataracts, recovery after polio sequelae, and hearing and speech training for deaf children. More than 900,000 cataract patients have been treated, which is 520,000 more patients than initially planned. Jiang Lijuan, a professor of ophthalmology at Tongren Hospital, creatively pioneered the small incision cataract surgery method, which significantly improved the operation rate and enhanced its effectiveness. Using Jiang's operation method, the fastest cataract operation took only eight minutes for both eyes, and a doctor could perform a maximum of 120 operations a day. The surgical procedure quickly spread across the country.

Since the implementation of the “Vision First • China Action” program, a total of 2.1 million cataract surgeries were performed in five years in phase one. The actual number of operations was 1.2 times as large as the planned one, the implantation rate of intraocular lenses was 58.9 percent, and the visual acuity rehabilitation rate reached 97.9 percent. During the project, about 1.07 million cataract patients recovered their sight, compared with the original goal of 600,000 patients. In October 2000, China achieved its goal of negative growth in the number of people blinded by



A cataract operation is in progress.

cataracts two years ahead of schedule.

The year 2019 marked the 22nd year of the “Lifeline Express” project. The project has provided services at 179 stations in 118 areas of 28 provinces across the country, helping about 200,000 impoverished cataract patients to regain their eyesight.

The “Qiming Action of Jishan Project” provided funding for operations for nearly 200,000 impoverished cataract patients from 2006 to 2016.

The Rehabilitation Project of Millions of Poor Cataract Patients was extended for another two years after its end in 2011, and it offered operations for a total of 1.65 million cataract patients. Since then, cataract surgery has been included in the medical insurance scheme, and patients from all over the country can receive treatment in designated hospitals. The designated hospitals have also set up a straightforward medical service process and opened green channels for rural and poor cataract patients seeking medical treatment.

In addition, conducting cataract operations for impoverished patients has boosted medical institutions' development, and it also improved the efficiency of medical procedures. During the 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-20), more than 90 percent of county-level hospitals could complete cataract surgery independently. In 2000, the average number of operations per million people in China was 372; this number became 800 ten years later. Over the 13th Five-Year Plan period, the number of operations per million people in some areas with abundant medical resources has exceeded 2,000.

More than 10 million cataract patients regained their sight from 1988 to 2019.

CASE 3

'Leave No One Behind': Theme song of the National Day for Helping People with Disabilities

The theme song "Leave No One Behind," written by Zhang Haidi, Chairperson of the China Disabled Persons' Federation, and composed and sung by Jiang Can, a blind actor with the China Disabled People's Performing Art Troupe, was released to mark the 30th National Day for Helping People with Disabilities, which fell on May 17, 2020. The theme of this year's National Day for Helping People with Disabilities was "Help People with Disabilities Get Rid of Poverty and Build a Moderately Prosperous Society in All Respects."



* * *

CASE 4

Increasing support from disabled persons' federations at all levels

Officials of disabled persons' federations at all levels conducted surveys at the grassroots level. In 2019 alone, they carried out surveys in 18 counties, cities, districts and banners in 16 Chinese provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, visiting 65 towns, 123 villages and 209 families with persons with disabilities to learn about the difficulties in poverty alleviation for people with disabilities.

In 2020, following strict COVID-19 precautions, the officials from disabled persons' federations also worked in Henan, Hunan, Shaanxi, Guizhou and Yunnan, and the Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, where they visited 66 impoverished families with members with disabilities in 26 administrative villages of 10 counties. These provinces and the autonomous region have the largest number of persons with disabilities who have yet to be lifted out of poverty in China.

From 2018 to 2020, the disabled persons' federations at all levels have supported the construction of 158 facilities for people with disabilities in poverty-stricken counties.



CASE 1

Wang Xiuzhi: One-handed woman achieves success with red deer breeding

“My life fell into the abyss at a young age. For a long time, I kept my eyes open, although I could see nothing colorful – only darkness,” says Wang, recalling the accident that changed her life in the autumn of 1983, when she was 26 years old.

Sense of family responsibility drags her out of the abyss

“Until now, I don’t know what happened at that moment. I only remember that I was working on the operating platform. Suddenly, my right hand was completely engulfed by a machine that was running at a very high speed. My bones and tendons were destroyed, and I was unable to think or move, but I heard the screams and cries of my colleagues,” recalls Wang.

Wang has long since forgotten how she was sent to hospital for treatment, but she still remembers the day when the gravity of her situation hit her: when she habitually raised her right arm to comb her hair. At the realization of what she had lost, she broke down completely, collapsing on the ground and wailing inconsolably.

For several years, Wang did not speak in public. When walking outside, she carefully folded her broken arm into her sleeve and avoided eye contact with strangers.

Wang could not give up hope, thought she had to take care of her aging parents and 3-year-old daughter. So, she pulled herself together and regained the courage to pursue a new career.

In 1997, Wang started her own business — breeding red deer. Despite her family and relatives’ opposition, she borrowed money to buy three red deer from southern Xinjiang and constructed a deer house with her husband.

One year’s effort brought her profit from the sale of deer-related products. This success motivated her to breed more red deer.

Building success despite setbacks



Wang Xiuzhi, a villager in Xiying town, Shihezi city, the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, Northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, is a winner of the Endeavor Award of the 2016 National Poverty Alleviation Award. She is a pioneer in leading her fellow citizens to realize prosperity through red deer breeding.

Wang’s family and the local production and construction corp supported her plan. The couple decided to set up new deer houses in the Gobi Desert with a loan of 150,000 yuan (\$22,957.59) from their acquaintances.

To start with, she only hired two full-time employees, and her family worked part-time to help her reduce costs. At that time, she got up at 6 am every morning and made preparations for the day ahead, soaking mortar and transporting red bricks.

After her full-time workers arrived, Wang shoveled the mortar with a spade in her left hand and then poured it into a barrel with the help of her handless right arm. The disability did not hinder her work.

Working in full swing for 50 days, Wang and her team built two 600-square-meter deer houses. Then, the couple bought another 12 red deer. Wang was excited to see the deer jumping and playing in their newly built homes.

The diet of red deer is grass, and the animals’ healthy growth heavily depends on their ability to forage for grass. Wang turned to the leaders of the local production and construction corp for support.

Thanks to the corp’s Party committee, Wang was granted a 40 mu (2.7 hectares) area of alkaline land to grow grass for her deer to forage. She also planted alfalfa seeds on the barren plot of land and enjoyed a good harvest through hard work and her father’s instruction.

After conquering many obstacles, Wang enlarged her farm to 1,000 sq m to raise 40 red deer. At this point, she had regained confidence in her ability to succeed.

However, a challenge emerged as one of the male deer died of diarrhea. The economic loss upset Wang’s parents, and someone even teased her.

Despite the setback, Wang did not waver in her confidence but decided to learn how to treat her deer for illnesses they may encounter. She mastered the knowledge and skills she needs and obtained a certificate after attending a training program on animal husbandry and veterinary medicine at a university in Shihezi in 2003.

In 2010, Wang applied for a 1-million-yuan government-subsidized loan from the local disabled persons’ federation to expand her farm to 2,000 sq m. She now raises 240 red deer every year.

Wang has also cooperated with others to launch farms by providing them with access to her breeding deer and developed agricultural sightseeing and farm homestays.

As her business grows, Wang’s farm is generating more economic benefits. Her products are now sold in South Korea and domestic cities such as Dalian, Guangzhou and Qingdao with an annual profit of 1.2 million yuan.

Through her persistent efforts, the one-hand woman has opened a bright new chapter of her life.

Leading more people with disabilities to wealth

Wang is always thinking about those who have helped her and people with disabilities living in misery.

One day in January of 2011, Wang learned that the only surviving Red Army veteran in the Eighth Division of the corp broke his leg while she was taking care of her father in the hospital. She hurried home and presented fresh venison and pilose antlers to the injured veteran.

In July of 2013, when Wang attended a training program for people with disabilities, she handed out 3 kilograms of pilose antler capsules to 15 classmates in poor health.

Seeing that people with disabilities have difficulty securing jobs, Wang chose to employ workers with

disabilities. All of the 12 employees working on her farm have disabilities, and Wang covers all their living expenses.

In addition to accommodation, Wang also offers them a monthly salary of 1,500 yuan. She said she hopes they can one day support themselves through their own efforts, which will build their confidence and bring them happiness.

In 2013, Wang's farm was identified as a base for helping people with disabilities escape poverty by the local disabled persons' federation. She invested 500,000 yuan in supporting and serving more people with disabilities in her neighborhood.

Wang has motivated more people with disabilities to learn how to breed red deer at her farm. Li Guozhen's family is among them. Wang invited them to visit her farm, where she taught them about the necessary breeding technology and management.

Meanwhile, Wang signed an agreement with the couple, which addressed their concerns about breeding and the sales of products.

In May of 2013, the couple built an 80-sq m enclosure and bought 10 red deer at a low price from Wang's farm. The next year, they renovated their house and bought new furniture with the money made from breeding red deer. Today, they are living a much better life.

Thanks to the support of the production and construction corp and local disabled persons' federation, Wang has developed her business into a professional cooperative connecting her company, farmers and the market.

Wang was awarded as a "National Role Model of Self-Reliant Efforts" in 2014. In 2016, she won the Endeavor Award of the National Poverty Alleviation Award.

* * *

CASE 2

Li Juan: Strong willpower lifts paralyzed woman out of poverty

"I am Li Juan, a villager in Dangshan county, Anhui province. I can only move my head because of syringomyelia," says Li as she lies in bed.

Despite the disabilities, Li has become the "backbone" of her family in their fight against poverty. She has also become an e-commerce leader who drives her fellow citizens to escape poverty through the internet.

Starting anew

Li Juan was born in Tangzhai village in Dangshan county in Anhui's Suzhou city in 1985. She regularly fell down and hurt herself due to a poor sense of balance in her childhood.

In 2008, she fell straight to the ground during a PE class and then gradually lost control of her limbs. Her muscles degenerated quickly, leaving her paralyzed in bed without the ability to take care of herself.

She was diagnosed with syringomyelia in 2012 and realized that she would never stand on her feet again.

Li could not bear the torture of her illness and found nothing meaningful in life. At that time, the idea of committing suicide emerged from time to time. But that idea seemed impossible for her as the only part she could move was her mouth.

She pleaded with her mother to end her life with poison since she did not want to trouble her family anymore.

Li recalls a day that she felt like she was dying when she recovered from a coma due to a frequent high fever. She saw a group of relatives gathering in her room ready to bid a final farewell to her.

"At that moment, I felt a strong desire to survive," says Li, "I still have too much to do and too many places I want to visit. It's difficult for my parents to take care of me. I owe them too much."

The experience changed her understanding of life. She thought she should enrich her life through hard work.

Li repeatedly practiced pressing buttons on a remote controller by using a chopstick set in her mouth, hoping to make it a new "hand." Gradually, she could dial numbers on a telephone with it.

She even learned to use the internet on a mobile phone in 2013, making her dull days more colorful. She likes browsing news and chatting with friends online. A new wonderful existence began to emerge, and Li's optimistic attitude allowed her to think about living a better life.



Li's younger sister moisturizes her lips. Li does not drink much water in order to reduce the burden on her family to take care of her. Li's mother and younger sister look after her.

Selling fruits with confidence rather than mercy

From then on, Li kept in touch with the world via the phone and got to know more about the Internet Plus initiative. In 2015, Dangshan was rated as a national demonstration county for its development of e-commerce in rural areas, and the local government began to promote local agricultural products through the internet.

Many young people seized the opportunity to start their own businesses, and a large number of impoverished villagers escaped poverty through selling products online.

In the winter of 2015, an intense snowstorm lasted for several days and hindered her parents' ability to transport their 10,000-kg apple harvest to the market. To address this problem, Li decided to try selling the fruits online via smart phone.

Her parents helped her to take photos of the apples and uploaded them online. Li herself replied to customers by typing words with a stylus held by her teeth.

It usually takes seconds for ordinary people to type a reply on the phone, but Li had to spend several minutes or more to answer messages. Despite this, she never failed to address inquiries from prospective customers.

Once, someone asked her to explain why she was so slow to respond, which helped her gain more

sympathy from customers and more orders. However, Li did not intend to rely on the pity of others. Instead, she insisted on winning people over with quality products and top-notch service. Through her persistent efforts, all of the 10,000 kg of apples her parents were stuck with were sold out within two months.

‘CEO’ in a remote village

Though known as the “land of fruit” and boasting numerous orchards, Dangshan has been on the national list of poverty-stricken counties for many years. After expanding sales for her parents, Li planned to help local villagers to sell their fruits too.

The county’s Party committee was touched by her deeds and self-reliant spirit and provided tailored support to Li. The committee helped her register a brand called Xiang Ao Juan and offered tutoring to teach her how to operate an online store and improve its packaging and sales system.

Thanks to the help of the local Party committee and government, Li’s e-commerce business has developed steadily. She established a company and opened a store on China’s online retail giant JD. Many leading e-commerce enterprises in Dangshan became Li’s agents, and she has since grown into a well-known CEO in the e-commerce sector in her hometown.

More and more villagers in her neighborhood and impoverished people turned to Li for help. About 40,000 kg of pears grown by nearby poor villagers were sold with her assistance in 2016. The sales brought them more than 50,000 yuan, helping to pull them out of poverty.

Inspired by Li, more people with disabilities joined her to start their own e-commerce businesses.

Li has become a close friend of many impoverished villagers and people with disabilities in particular. She helps and motivates them to regain their confidence in her spare time.

Her deeds have been praised by the public and brought her many honors, such as the title of Role Model of Suzhou and Anhui in 2017. In September of that year, she was nominated a national award candidate and won the Fenjin Prize at the National Award for Efforts in Poverty Alleviation.

* * *

CASE 3

Liu Hongxia: Incomplete palm holds up the ‘five flavors’ of life

In 2014, Liu Hongxia’s husband became a person with disabilities following a car accident. In 2017, Liu’s right hand was crushed by a crusher and she then had a fourth-degree physical disability. The heavy financial burden, coupled with the fact that there are elderly parents-in-law and young children at home, was a cruel reality that made Liu lose confidence in life. Later, with the active help of rural officials, Liu regained her self-confidence and energy. Through raising beef cattle and planting schisandra (a traditional Chinese medicine famous for its five flavors), she finally won a beautiful fight against poverty and ushered in her life of “five flavors”.

Fully motivated to develop dual industries

Shihugou village, where Liu lives, is a professional village with rich experience in cattle breeding. Many farmers in the village have embarked on the road of getting rid of poverty by raising cattle, and Liu Hongxia decided to join them.

After learning about Liu’s ideas, the village poverty alleviation and assistance team took the initiative to help her raise funds to purchase three breeding cows, helped her reserve forage for overwintering, and suggested she develop a courtyard economy.

Shihugou village has been planting schisandra since 2005 and has successful planting experience, established management techniques and sales channels. Liu thought that if she grew schisandra, she could not only manage schisandra in the morning and evening, but also use the daytime to change shifts with her parents-in-law to herd cattle, while also taking care of her husband. The idea was that with the two poverty alleviation development plans of breeding cattle and planting schisandra, her family would have no worries in the future.



Liu Hongxia: Born in 1984. Liu has a fourth-degree physical disability, and her husband has a third-degree physical disability. They are villagers in Shihugou village, Taipinggou township, Luobei county, Hegang city, Heilongjiang province. She won the Endeavor Award of the 2018 National Poverty Alleviation Award.

Re-encounter accident, revive and win the turnaround

Just when Liu felt that the hard days were coming to an end, along came another accident. One day in September 2017, when Liu was feeding a cow and weeding, her right hand was accidentally taken into a lawn mower that was rotating at a high speed. Although she had to experience hardships again, this time Liu faced all the unknown difficulties and challenges with more confidence and courage.

At the beginning of 2018, Luobei county formulated a number of poverty alleviation industrial policies for poor households. The village’s supporting partner, the Luobei county forestry bureau, provided Liu’s family with 3,300 schisandra seedlings for free. By June 2019, one third of the four acres of schisandra that Liu Hongxia originally planted had reached the fruit-bearing stage, and produced 400 kg of fresh fruit.

In 2020, Liu’s family has a total of 7 mu of schisandra and 14 cattle. These two resources alone could help Liu’s family achieve stable poverty alleviation.

In 2020, a cattle-raising cooperative was established in Shihugou village, and Liu’s cattle were raised in the cooperative. This reduced her burden and increased her income. Nearly two-thirds of the 7 mu of schisandra that she planted have reached the fruiting period, and is expected to sell for more than 80,000 yuan.

Liu Hongxia said that she is always ready to do her best to help others who need help like her. “I’m

just an ordinary farmer. I hope my story can drive more people with disabilities like me to become self-reliant. I want to say to everyone 'As long as we don't bow our heads, no difficulties will be too hard for us!'"

* * *

CASE 4

Zheng Gang: Dare to break and fight to widen the road to wealth

Zheng Gang has suffered from osteoporosis since he was a child. If he fell, he would be at risk of fractures. He was unable to engage in heavy physical labor. In addition, his father had high blood pressure and gout, and his mother had heart disease. The burden of the family rested on Zheng alone. Although the financial conditions were difficult, he did not bow to the difficulties. He took the initiative to seek development. From pig raising to Buddha bead processing to coconut green processing, Zheng fulfilled his own promise, "It is not terrible to be poor. As long as a man is ambitious and willing to work hard, he will definitely be able to get rid of poverty."



Zheng Gang: Born in 1981, a villager in Yelin village, Dongjiao town, Wenchang city, Hainan province, with a second-degree physical disability. He is a winner of the Endeavor Award of the 2019 National Poverty Alleviation Award.

When Zheng built the industry, he also promoted the development of the local economy and helped some poor households to get rid of poverty and become rich through industry. "Although I have disability, I am not worse than others! The words 'I am not worse than others' have always inspired me to work and start a business!" Zheng said confidently. He hoped that through his poverty alleviation story he can encourage more poor households to work hard without waiting, and let them know that getting rid of poverty and getting rich is created by their own hands.

* * *

CASE 5

Yang Shuting: Move forward with kindness

Yang earned only 7.7 yuan in her first month of work by serving as a game booster, helping others boost their scores. She then sold artificial flowers on the retail platform Taobao; and went on to set up a professional flower planting cooperative. She then established Hunan Qiqi Technology Co Ltd which brings in 400,000 yuan annually. Over several years Yang has helped 704 people increase their incomes, 206 of whom were registered poor people and 59 were with disabilities.

In April 2011, Yang's motorcycle overturned on her way home from work because the lights went out, resulting in her paraplegia.



Yang Shuting: A villager with paraplegia, born in 1991 in Xiaping village, Baimaoping township, Chengbu Miao autonomous county, Shaoyang city, Hunan province. She is the general manager of Hunan Qiqi Technology Co Ltd and a winner of the Endeavor Award of the 2019 National Poverty Alleviation Award.

Starting a business is the test of life

Yang Shuting started her business by doing game leveling up and Taobao customer service. In the first month, she made 7.7 yuan. Although the money was not much, Yang was very happy — she knew she could still make money, rather than be a person who "could do nothing." She regained her hope for life.

Then Yang also began her Taobao customer service on a friend's recommendation. After accumulating a period of experience, she and her friend opened an online clothing shop. Yang made more than 1,000 yuan in the first month, and was doing the game boosting business at the same time. As her businesses expanded Yang recruited employees from all over the country through the internet.

Yang especially cares about people with disabilities due to her own illness. Counting those responsible for Taobao customer service, Yang has employed more than 100 people with disabilities.

Yang, who has loved flowers and plants since she was a girl, also opened an artificial flower shop on Taobao. Being experienced, Yang got her business thriving within a short time.

Seeing that the artificial flower market is highly profitable but the cost of buying artificial flowers from factories was too high, Yang thought more money might be made if she and others could produce artificial flowers themselves, considering that her village is never short of workforce. Setting up a factory would not only increase the income of her and her villagers but also allow her to take care of her family. Yang shared this idea with her friends and families and got their support, which led to the Chengbu Professional Flower Planting Cooperative.

As the business got on track, Yang began to consider how to expand production to enrich more villagers and people with disabilities. In November 2016, she established Hunan Qiqi Technology Co Ltd in Chengbu county. Supported by the country's poverty alleviation loan policies, she borrowed 2 million yuan and expanded production. The company now has 45 employees, including seven persons with disabilities. The guaranteed monthly salary is from 1,500 to 4,000 yuan and the annual dividend of poor households has reached more than 5,000 yuan.

In addition to her company's daily business, Yang also does livestreaming every evening on Kuaishou, a video platform. By April 2020, she already had 320,000 followers.

In 2018 and 2019, Yang led her sales team to the China Import and Export Fair, also known as the Canton Fair, four times, introducing their products to customers and partners from all over the world. In the eyes of her friends around the world, Yang is no longer a weak girl, but an entrepreneur with firm confidence.

Charitable activities brighten her life

In July 2017, a once-in-a-hundred-year disastrous flood hit Chengbu county. After learning the news, Yang rushed to the affected area as quickly as possible and delivered nearly 20,000 yuan worth of bedding, clothing and food to people in need.

Since February 2018, Yang began to subsidize four students of extremely poor families living in remote mountainous villages. After the 2019 Spring Festival, she braved severe cold weather and bumpy mountain roads to visit them.

In early 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic began to spread across the country, Yang Shuting devoted more to her county's epidemic prevention and control efforts. She raised money through various means and donated 5,000 masks and some Chinese herbs to the medical workers fighting the pandemic on the front line.

Never give up on poverty alleviation

Yang Shuting's hometown was in a remote mountainous area of Chengbu county. Restricted by geographical and traffic conditions, villagers there almost have no other sources of income except growing grain or being migrant workers. Yang, who has experienced poverty and disasters, can understand the scourge of poverty all the more.

Yang always bears her villagers in mind and keeps helping them in various ways.

In May 2019, she won the honorary title of National Self-improvement Model. In September, she won the Endeavour Award of the 2019 National Poverty Alleviation Award. Yang has realized her dreams and has also helped others find the meaning and direction of life.

* * *

CASE 6

Liao Zhusheng: Seize the day and live it to the full

All that others can do, I can do also

Liao Zhusheng connected the local specialties of the remote mountainous villages in Ningdu

county with markets across China through the internet. By various modes such as "e-commerce entrepreneurship + poor households", "e-commerce + characteristic industries + poor households", he has led group after group of poor households and people with disabilities to live a moderately prosperous life.

Youth makes failures affordable

After he got initial benefit from the e-commerce industry, there was a leap in Liao's confidence. Soon, he and his partners established Ningdu Lizhiyuan Electronic Commerce Co Ltd, which mainly sells graphic design, navel oranges and small appliances. But in the initial stage of e-commerce sales, he experienced two painful failures, which made him truly realize the cruelty of the e-commerce industry.

"The two failures indeed caused huge loss. But I'm still young, which allows me to afford failures," said Liao, who takes failures as the force driving him to move on. After taking stock of the failures and rethinking, Liao focused his marketing on graphic design, which he is most adept at. Beginning with designing of online shops and then moving on to cooperation with brick-and-mortar stores, Liao would always put extra enthusiasm into every deal, regardless of the amount of profits. His sincere and attentive service brought him a mounting number of online and offline customers. When online communication is not smooth, some people will even drive hundreds of kilometers to Liao's company to discuss details with him face to face.

With the graphic design business achieving success, Liao finally got his e-commerce business on track.

From home to the internet

In 2018, Liao and his entrepreneurial partners established Ningdu Hangyuan E-commerce Co Ltd on the basis of the original one.

As the company's e-commerce business flourished, Liao began to think about how to help more people with disabilities get rid of poverty and become rich through e-commerce, ie, moving from "home" to "the internet".



Liao Zhusheng: Living with physical disability, born in 1997, in Banjing village, Duifang township, Ningdu county, Ganzhou city, Jiangxi province; founder of Ningdu Hangyuan Electronic Commerce Co Ltd. In May 2019, he won the honorary title of National Self-improvement Model, and in October the same year he won the Endeavour Award of the National Poverty Alleviation Award.

Build a Well-off Society in an All-round Way, Leaving No One Behind

An Exhibition of Achievements in Poverty Alleviation
for People with Disabilities



CHINADAILY 中国日报

Producers: Department of Publicity and Culture
of the China Disabled Persons' Federation and the
China Commission of Promotion of Publicity for the
Undertakings of Chinese Disabled Persons

Organizer: China Daily