

## Bringing Dragon Boat Festival Cheer: After-Care and Probation Services Share the Aroma of Zongzi

As the Dragon Boat Festival approaches, Chief Prosecutor Ko Yi-Fen of the Taiwan Keelung District Prosecutors Office recognized the sense of longing experienced by sentenced individuals and rehabilitated ex-convicts who are unable to celebrate the festival with their families. In response, she personally led Chief Clerk Yang Ya-Ling, Chief Probation Officer Lin Shun-Chang, Chairman of the Keelung Branch of the Taiwan After-Care Association Lin Zhen-Feng, Chairman of the Keelung Honorary Probation Officers Association Huang Zhong-Xian, and other colleagues to visit the Keelung Detention Center, Keelung Prison, and the Upward Learning Center of the Adullam Care Association. During these visits, they distributed meal subsidies and emergency relief funds, offering encouragement and support to those under their care.

Chief Prosecutor Ko emphasized that the Keelung District Prosecutors Office consistently promotes a compassionate judicial approach. On every traditional holiday, the office makes a point to visit individuals in detention, aiming to convey the warmth of society behind bars and to assure those who are away from home that they are not alone, even in the absence of family. For decades, the Keelung District Prosecutors Office, the After-Care Association, and the Honorary Probation Officers Association have provided steadfast support to detainees and rehabilitated individuals who have undergone the hardships of the judicial system. Chief Prosecutor Ko affirmed her belief that as long as individuals sincerely repent and commit to transformation, a variety of resources—spanning education, employment, healthcare, and elder care—are available to help them rebuild their lives with hope and promise.

She also extended heartfelt gratitude to the Adullam Care Association for their dedicated care and companionship provided to the students at the Upward Learning Center, aiding them through the challenging process of detoxification. Chief Prosecutor Ko encouraged the students, stressing that overcoming addiction requires strong determination and courage. She expressed confidence that by completing all the courses, they would ultimately embark on a brighter future.

In addition to distributing subsidies and emergency funds, the event also invited after-care counselors and volunteers from the Keelung Branch of the Taiwan After-Care Association. These professionals guided participants in the traditional art of making zongzi (rice dumplings), from washing bamboo leaves and stir-frying glutinous rice to wrapping the dumplings and managing the cooking process.

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