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Hong Kong's change of sovereignty in 1997 did make a great impact on its citizens. When the Government and many non-governmental organizations were busy offering services to help the general public to prepare for this historical moment, a similar demand for service among the handicapped population was not address adequately. A group of severely physically disabled sheltered workers with very sound minds voiced their needs and took the initiative to request some services. They wanted to be more adequately equipped with knowledge regarding the possible political, social and psychological impact on their daily life arising from the change. They also wanted to know more about the People's Republic of China and the general situation of their disabled counterparts on the mainland. In addressing their request, a one year project starting from May 1997 was launched. The project included a trip to visit rehabilitation institutes in Guangzhou and post-visit sharing sessions for their colleague sheltered workers. The paper aims to highlight the strong urge and eagerness for equal opportunity and full participation among this group of severely physically handicapped adults in the historical event of Hong Kong's reunification with China and to show how the project helped to promote their identity as an integral part of Hong Kong.



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