



## 2019 Fall Winter Global Giving Report



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## Heading into the winter months!

We are so excited to be able to officially join the GlobalGiving platform and provide our first update to our generous sponsors!

Bright Side Projects hopes more people can get to know our communities, what we do, and more importantly, what YOU can also do to make a positive impact on the world! We are building a comprehensive support system for our youth and young adults and this can only happen if everyone takes part.

In just the past three months, we've continue to move beyond art and cooking workshops to bring in more content to our lessons. From upcycling used t-shirts into totes, creating DIY sanitary pads with women in Orchid Island and introducing zero waste eco friendly menstrual solutions, our horror movies session taught about media effects

Our workshop in Orchid Island up cycling old t-shirts into tote bags and baking vegan cupcakes with the indigenous youth

Photo by ZIN



through special effects makeup. We make learning fun and engaging. More importantly, youth learn how to socialize, work in teams, and complete a goal together.

The support we have received allowed us bring skilled artisans showing our children learn about the fundamental of woodcraft. Throughout all this Bright Side Projects cooked for or with the community plant-based meals, providing nutrition and a little bit of warmth through the cold winter months. The month of December still looms and much more work to be done.

We look forward to providing you with more updates. Thank you so much once again for your support!

Daisy H. Lin / Founder

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Indigenous Amis youth in Taitung helping us prep mushroom gravy for vegan mashed potatoes lunch.

Photo by Daisy Lin



### What we've been doing overall...

Since the end of 2012, here's a quick recap of those who have joined us on our journey in face to face interaction in the workshops to make friends:

Number of activities: 164

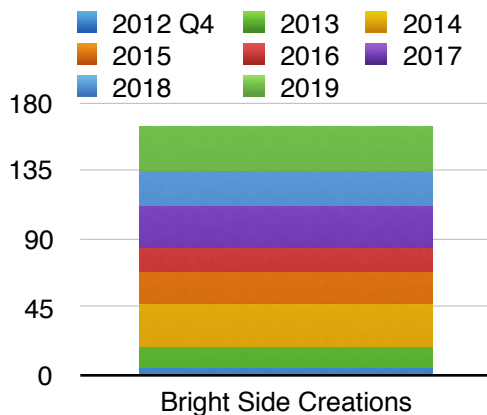
Number of Community spots: 1,340

Number of Big Friend spots: 1723

Big Friend overall return rate: 65%

### 2019 FW Friendship Meter

While we may spend 60-95 hours for each workshop regardless if it's half day or full day and could easily execute a 300-500 person event during the same amount of planning, we limit each of our workshop attendance to approximately 15 members in the community and 15 Big Friends. This increases enhance the quality of interaction and depth of engagement, making everyone a memorable individual instead of simply a "volunteer."



No. of creative education since Sep: 13

No. of Plant-based Meals served to Youth and Community: 100

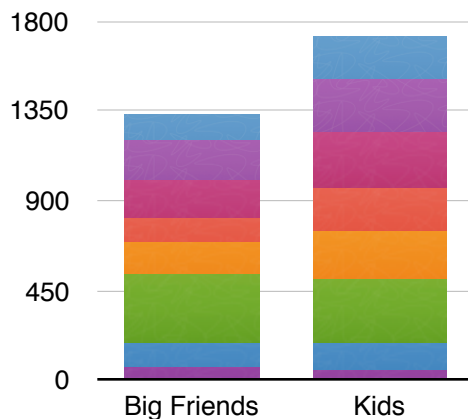
Big Friend Volunteers: 54

Anticipated Families for plant-based staples to be provided for: 23

Anticipated amount of organic rice to deliver in December 1146 lbs

### Plans for SS 2020

- Solidify services in providing quarterly plant-based food staples
- Inclusion of senior citizens for plant-based nutrition
- Development programs for our 16+ Youth
- Continue creative education workshops with focus on emotional management and art therapy
- Volunteer Re-training on Sexual Harassment and Domestic Violence
- Elect new board of directors for 2020 - 2023



## Our DNA

### What sets us apart?

#### KITCHEN TABLE

Freshly cooked nutritious plant-based meal options from our

[Kitchen Table](#) at all events, especially during workshops with children. Veering towards local, organic, unprocessed foods. Junk food and candy items are not permitted to be brought by Big Friends.



#### SOCIAL AWARENESS

Workshops always have a deeper message by trying to raise awareness of different social issues and how our lives are impacted by it.



#### INTERACTIVE & INTIMATE

We don't have just one teacher facing 30 kids. We attempt to bring a 1:1 or 1:2 ratio of "Big Friends" to "Kids," to get more people involved and to enhance engagement. 30 people maximum per workshop. Everyone shares in the task of setting up, sharing food, bringing workshops to fruition, and cleaning up.

#### GENDER EQUALITY

We maintain a gender neutral zone and respect so that no one is limited or discriminated of their full potential based on a social construct.

#### CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)

This sets out the civil, political, economic, social, health and cultural rights of children. In serving the best interest of the child, this benefits all. Bright Side safe spaces empowers everyone to speak up, abolishing a hierarchal "talking down" mentality.





## 2019 Fall Winter

### September

Joined the Accelerator to launch our Global Giving campaign and we successfully passed with flying colors! We headed to Orchid Island after almost 1.5 years, bringing more eco-friendly workshops and vegan baking recipes to share.

### October

We kicked off the month with re-learning application of special effects workshop and tied this with teaching children about media effects and how to detect fake news.

### November

Jia-Xin's Winter Solstice kicking off in Taitung with Whale Spoon, upcycling fragments of leftover wood to create spoons with the indigenous Amis youth of ShinMaLan.

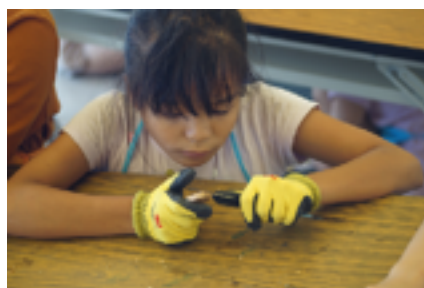
### December

We have 2 creative education sessions, 2 year end food and necessities drive to both ChingChuan and Taitung, to be topped off with a gingerbread Create for Love workshop.

Eager to create  
Moments or Spend a  
Day with us?

Everyone is welcomed  
to join us!

## Wood Craft



With a small team of Big Friend volunteers who were able to join us, we finally were able to head down on a 4 hour train ride to Taitung and see our kids at the ShinMaLan community. We have been trying to work with this specific woodcraft artisan for almost two years. Using fragments of leftover wood, the children spent 4 hours fashioning spoons with nothing more than a sharp knife and some sandpaper. Despite the difficulties in the process, kids were patient until they finally created their own spoon that can now replace disposables.

Kids arrived early to assist with kitchen duties, creating the mushroom gravy, fruit salad, and stir the pot for our pumpkin pasta sauce.

## Totes and Vegan Baking

We were finally able to return to Orchid Island after a long delay of 1.5 years due to funding and unable to find a teacher that could make the journey over! We hosted 4 workshop sessions including activities for the women. We gathered t-shirts and youth and women were able to learn several techniques for up cycled totes, replacing plastic bags, one of Orchid Island's biggest polluters. Each session was paired with plant-based baking from blueberry apple crumbles, vanilla cupcakes, and banana muffins. Menstrual cup samples courtesy of DIVA Cup, Lunette, Lena Cup, were introduced in a DIY sanitary napkin sew session for those who menstruate.



## ECO FRIENDLY UPCYCLING

## SKILLED CRAFT



We are happy to share with you one of our signature creative education workshops - learning about media effects through horror movies and special effects makeup! Living in today's society, the internet has become prevalent in each aspect of our lives. It has come with many benefits but also cons when it becomes a substitute rather than a supplement. Fake news and cyberbullying have taken on a life of its own and talking about how to spot it for the youth may not always be easy.

We first had children guess some common horror movie characters by guessing - sniffing garlic (vampire), blind poking a furry vest (werewolf), a struggling saunter (zombies), etc. Then picking the Exorcist as our inspiration for wounds and scar makeup by showing the before and after makeup kids previously finding scary movies scary, were now a bit more immune seeing how they could easily recreate the makeup. Learning that not everything we see on TV or the internet might not always be real we showed a few questions they should ask when a news info or even a gossip from a friend comes up. Does it make sense? Who is the news source? Is it collaborated? More critical thinking and logic should be utilized instead of simply consuming what we hear. Kids had a fun time not just with the makeup but the dry ice bloody berry punch they created with creepy lychee eyes!





We're going to re-introduce some of our new friends to one of our original Big Friends! It has been an amazing journey in Bright Side Projects and JiaChi has been a huge part of it since 2012. So many of our beautiful memories have not only been captured by her but created by her. Her wonderful smile, gorgeous soul, and warm glow radiates the very persona of what Bright Side Projects and our Big Friends are about.

Daisy: How and when did you find out about Bright Side Projects and what made you want to get involved?

JiaChi Su: It started in 2012 when my co-worker first joined in Bright Side Projects and invited me to come along with her on their next event. Because I was curious about how an art course would incorporate an interactive aspect between kids and adults, I signed up.

D: Since you have joined the workshops for the past five years, how do you feel this long term relationship is different than other volunteer groups?

J: Through long term involvement with the kids, you can better understand their personality and also how it changes. Through long term involvement with the kids, can better understand their personality ad changes and also how to interaction with them and how to capture their attention on things they are interested in. Understanding them more and having spent time with them, they are more willing to open up to you.





D: What are your favorite classes that you've participated in with Bright Side Projects?

J: I loved the Artistic Expression through Motion workshop, allowing kids to feel the environment and knowing their bodies through art creating a dance. This was very touching to see that moment.

Mad Scientist was memorable as kids not only created their own volcanoes, but grabbed dinosaurs and created a story from it. Being able to listen to their stories was adorable. The Metalsmith workshop with kids creating their own mini me robots took place just last year and seeing the patience and dedication of the kids was mesmerizing!

D: What types of moments are the ones that make you want to take up the camera and snap?

J: My favorite shots are when kids are listening intently and the enthusiasm they have during the class. And I also love the interaction between the kids and Big Friends.

D: Why do you continue to join in Bright Side Project activities?

J: Because the people involved are wonderful! Thank you to Bright Side Projects for providing this opportunity to be alongside the kids as they grow! While we are navigating through the courses together, their imagination takes me on a journey that is an alternate source of true healing.



D: What are your hopes for the children or what you can do?

J: I hope that a seed is planted in the children's hearts and minds, that the world has endless possibilities and choices outside of traditional routes and mainstream values.





THANK YOU!

