

Elderly IT Stars Recognition Scheme commends 13 elderly persons

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) organised the Elderly IT Stars Recognition Scheme to commend the elderly for proactively using digital technologies to bring positive impacts to themselves, their peers and the community. The awards presentation ceremony of the Recognition Scheme was broadcast online today (April 29), in which the Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Mr Alfred Sit, has congratulated the 13 "Elderly IT Stars".

Mr Sit expressed the hope that the Recognition Scheme can help members of the public gain a better understanding of the needs and abilities of the elderly in using digital technologies, and facilitate a wider adoption of digital technologies among the elderly for integration into their lives. He also expressed gratitude to the non-profit making organisations (NPOs) and the Elder Academies (EAs) for supporting the Recognition Scheme and organising information and communications technology (ICT) outreach activities and training courses with interesting technology elements to enhance the interest and ability of the elderly in harnessing digital technologies, which contributes substantially to promoting digital inclusion and fostering a caring community.

The Government Chief Information Officer, Mr Victor Lam, visited the 13 elderly awardees and presented the awards to them individually earlier on. He also presented certificates of appreciation to representatives of the NPOs and EAs which nominated the awardees. Members of the public are welcome to watch the video of the recorded ceremony, which is available on the OGCIO's website (www.ogcio.gov.hk/en/about_us/video_gallery/).

The Recognition Scheme, organised by the OGCIO, aims at recognising elderly persons who have made use of digital technologies to demonstrate their commitment to improving their quality of lives, making a positive influence on their friends and the community, and promoting a sense of worthiness among elders. Among the awardees, some used digital technologies to stay connected with their families under the epidemic, and some even became digital volunteers to contribute further to the community. All the awardees were participants of either the ICT Outreach Programme for the Elderly (2018-2020) or the Enriched ICT Training Programme for the Elderly (2019-2021) organised by the OGCIO. During the two-year service period, the Outreach Programme organised about 30 000 outreaching activities for over 7 500 elderly persons, while the Training Programme delivered more than 100 free advanced digital training courses to about 3 300 elderly persons. The OGIC0 will continue to organise the Outreach Programme and the Training Programme in collaboration with NPOs and EAs to encourage more elderly persons to experience and learn digital technologies.