

Families Move into New Great Love Village in South Taiwan

Written by Tzu Chi Foundation
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On August 3, 26 families moved into a new village in southern Taiwan which the foundation has built for the survivors of [Typhoon Morakot](#) a year ago. It is one of four 'Great Love' villages in the south of the island, which have a total of nearly 1,000 new homes given to 4,500 people.

It was a festive atmosphere on Tuesday afternoon in the Yujing Great Love village in Tainan County, where Prime Minister Wu Dunyi, Tainan County chief Su Huanzhi and Lin Biyu, vice-president of the foundation, joined the families moving into their new homes. For the families, it was one of the most important days in their life; after the trauma of losing their home and, for many, all of their possessions in the typhoon on August 8 last year, they were able to move into a new home which will be resist the typhoons and earthquakes of the future. They were full of gratitude to the foundation for making this possible; the four villages were built with funds raised from members of the foundation in 52 countries around the world.



Work began on the site on March 21 this year, on an area covering 1.95 hectares. It contains not only the homes of the 26 families but also a community centre, a market and a sand-filled surface that can absorb the heavy rain that falls in southern Taiwan. Ahead of the opening, volunteers made meticulous preparation household equipment for each home; they also bought apples, oranges and other foodstuffs as a gift for the new arrivals.

Prime Minister Wu presented a plaque to the village's community centre, inscribed with words of [Master Cheng Yen](#) at the time of last year's typhoon. He said that the typhoon had brought disaster to people but the love of the foundation had come to help them. He wished them the very best for their new life and encouraged them to build a community in which the residents provided warmth and support for each other. In her remarks, Vice-President Lin said that, for the residents, it was the happiest day of their life.



"The greatest wish of Master Cheng Yen is that each family can make a safe and happy home for themselves." She then presented to each family the keys for their new houses, as well as a book with a record of Typhoon Morakot and other gifts from the foundation. A representative of the Ministry of the Interior presented a gift of money to each family.

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Highly respected and honored, the Tzu Chi Foundation has been invited to participate in the Great Love Village project in South Taiwan. The project is a joint effort between the Tzu Chi Foundation and the local government to provide a better living environment for the elderly and disabled residents in the area. The project includes the construction of new housing units, the establishment of a community center, and the provision of various social services. The Tzu Chi Foundation is committed to supporting the project and providing the necessary resources and expertise to ensure its success.