

Yi-xuan Lin, a student of the Department of Social Work of Asia University: "Life is like a rainbow."

Yi-xuan Lin has been in a wheelchair since she was a child, but she remains optimistic as she is determined to be a medical social worker. This summer, she completed her internship in Fengyuan Hospital!



Photo: Yi-xuan Lin, a student of the Social Work Department of Asia University, interned in Fengyuan Hospital, took the initiative to help out during activities.

“I want to live like a rainbow, short but brilliant!” Yi-xuan Lin, a student of the Social Work Department of Asia University, who suffers from spinal muscular atrophy, is confined to an electric wheelchair. With the help from social workers, she decided to be a medical social worker. Therefore, she went to Fengyuan Hospital to do her summer internship. When Yi-xuan Lin completed her internship, she folded paper roses for the nursing home as a farewell gift, and the residents of the nursing home were deeply touched by the gesture.

Dr. He-chiun Liou, Director of the Department of Social Work at AU, has said that Yi-xuan Lin, currently a sophomore, was an outstanding student in Fengyuan Hospital. Recently, Yi-xuan Lin received the Presidential Education Award due to her hard work and courage.

Yi-xuan Lin, who suffers from spinal muscular atrophy, was affected by it when she was only one year old. She has found it difficult to move about since her childhood, and is confined to an electric wheelchair. Whenever she has to go somewhere, use the restroom, or bathe, she needs the assistance of others. It was only when she has to eat or use the computer that she needs no help from others. She has been living with this condition since her childhood. After receiving help from social workers, she became determined to be medical social workers in order to help other people.

Yi-xuan Lin has said that, when she was interning in Fengyuan Hospital from July 1 to August 26, at first she was very worried about inconveniencing others due to her immobility. Fortunately, that did not occur. She was very grateful to the hospital for the opportunity to intern there, as she learned many consultation skills and senior care skills when she was interacting with the patients.

Fortunately, the Department of Health and Welfare in Fengyuan Hospital has a large barrier-free bathroom, equipped with a machine that helps the handicapped.

Yi-xuan Lin has a cheerful and an infectious personality. She is particularly skillful with her hands, especially when it comes to folding papers or typing on the computer. Many elders from the nursing home, after participating in her group activities, received her bouquet of paper-folded roses, and praised it, saying that “the paper flower is as beautiful as the real one.”



Photo: Yi-xuan Lin, a student of the Social Work Department of Asia University, interning in Fenyuan Hospital. She learned how to conduct interviews and how to care for the patient's condition.

Yi-xuan Lin's cheerful and independent personality has also inspired many patients she was counseling. When they saw the optimistic and positive attitude she has towards life despite her struggles, they cannot help but wonder, "You can't walk, but you are still hard-working! We must be hard-working as well!"

Yi-xuan Lin and her little brother have Type Two spinal muscular atrophy. After the symptoms begin to show after 6 to 12 months, the patient is able to sit independently, but cannot walk unaided. Although statistics say that those affected by spinal muscular atrophy can live into adulthood, her brother, who was a year younger than she was, sadly passed away when he was in his third year of junior high school.

"To be able to live to 30 years old is pretty long!" Yi-xuan Lin said that she should use all the tests as a stepping stone to success, so as to not let her hard-working parents worry, and to make her future more colorful. In this limited lifetime, with all her greatest strengths, she wishes to have the most dazzling and wonderful time in her life, short but as brilliant as a rainbow.

Zi-juan Liu, Director of the Social Work Office at Fengyuan Hospital, said that this was a part of Yi-xuan Lin's dream. With the internship experience, Yi-xuan Lin has taken a step towards the goal of being a medical social worker. Moreover, despite being unable to move, run, or jump around, she can do a number of other things. The most valuable thing that she did was planting the seed to help others. Once the seed grows into a beautiful flower, she can provide help and care, just as the soil nurtures a flower.