

## **Sichuan School Children Create Special Birthday Cake to Celebrate Cigna & CMB 10th Anniversary in China**

**Shenzhen, Thursday September 12, 2013** – School children at Cigna & CMB Hope School in Sichuan have painted 'Dream' birthday cakes to celebrate Cigna & CMB Life Insurance Company's 10th Anniversary in the China market.

A celebratory cake, based on one of the paintings, unveiled as part of Cigna & CMB's anniversary Town Hall celebrations, attended by guests and Global President and CEO of Cigna Corporation Mr. David Cordani, who was joined by China Merchants Bank President Mr. Tian Huiyu, Cigna & CMB Chairman, Mr. Zhang Guanghua and Mr. Steven Sun, the recently appointed CEO and General Manager of Cigna & CMB.

The culinary creation was baked and designed based on the 'Birthday Dream Cake' paintings specially painted by the children in Cigna & CMB Hope School in Guangyuan, Sichuan. The school was destroyed by the Sichuan earthquake in May 2008.

Cigna & CMB, working with China Youth Development Foundation, an organization that works to help develop schools in rural China, together with company staff and employees, helped raise a total of RMB 1 Million in funds to rebuild two Hope schools - Yi He Elementary School in Ziyang City and Tian Xiong Cun School, Guangyuan, in 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Since 2009, Cigna & CMB employees have continued their support by undertaking voluntary teaching at both schools. To mark the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Cigna & CMB's joint venture's success in delivering health and financial insurance protection products and services in China, the company is now committing a further RMB 80,000 to build Hope kitchens in both schools, to enable pupils and teachers to enjoy healthy meals at schools.

"The children were thrilled to hear the news of their new school kitchen," said the Cigna & CMB Guangyuan Hope School Principal. "The donation will provide the opportunity for about 500 pupils and teachers at both schools to enjoy nutritious meals during their school day.

"We therefore thought that the best way for the children to say 'Thank You' would be to continue the food theme and arrange for a surprise birthday cake to celebrate Cigna & CMB's special day.

"The children have enjoyed painting their 'Dream Cake' pictures, from which a winning design was chosen to create the actual cake," he said.

"The children's anniversary cake was a wonderful present and the perfect way to celebrate this important milestone for Cigna & CMB," said Mr. Steven Sun, CEO and General Manager of Cigna & CMB.

"Our senior executives, including Cigna Corporation President and CEO Mr. David Cordani, China Merchants Bank President Mr. Tian Huiyu and Cigna & CMB Chairman, Mr. Zhang Guanghua, were extremely touched by this gesture from the children and the school, and reminded of how important our role is to be an active member of the community"

"The Project Hope schools initiative is one of a number of community related projects and activities in

which Cigna & CMB is actively involved with in China. We are looking forward to completing the construction of the two schools' Hope kitchens, which we anticipate will be operational a little later this year."

The anniversary celebrations mark a decade of success since the formation, in 2003, of the joint venture Cigna & CMB Life Insurance Company Limited - a partnership between global health service company Cigna Corporation and China Merchants Group - delivering life, personal accident and hospital insurance to customers in China.

Over the last decade, Cigna & CMB has grown into a business of approximately 4,600 employees that serves well over one million active policy holders across eleven provinces in China.

### **About Cigna & CMB**

Cigna & CMB Life Insurance Co., Ltd. ("Cigna & CMB") was established by Cigna and China Merchants Bank. Founded in 1792, Cigna Corporation is one of the largest insurance companies in the US. As early as 1897, a Cigna predecessor company was the 1st American insurance company operating insurance business in China granted by the Qing Dynasty Government. Cigna & CMB was awarded Best Foreign Life Insurance Company Award in China for two consecutive years in 2008 and 2009 by China Financial Times and The Institute of Finance and Banking of Chinese Academy of Social Science. Cigna & CMB topped in the overall competency ranking among all joint venture life insurers in China in the 2010 Asia Insurance Competency Ranking Research Report conducted by California State University, Fullerton (CSUF) and 21st Century Business Herald. For more information about Cigna & CMB, Pls. visit [www.cigna-cmc.com](http://www.cigna-cmc.com)