

TAIWAN



St. Raphael's Opportunity Centre: welfare and care for the disabled

St. Raphael's is a modern and well-organized day care centre for children and adults with developmental disabilities ranging from moderate to severe. Founded by a US Catholic sister in the 1970s, today St. Raphael's treats 210 children and adults through education, therapy and work training from their wonderful project base by the seashore in Anping, one of Taiwan's oldest settlements.

The social and development issues addressed by this project:

- **Specialized Treatment:** As in many countries around the world, the plight of developmentally challenged people in Taiwan has long been ignored, resulting in a lack of adequate specialized treatment facilities, and therefore poor integration into society. St. Raphael's employs multi-disciplinary teams of specialized educators, social workers and therapists to tailor specific care programs for each individual.

PROJECT PROFILE

- **Integration:** St. Raphael's focuses on developing patients' potential as independent individuals, with the ultimate aim of enabling them to participate in the everyday life in the community at large.
- **Inequality:** St. Raphael's patients pay on a means-tested basis, meaning that those with the least to give pay the least.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) addressed by this project:

- 3. Good Health & Wellbeing
- 4. Quality Education
- 10. Reduced Inequalities
- 16. Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Learning outcomes for students

- **Independence & Resilience:** Students will be taken outside of their comfort zone to build resilience and independence.
- **Teamwork:** Team work and collaboration with their fellow students and the staff and patients at St. Raphael's.
- **Insight:** First hand insight into the real practical and emotional traumas faced by developmentally challenged children and adults in Taiwan.
- **Cultural Exchange:** Students will have the opportunity to learn about Taiwanese culture and life, both through their interactions at St. Raphael's and through the extra-curricular program which will incorporate a wide range of topics including geography, history, religion and cuisine. In return students can share some of their Korean culture.

PROJECT PROFILE

Partnership

In Taiwan, World Youth Adventures partners with St Raphael Opportunity Centre, founded on 23 December, 1974, and has been legally registered with the City Government of Tainan as a social welfare organization since 1982. <http://www.straphael.org.tw/en/com02.htm>