

Foreign Volunteers Join Ningbo Locals in Fighting COVID-19

Striving towards a modern coastal metropolis
建设现代化滨海大都市

Ningbo, an international metropolis in Eastern China—has been attracting a rising number of foreigners from all over the world. Recent data show that about 5,300 expats now live in this coastal city.

作为国际化的大都市,宁波正吸引着越来越多的外国人。数据显示,目前常住宁波的外国人有5300人左右。

Since April 5th, Ningbo has been staging a citywide fight to prevent a COVID-19 resurgence. Prevention and control measures have been strengthened and a number of local regions began to implement nucleic acid testing for all their residents. Quite a few expats in Ningbo have joined the anti-epidemic fight as volunteers.

4月5日以来,宁波打响了一场疫情防控阻击战,多地启动全员核酸检测。在防疫一线,很多高鼻梁的老外志愿者穿上“红马甲”,和宁波人一起共克时艰。

“Go straight on and show your Alipay Health Code please.” On the afternoon of April 11th, Ehsan—a volunteer from Iran—came to help, wearing a face shield and mask as well as a blue dust protection coverall. He came to assist the restoration of order for the nucleic acid testing site at the North Square of Yinzhou Park (Phase 2).

“往前走,往前走,请打开支付宝健康码……”4月11日下午,鄞州公园二期北广场临时核酸检测采样点多了一名特殊的志愿者,他是来自伊朗的伊桑先生(Ehsan)。他戴着隔离面罩,穿着防护服正在现场维持秩序,全程带笑,步步生风。

“No rush, take your time. And keep a one-meter distance.” “Please log in Alipay and show your Health Code.” “Please line up here if you hold Yellow Code.” Ehsan greeted the community residents in fluent Putonghua (Mandarin) with a local accent.

“大家保持一米线,慢慢来!” “请打开支付宝,出示下健康码!” “黄码在这边排队,往前走!”他一口带着宁波味的普通话,引来很多居民的好奇。



Ehsan maintained the on-site order.



Sara participated as a volunteer.

Ehsan was born in the 1990s. This 31-year-old Iranian volunteer moved to Ningbo at the end of 2014 and is now engaged in international trade.

伊桑是个90后,今年31岁,2014年年底来到宁波,从事外贸相关工作。

“I've been highly concerned with the novel coronavirus outbreak in Ningbo and sincerely hope to lend a helping hand.” Ehsan offered to register as a volunteer in the Huifeng Community on April 11th. Though having worked around four hours at the testing site, he remained energetic, with a bright smile when helping maintain order.

“宁波发生疫情以来我一直都在关注,很希望能尽一份绵薄之力。”4月11日,他主动找到惠风社区报名当志愿者,在现场忙碌了三四个小时,虽然T恤早已湿了,但伊桑依旧笑脸相迎,引导居民有序排队。

To Ehsan, Ningbo is a highly-civilized modern metropolis. “I love to live in Ningbo. Its living environment is pleasant, with efficient governance of local authorities and very nice local residents.”

来宁波7年多时间,伊桑认为这是一座文明的现代化都市。“这里生活环境舒适,政府办事效率高,而且宁波人都很和善,我很享受在宁波的生活。”

Isidro from Spain now lives in the Metropolis Forest Community of Zhonggongmiao Sub-District of Yinzhou District. As a music teacher at an international school in Ningbo, he is popular among students and called Teacher Yi.

来自西班牙的Isidro住在鄞州

区钟公庙街道都市森林社区,他是宁波一所国际学校的音乐老师,学生们都喜欢亲切地喊他——伊老师。

On the early morning of April 9th, Isidro queued up with other residents of the Metropolis Forest Community for nucleic acid testing. This Spanish Teacher Yi was deeply touched by the hard work of medical workers, patient guidance of volunteers, and close cooperation of local residents.

4月9日,都市森林社区开展全员核酸检测,Isidro一早就去排队了。看到“大白”们忙碌的身影,小区居民有序排队,志愿者耐心引导,他被这一幕深深打动了。

After lunch that day, Teacher Yi played the clarinet in the community, with social distance and a face shield on. The residents were attracted by his lovely melody.

当天午饭后,伊老师在小区吹奏单簧管,美妙的音乐吸引了很多居民。他自觉和居民们保持着安全距离,并戴上防护面罩。

After three years' stay in Ningbo, Isidro has already taken this coastal city as his second hometown. “Music can empower us with strength. I hope to cheer up people with my expertise,” he replied in our interview. To his great happiness, his play received warm applause and heartfelt smiles from the community residents.

Isidro来中国3年多了,宁波早已成为他的第二故乡。“音乐会给我们力量,我希望用自己擅长的方式给大家打打气。”伊老师说,他吹奏时,居民都热情地给他掌声,队伍里的笑脸也多了。

Compared with Isidro, Sara—an Iranian girl volunteer—has been involved in local anti-pandemic prevention for a much longer period. Ever since last June, she began to provide bilingual services in vaccination and other anti-pandemic issues for expats in Ningbo and residents of Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan. Sara is widely praised for her patience and passion.

相比之下,来自伊朗的女孩Sara做防疫志愿服务的时间更长一些。去年6月份开始,她为在甬的外国人和港澳台居民提供双语服务,帮助他们解决新冠疫苗接种等问题,她的耐心和热情收获了大家的一致好评。

This Iranian girl, 20 years old, is a sophomore, able to speak Chinese, English, Persian, and Japanese; in particular, her Chinese is very fluent. Having lived in Ningbo for eighteen years, she is an experienced volunteer.

今年20岁的Sara是一名大二在读学生,会说英文、波斯语和日语,中文也相当流利。她在宁波居住长达18年,经常参与志愿活动。

For Sara, volunteer work is a terrific experience and it is always a pleasure to help others. “I'm proud to be able to make contributions to Ningbo, where I've lived and received education for almost a decade.”

她说,做志愿服务的体验很棒,能帮助别人很开心。“能成为对这个养育我十多年的城市有用的人,是我的骄傲!”

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