

Fuzhou Social Welfare Institute Report: April, 2013

Altrusa International of Longview-Kelso Foundation

Working Together With Amity Foundation in China

1. General Information

- a) **Institute Director:** Zhou Ling (周凌)
- b) **Institute Vice-Director:** Zhou Youping (周幼平)
- c) **Children's Ward Director:** Fu Suhua (付素华)
- d) **Amity Foster Care Coordinators:** Wang Fang (王芳), Huang Qing (黄青) (Monthly interviews)
- e) **Number of Children:** 11 children sponsored in foster care by Altrusa, ~10 children sponsored by Holt; the orphanage has more than 60 children, but this number often changes

2. Overall Impression

Orphanage: The number of children in the Fuzhou Orphanage is larger than before. Most of the children are disabled and many are afflicted with Cerebral Palsy. About 20 of the children are between the ages of 1 month and 2 years, while 10 children are between 3-6 years old and 10 are in school and between the ages of 6 and 15.

Altrusa/Amity Foster Care Program: Many of the children in foster care suffer from congenital heart disease, cleft lip and palate, blindness, or Cerebral Palsy, etc. The children with Cerebral Palsy are prone to seizures, especially in the springtime. To help minimize the seizures, these children take oral medication prescribed by a doctor.

3. Interviews

- a) Met with our 11 children in their foster homes (individual reports will be sent to each child's sponsor). Below are two photos of Ms Luo from Amity visiting the foster families and a few more foster children are highlighted at the end of this report.
- b) Met with sponsored students (individual reports will be sent to their sponsor)
- c) Met with our two Altrusa Hugging Grandmas



4. Amity Grandmas

Grandma Wu Fangni is responsible for caring for the disabled children and helping them with their basic education and physical development. When we visited this time, Grandma Wu was helping this child who has difficulty walking because of a foot deformity, so Grandma Wu helps to improve her foot flexibility through massage and physical therapy. She can now crawl better than before and is slowly learning how to stand and walk. Her overall strength has improved in a short amount of time!



When we visited this time, Grandma Liu was helping this sweet girl learn how to talk. She is three years old and has a skin disorder. Her intelligence and physical strength are not as strong compared with other healthy children her age, so Grandma Liu helps her to exercise and improve her mental and physical capabilities. Slowly this girl has been improving and can now walk for a short period of time when Grandma Liu holds her hands.



5. Scholarship Students



FSH is a second year student at the Fuzhou School for the Disabled. He gets along very well with his classmates and studies very hard in his classes. After he completes his homework, he participates in school activities. He earns good grades in his classes and for fun likes to talk with his friends and play games. His teachers all would like him to improve his ability to take care of himself and hope next semester to see some improvements.



FWH is growing up fast and looking more and more like an adult. He has also matured in his attitude and has become more caring and understanding towards others. In class, he is eager to help his classmates or his teacher, and everyone likes him and gets along well with him inside and outside of class. He has good grades in school, although his Chinese class has become more difficult for him. When he does not understand something, his teachers always help him and he slowly understands the material better. He still enjoys P.E. class and his grade is especially high in this class. He also enjoys drawing for fun. He can take care of himself and his studies without assistance.

6. A few of our Foster Children

FGH can walk when leaning against an object or if someone holds one of his hands. His language ability has improved greatly and he can now say many different phrases such as, “I want to drink water” or “I want to eat”, etc. He has a healthy appetite and likes to eat scrambled eggs, porridge, etc. He is learning how to say goodbye and welcome people to his home. For fun he likes to listen to music and dance to the rhythm. (Pictured with his older foster sister)



FXF has a healthier appetite than before, so she has gained some weight in the past year. She can take of herself and most of her everyday needs. Her foster mother has taught her how to do simple tasks for herself. FXF never leaves her grandmother's side. She helps her do housework, such as washing the clothes or cutting vegetables. She has become more and more familiar with these tasks and is a big help around the house. She has also become better behaved towards her foster family and listens to her grandmother.

