

Dec 18, 2010 Ganzhou City Zhanggong District Social Welfare

## Institute Interview Report

### 1. Background Information

- a) **Institute Director:** Ding Kelang (丁克浪)
- b) **Head of the Children's Division:** Xie Hong (谢红)
- c) **Head(s) of Foster Care:** Xie Jingming (谢晶明) (Assistant Head of the Foster Care Office) and Qian Weiping (潜卫平).
- d) **Number of Children:** Altrusa/Amity sponsors 20 children for foster care. Forty children live at the Institution itself and seven children are now rehabilitating in Guangci Welfare Institute of Shanghai, and there will be another seven children go there at the end of the month.
- e) **Physical Exam and Vaccination Protocols:** Children are given physical exams semi-annually. Foster care children are taken at regular intervals to an epidemic prevention station for vaccinations.

### 2. Overall Impression of the Institute

Most of the children now living in Ganzhou City Zhanggong District Social Welfare Institute are disabled and have conditions such as congenital heart disease, cleft lip and/or palate, blindness, or cerebral palsy (see the pictures 1,2, and 3). Arrangements have been made for those children requiring surgeries. The children living in the orphanage are being taken care of by orphanage workers and the Hugging Grannies. Many of the children in Disabled Division have mental retardation or cerebral palsy. The Grannies help them do rehabilitation training and with this the children gradually improve. For example, they go from needing to be supported or holding on to stand, to standing up on their own and then taking some steps while holding the hand of the Grannies or staff. Rehabilitation training requires the children's cooperation and the Grannies long-term persistence and many of the children have succeeded. The Grannies are always very glad to see the progress the children are making and hope they can continue to make more progress.



**Picture 1 ( one with cleft palate, the other blind )**



**Picture 2 ( child with CP )**



**Picture 3 (child with cleft palate)**

### **3. Interviews**

- a) Interviewed foster care families and 20 foster children. The reports on the foster children and their photos will be sent to the individual sponsors for their foster care and schooling.
- b) Amity Grandmas: Met with the Hugging Grannies Qi Hongying, Zhong Xiaoli, Zhong Lieyuan, Xiao Houying, and Zhou Longxiao. The five Hugging Grannies take turns on duty in the children's department and disability department as well, working a half day in either the morning or afternoon. They accompany children to the hospital when they are sick, help the children do rehab exercises, play with them, educate them and provide some of their routine daily care. Leaders from the institute are happy with the work of the Grannies and say, "I feel very honored that these grandmothers could serve for our children and bring children so much happiness. For the common goal, the institute appreciates grandmothers' work, we believe that our children could grow up healthy just like non-orphaned children.. They are very much needed to serve these vulnerable children and to bring them happiness and love."



Qi Hongying and child at local hospital

Amity staff person Ms. Luo met grandmother Qi as she was accompanying a child to the hospital. She took care of him there and talked with him during the exams and treatment so the child received the medical treatment smoothly.



Zhong Xiaoli helps a girl with cerebral palsy

Ms. Luo met grandmother Zhong on the fourth floor. Children on this floor are older and disabled, some with low IQ and some with cerebral palsy. They need special care from Grannies, especially supporting them to do rehab. For a CP child, it can take a lot of rehab and work until the child is able to do the basic activities of daily living. People often can't image how hard the rehab work is for a CP child and it

takes a lot of encouragement which is the most important work that the Grannies do. In the past the child pictured above could only stand for brief periods while supported and could only speak some simple short phrases. Now with rehab from the Grannies this girl is walking with a walker and can even move the walker on the stairs slowly. She can now take care of herself and go to the bathroom by herself. How hard the rehab is! Now that she can do so many things by herself she is much happier. The rehab course can be hard and boring and sometimes this girl wouldn't cooperate well, but with the Grannies' love and persistence she has made great progress.



Zhou Longxiao outside with orphanage children

Ms. Luo met grandmother Zhong on the second floor on that day. Grandmother Zhou is a kind and careful person. Even though she just has worked at the institute for nine months, children there are very attached to her and they call her Zhou Nainai as soon as she comes. She loves those children very much, she plays with them, tells stories, teaches them to express themselves with words, and teaches them songs and dances. The children all make progress day by day with her teaching, this also brings the children some formative education. Grandmother Zhou often takes children out to play, and tells them all the interesting and fresh things, children can remember some of those even if they have a lower IQ than normal children. The picture above shows they are playing outside on the lawn. During their snack time Grandmother Zhou wipes the children's hands and asks them to sit in line and then she distributes them the pomelo.



Xiao Houying

Grandmother Xiao has worked the longest time, she is serious and careful and is a very kind and experienced grandmother, she loves these children very much. The picture above shows grandmother Xiao accompanying a girl to receive medical treatment. Grandmother Xiao sat beside her and comforted her, fed her some snacks and kept praising her so the girl remained calm.



Ms. Luo met grandmother Zhong Lieyuan on the second floor. The younger children all gathered on this floor, most of them can walk independently, but are weaker than their peers on cognition and language. When it's sunny, grandmother Zhong likes to take children play outside on the lawn. During the play time, she pays attention to better ways of communicating with them, she always speaks more slowly and clearly. The children often can learn some knowledge from grandmother Zhong as she often asks them to touch, feel and describe things they observe, such as is it red or green? Soft or hard? Smells good or bad...etc. these all help children grow better. In this photo grandmother told the child what the thing is, asked her what the colors are and helped her to play. See how happy the girl is!

The four children on the next page still need a sponsor for their kindergarten costs which are \$155 per student for the year. If a year is too much we'd love to have you donate a semester of support (\$78) or any amount that you are able. Donations should be mailed to: Altrusa Foundation, Attn: Peggy Gurrad, PO Box 1354, Longview, WA 98632. Or you can donate through [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com) – my e-mail address, [peggy@gurrad.com](mailto:peggy@gurrad.com), will take you to the Altrusa account. Donations to help the Hugging Grannies can be made in the same way (\$55 per month stipend for each).





Three year old boy with a club foot.



Healthy three year old boy.



Three year old boy with a lower extremity deformity



Four year old girl with cerebral palsy.