

# GanZhou Social Welfare Institute Report

*Visit by Peggy Gurrad*

June 2013



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Director: Director Ding  
Secretary: Secretary Jiang  
Vice Director: Vice Director Wang  
Number  
Of Children: 70 children, 25 of which  
Altrusa supports and are in foster care

## OVERALL IMPRESSION

Director Ding, away at a meeting at the time we visited, has been director for 16 years. The other administration staff have also been there for many years and thus have a stable team that works well together for the benefit of the children.

The Altrusa / Amity Hugging Grannies have also been the same for several years.

Amity Foundation feels that this staff is honest and follows the requirements of Amity's programs well. They like working with this SWI staff.

The vice directors mentioned that they don't have a new building like many of the SWI's but instead focus their resources on the care of the children. They would welcome any comments or suggestions for improvement.

They have 70 children but only the 25 Altrusa/Amity sponsored kids are in foster care. There are 12 children at the Shanghai Guangxi rehab center, a privately run facility. The other children live at the orphanage. Children from birth through 3 years old are in the "children's unit" on two different floors. The older kids with more severe disabilities are in a different building. We sponsor 9 children in kindergarten and 11 in primary school and sponsor one in nursing school.



## How to donate:

- blue "donate now" button at [www.altrusa.info](http://www.altrusa.info),
- Paypal to [peggy@gurrad.com](mailto:peggy@gurrad.com)
- mail a check to:

Altrusa International of  
Longview-Kelso Foundation  
Attn: Peggy Gurrad  
PO Box 1354  
Longview, WA 98632

[peggy@gurrad.com](mailto:peggy@gurrad.com)

[www.altrusa.info](http://www.altrusa.info)

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*Hugging Grannies*

June 2013

## HUGGING GRANNIES

Left to right: 1) Hugging Granny Zhou Long Xiao (white coat) with child who has congenital heart disease but has not had surgery. 2) Hugging Granny Zhong Lie Yuan (blue dress) with ZYL, a little girl with deformed legs. One of staff says they were told by a doctor there is nothing they could do but wait until she is older, like age 16 and then amputate both legs. The Grannies say she is “so smart”. She learns things very fast and is able to talk. She is not quite two years old. When she first arrived she was very thin and weak but now that she has gained weight and is much stronger. They will prepare her papers to turn in for international adoption. 3) Mimi with Hugging Granny Xiao Hou Ying and child with CP.



Ganzhou would like to find a foster home for ZYX. She was placed in a foster home but was returned to the SWI as she required too much care.



## GROUP PHOTO

left to right: Mr. Jiang (secretary), Ms. Xie (in charge of foster care), Mimi (friend of Megan), Mr. Qian (in charge of foster care), Megan (Peggy's daughter), Peggy Gurrad, Zhou Bo, Mr. Wang (vice director), Ms. Xie (in charge of administration office, Director of Children's Department and in charge of adoption affairs)



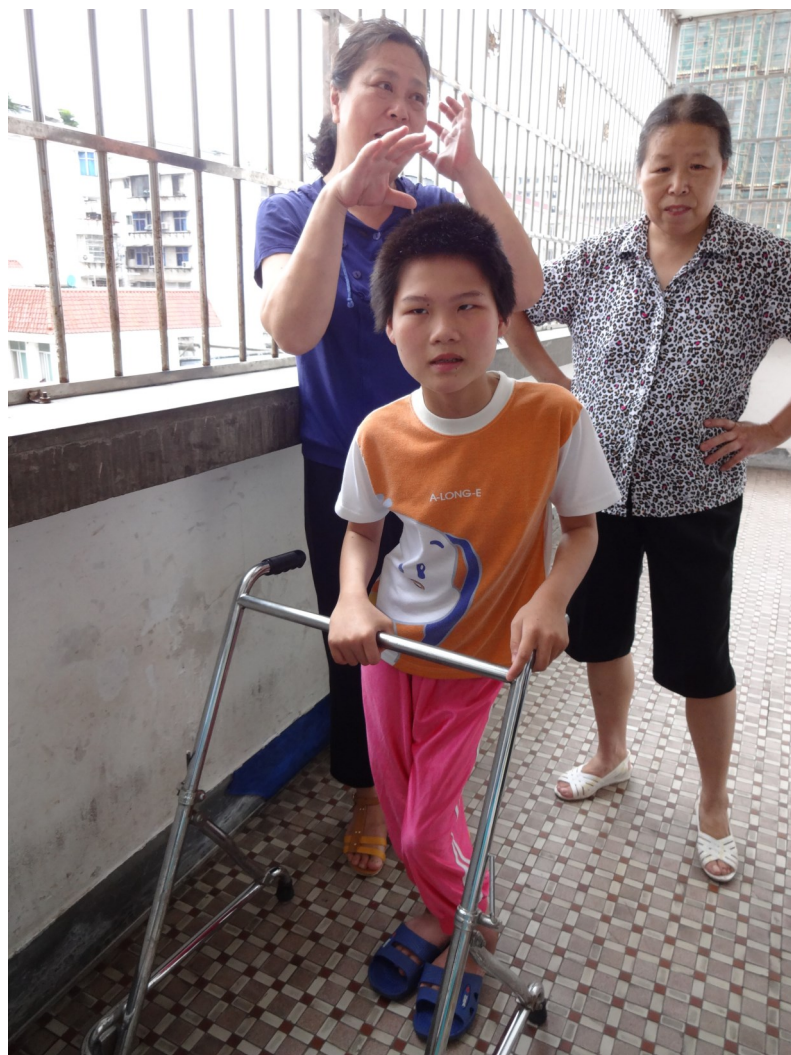
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## *Older Kids Living at Ganzhou SWI*

June 2013

ZL, below, with walker purchased by Altrusa. Hugging Grannies say “it has really helped her” and she can now move about independently.

Also below, Hugging Granny Qi Hong Ying (leopard print shirt) and Hugging Granny Zhong Xiao Li (navy blue shirt) who have both been volunteering as Grannies for 11 years. Last year they attended the Amity Grandma conference in Nanjing and were very excited about what they learned there. They had a very animated conversation with Zhou Bo about how useful the information was. ZYL, child with deformed legs, pictured with Hugging Grannies on P.1 (centre) is one example they gave. Before the conference they thought helping this child was of no value but they learned how important it is to start early to get her stronger and now she is doing great.



Walking to the other building (top) where the older children are, looking back at Children’s Building (bottom). Hugging Grannies tell us these children are very challenging. Many are require heavy care since they can’t go to the bathroom independently and also they need to keep them busy with activities such as singing together so they don’t do some less desirable behaviors such as scratching themselves.





# GanZhou Social Welfare Institute Report

## *Foster Families*

June 2013

### FOSTER FAMILY 1



*Happiness is having a family who loves you.*



ZXY, above with foster father, in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, has school awards (yellow certificates) on the wall . She was able to say some simple phrases in English to us. She wants to become a Chinese teacher. She wrote an essay about her foster grandmother, who died last year, which won an award. The foster parents would like to adopt ZXY but if they did that then their son would no longer be able to have two children (since he is an “only child” married to an “only child” they can have two kids). But their son is very fond of ZXY and says he will take care of her if his parents were to die. The SWI wanted to find a permanent (adoptive) home for ZXY but she wouldn’t sign giving permission because she doesn’t want to leave her foster family.

ZQX (younger child) with special need listed as “Dwarf”. Estimated birthdate of Feb. 2009 which would make her 4 years old but she could be 6 or 7





# GanZhou Social Welfare Institute Report

## *Foster Families*

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### FOSTER FAMILY 2

Our second foster fosters three children which usually isn't allowed but this is an experienced foster mom who is a director of a kindergarten. These children are older so caring for three of them in the evening after school seems easy to her compared to a kindergarten full of children. When we visited, the children in the kindergarten were taking a nap. The oldest child, LTT was home for lunch from her primary school. As we left she and a friend (presumably a child from the community) were walking back to school together. This is one of the advantages of the children being in a foster family, they are part of the community and have friends and neighbors that aren't orphans.

ZYH (green sleeves) -has CHD and surgery was done in Nanjing through the "Hopeful Heart" Amity program. Papers have been sent in for international adoption

ZYF (being held, shirt with orange stripes) has hydrocephalus.





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## *Foster Families*

June 2013

### FOSTER FAMILY 3

Our third family fosters one child, ZXW (right), who is in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at the same school as LTT (family 2) and does well in school. She would like to enter a “key” school called Number 1 Middle School. She gets very good grades in Chinese and Math but not as good in English. She has been in this foster family since she was three years old and also turned down international adoption (and domestic adoption) because she doesn’t want to leave her foster family. This family is in the same situation as the first family. They would like to adopt ZXW but if they did then their son would no longer be able to have two children. He has one so far but by the time he has a second child Xiao Wei will likely be 14 years old which is too old to be adopted.

“Where there is love there is life.”

... Mahatma Gandhi



### FOSTER FAMILY 4

Our 4th family fosters one child, ZSK (left) who they have fostered since she was 3 months old. Her foster mom is too old to adopt her but is very attached to this girl. She talks about ZSK and her dancing and singing at great length. She has many photos of her in different costumes and performances and keeps them locked up for safe-keeping. This girl can dance and sing (including opera) quite well and an Altrusa sponsor has paid for her to have some lessons. Her teacher at school says she’s very talented in art. She did a dance for us and then sang a song. The foster mom continued to tell us all about ZSK. She is good at memorizing all the words of an opera and can play different roles such as a boy and an old man. She hopes ZSK can make dancing her career and works on ZSK’s flexibility regularly. The foster mom plans to take ZSK to a compete in Hong Kong and is willing to pay the costs (RMB3000) which would be three months of her retirement salary. (I told her we would pay for this). The foster mom has two grown sons and two grandsons. She “always wanted a daughter” and she “regards ZSK as her own daughter”.

