

Gao'an Social Welfare Institute Report

March 6, 2011

1. General Information

- a) **Institute Director:** Huang Zhiyong (黄志勇)
- b) **Institute Vice-Director:** Ao Chujing (敖春景), also head of the Amity Foster Care Project at the Institute.
- c) **Number of Children:** the Institute is responsible for over 20 children, among whom Amity sponsors 13 for foster care, while the Institute sponsors more than 10. 2 to 3 children reside at the Institute itself.
- d) **Physical Exam and Vaccination Protocols:** foster mothers bring the children to their assigned epidemic prevention centers for physical check-ups and vaccinations on the 20th of every month.

2. Overall Impression

The majority of the Gao'an Social Welfare Institute's foster children live in homes which are considered to be fairly nice for the area. The foster families provide very well for the children, both materially and in terms of support in their studies and daily lives. The Institute staff makes regular visits to all foster homes in order to monitor the children's home lives and emotional health, as well as to resolve any issues which arise.

3. Interviews

Met with 13 foster children and their foster families. A report on each child, with a photo, was sent to their school sponsor and foster care sponsor. See a few highlights below.

Also met with our other sponsored school child (not in foster care) who is a 17 year in special education school.



Her report says: She continues to be her teacher's helpful assistant. She is very solicitous of all her classmates, and so naturally is well-liked by them all. Because the teachers trust her, and because she is more mature than the rest of the students, she not only acts as monitor for her class but also keeps the key to the school's front gate—in fact, she is the one who opened the gate for us when we went to visit! She usually returns to the Institute on the weekends, walking back on Friday afternoons and taking the bus to school on Monday mornings.

And a few of our foster kids:



From her report: Thanks to her foster family's love and support, this 13 year old girl is flourishing both personally and academically. Her foster mother provides her with everything she wants and needs—new clothes, her favorite snacks, and extra tuition money for cram classes when necessary. We see in her upbeat and positive attitude how the family environment has benefited her mental and emotional health.



Pictured above is an 11 year old girl we sponsor in foster care who is undergoing medical treatment. She is continuing her regimen of oral drugs, followed by trips to the hospital for follow-up exams and new prescriptions if appropriate. Her spirits have improved along with her condition. She can now play and run around with other children, and once her condition stabilizes she will be able to go back to school. She can't wait to go back to school and was very happy to hear that she would be able to start again once she got better.



Her reports says: Larger than most other children her age, she is an adorably chubby baby who rarely gets sick and is developing well on all fronts. Her eyes are alert and her reactions quick; you can see how she is watching your expression whenever you speak to her. She laughs easily, especially when you play with her. She is very attached to her foster mother and likes to be held by her. She is currently on a feeding schedule of 180ml of milk every two hours. She sleeps soundly.