

Jingdezhen Social Welfare Institute Report: Nov. 14, 2011

1. General Information

- a) **Institute Director:** Director Zhou (male) (Note: Director Zhou returned to his original work about one month ago, so the director position is currently open. For the time being, Secretary Xiang Xueyun is taking charge of the Institute's management affairs.)
- b) **Institute Vice-Director:** Li Xiaoyan, Vice-Director Wei, Vice-Director Niu (all female)
- c) **Head of the Children's Ward:** Director Wu
- d) **Head of Amity Foster Care:** Pan Yuzhi (In charge of interviews, visits twice a month and files a report for each child)
- e) **Number of Children:** There are roughly 40 children at the Institute, 20 of who are sponsored by Altrusa (through Amity) and are in foster homes. Five other children are in foster homes, ten others live in the Institute. A majority of the children have Cerebral Palsy or mental disabilities.
- f) **Physical Exam and Vaccination Protocols:** Each month the children return to the orphanage once to receive a physical exam and vaccinations.

2. Overall Impression

The Jingdezhen Social Welfare Institute center has provided the children with a happy life. The children are thriving in their foster homes in terms of improving their physical and mental capabilities. The foster families are meticulous in their care for their children and are incredibly warm and loving towards them. Slowly but surely, the children are growing up and experiencing changes, but are continuing to lead happy and stable lives. This is in part thanks to our generous sponsors, who care about these children and their families. From orphanage staff to our sponsors, "Thank you so much for supporting and loving them and believing in these children and our Institute".

2. Notes

- a) At the orphanage, we saw many different activities and exercises for children with Cerebral Palsy and mental retardation to improve their hand coordination (Picture 1). There is currently only one teacher to help the children. She often works in the living room and helps the children with simple physical therapy exercises.



Picture 1

- b) Currently, the Institute is expanding into its facility and will move into this building upon completion (Picture 2). In this new building, there will be a brand new physical therapy room for children to do their exercises.



Picture 2

3. Interviews

- a) Met with our scholarship student:



This 20 year old young man, an orphan that grew up at the Jingdezhen orphanage, is now college at a technical college where he is majoring in computer software and design. We need \$1053 to pay for his schooling this year. From his report: His grades are quite good and he gets along well with his classmates. He enjoys his

psychology class very much and is eager to learn about different psychological problems because anyone might have them! He enjoys looking at his textbook for answers and then giving people advice about their problems as well. He has his own hobbies and particularly likes anything dealing with pictures. For example, he likes editing pictures to enhance their beauty or merge two or more together to make a new picture. He also enjoys designing his own websites and will often post his new pictures online for others to see. He still enjoys playing sports such as table tennis, which he has played since middle school. He lives by one phrase: believe in yourself. Then you will just have to wait to succeed!

- b) Met with 20 foster children and their families. Their individual report will be sent to their sponsor but here are a few of our sponsored foster children:



Eight month old who “loves to laugh and smile and be held in his foster mother’s arms”.



An almost three year old (on the left) with cleft lip and palate who ‘loves to sing and dance’ but is shy around strangers and a two and a half year old (on the right) who loves to play with friends and her foster sister.



Five year old boy with blindness and some other disabilities whose foster family is very attentive and does special exercises with him daily.



20 month old felt to have cerebral palsy. He was recently placed in this foster home after a period of intensive physical therapy at the orphanage and is “particularly close to his foster mother”.



An almost three year old with blindness and other physical disabilities (not yet able to walk) who loves to listen to music. Her foster mother does exercises with her daily.