7/19/2010 Jiujiang City Social Welfare Institution Interview Report

1. Background Information

- a) Institution Director: Wang Qianyong (王前勇) (transferred from Jiujiang city Bureau of Civil Affairs)
- b) Institution Vice-Directors: Director Liu (刘院长) (responsible for the Senior Citizens

 Department), Director Li (李院长) (responsible for the Nursing Center).
- c) Heads of the Amity Education sponsorship Project: Secretary Yu (余书记), Wu Jie (吴洁) (also head of the Children's Department).
- d) Number of Children: the Institution is responsible for approximately 100 children. The number is always changing, there are healthy children as well as special needs children such as those with heart disease and cerebral palsy. Among these Amity sponsors five for education sponsorship and the Institute pays for twenty children to be in foster care.

2. Overall Impression

- a) Foster family: There are two organizations sponsoring Jiujiang City Social Welfare Institution, one of which is Amity/Altrusa with their Hugging Granny Project and Education Sponsorship Project. The other is Half the Sky's The Baby Sisters Infant Nurture Program and The Little Sisters Preschool Program, which together have 6 grandmas, 4 preschool teachers and 1 tutor.
- **b)** Education Sponsorship children: There are five children sponsored by Altrusa. Among these, Cao HS and Cao JY both get good grades in school. They are similar in characters, genuine and lively. Being hard-working students, they have their own ideas and strive for their own goals industriously.

3. Interviews

a) Interviewed 5 scholarship children. Some information from their individual reports (which will be sent to their sponsors) includes:



This 12 year old boy attends Jiujiang City Bo'ai School for the Deaf. One of his "hobbies" is sign language storytelling. He gets good grades in school, scoring 95 in Chinese and 70 in Math in exams at the end of this term. He is not only hardworking in studies but also active in participating school's

many activities. Being lively and eager to help, he loves playing games with classmates.



This 18 year old girl with polio is in her second year of high school which is stressful with long hours. Her favorite hobby is drawing and she has some extra classes in this. In spite of the stress she is optimistic and enjoys chatting with her classmates. At the time of this visit she was home at the orphanage for summer vacation but during the school year stays at the school dormitory most of the time.



This 15 year old girl attends the Nanchang City School for the Blind and her favorite hobby is listening to music. She is home at the orphanage on summer break and then will be a fourth year student in the fall. She earns okay grades in minor subjects such as playing instrument and doing handwork but struggles with subjects like Chinese and math because she is "too fond of playing".



This 15 year old girl also attends the Nanchang City School for the Blind and is home at the institute for

summer vocation. Her favorite hobby is crafts. "Being hard-working in studies, she does homework and recites textbooks everyday. As a third-grade student, Jiaying is eager to help and earns fairly good grades, especially in Chinese and English. She has started learning writing compositions and diaries in the fall semester of third grade. She likes writing them and often earns praise from teachers."



This 18 year old boy is in middle school at Jiujiang City Bo'ai School for the Deaf. He struggles with school subjects but he is helpful not only to aunts in the institute but also to classmates and teachers within his ability in school; he is the "teachers' right hand".

b) Interviewed 5 Amity Grandmas.



Hugging Granny Cao Zhengmei is responsible for administering physical therapy to disabled children and developing their cognitive abilities. On the day we visited, she is giving recovery exercises to CA and ZZ. As CA cannot go upstairs and downstairs and ZZ needs adults' help in doing this, Grandma Cao trains them in this aspect. Due to bad balance ability in CA's legs and body he cannot walk steadily or step upstairs. Though making slow progress, he is at least able to walk upstairs during this period's exercises. While climbing steps, he is a little nervous and his body is too stiff to go up steps. At this moment, Grandma Cao asks CA to relax his body and she holds him by hands. With Grandma Cao's encouragement and training ZZ is able to climb steps with others' help.



Grandma Jiang Muzhen is responsible for administering physical therapy to disabled children and developing their cognitive abilities. She is currently working with two children, XX and CB. In the picture above XX is practicing going upstairs. And CB is now able to walk freely by himself. He cannot speak even though Grandma Jiang works hard on communication skills with him. He only expresses with body language when requires something. For example, he can point with fingers if he wants to fetch something.



Grandma Ouyang is responsible for administering physical therapy to disabled children and developing their cognitive abilities. Grandma Ouyang is currently working with MY and BB. MY (yellow shirt) has made some progress in cognition through Grandma's teaching again and again. She has recognized more colors and more shapes of pictures, and she is willing to communicate with children while playing. BB (orange shirt) can now walk more quickly than before but her hands are not flexible. But compared with before her hands have improved through Grandma Ouyang's massage.



Grandma Qian Haizhen is also responsible for administering physical therapy to disabled children and

developing their cognitive abilities. During this visit she is working with JY and XX. JY doesn't speek clearly and performs poorer than her peers in cognitive ability. On the day we visited Grandma Qian is teaching cognitive knowledge to JY who is able to recognize various shapes and colors now. XX cannot see well because of cataracts but she can speak simple daily language. Her cognitive ability is also lower than average. Grandma Qian talks and plays with her while teaching.



Grandma Zhong Yanqiu is responsible for administering physical therapy to disabled children and developing their cognitive abilities. On the day we visited, Grandma Zhong is playing with CX and ZY in the rehab room. CX, who has poor memory, can communicate with people more clearly than before. And she has improved her self-care ability in putting on clothes by herself. ZY's incidence of epilepsy is lower than last year and her spirit is better. ZY can now communicate with people clearly, she has better memory now and she can read after Grandma.