

Pingxiang Social Welfare Institute

Amity Report, July 2011

Altrusa International of Longview-Kelso Foundation
working together with Amity Foundation in China

PINGXIANG SWI STAFF & FACTS

Director: Zhong Hui

Institute Vice Directors:
Ouyang Ming

Head of Children's Dept.
and of Amity Foster Care:
Chen Xin

Total Number of Children
Sponsored: 12

Altrusa Foundation, working together with Amity Foundation in China, is providing foster care support for 12 children. All of children live in foster homes, and Altrusa also supports three Hugging Grannies to help enrich the childrens' lives.

In all, 30 children reside at the Institute itself; most have cerebral palsy or a cognitive disability. Foster children are given monthly physical exams in their foster homes, and brought at regular intervals to the nearest epidemic prevention center for vaccinations.



Visits from Amity staff
sometimes include gifts
for the children.



Hugging Grannies



Luo Xinping is a retired kindergarten teacher who has worked with us since 2007. In the benefit institute, Luo Xinping teaches older disabled children cognition, and disabled children singing. Grandma Luo teaches children singing, reading characters with illustrations, and playing games. After repetitive instruction, children now can sing every song Grandma has taught, and they can recite the exact lyrics of every song fluently. When teaching reading characters, Grandma Luo also adopts the method of repetitive teaching. While playing games, these children follow the instruction of Grandma Luo and finish the process based on exact order. Watching them playing games led by Grandma Luo, we are so happy to see their smiling faces!



Grandma Huang Yueling takes care of the disabled children and helps with their rehabilitation. Grandma Huang Yueling always treats children with patience: she

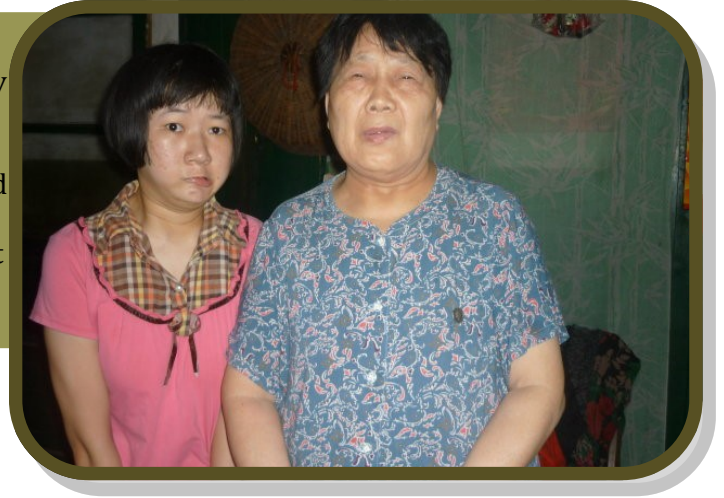
Grandma Hu Guilan is a substitute Grandma working with us while Grandma Liu Zhiwen is on leave for two weeks. The children enjoy Grandma Hu and often ask her to play. During games, Grandma Hu uses toys not only to entertain them, but to improve their ability for comprehension and physical activity. Below, Grandma Hu leads a game with balls. She tells them the color of the ball, and asks them to find more balls of the same color. Then they play catch. Some children can catch, while others cannot; some can go after lost balls, while others cannot. Grandma Hu offers those who cannot catch or chase different opportunities to participate. In this way, children can not only have fun but achieve some advancement as well.



observes children's behaviours carefully and corrects them in ways they can understand. Z., pictured above, is among the children who receive rehabilitation from Grandma Huang. He lacks strength in the legs, so Grandma Huang helps him stand. When standing, Z.'s feet always contract inward, so Grandma does massage for him, which improves his standing. Thanks to the help of Grandma Huang, his posture is improved, and he stands well with some assistance. Moreover, he can now balance himself better than before. In days to come, Z. will receive further training rehabilitation. We believe that with the careful attendance of grandmas, his leg strength will greatly increase. It is the hope of all grandmas that he can stand still and walk independently one day!

Some of Our Foster Children

D.N., 24, has cerebral palsy. She seldom plays outside due to the hot weather, but her grandma considers it harmful to always stay indoors. Therefore, grandma takes Nana to walk in the park or public square in the evening, and Nana agrees with this idea. Nana has reasonable schedule at home: after finishing household work, she sits down and relaxes by watching television or reading books. Sometimes, she simply chats with grandma about news and TV series.



H.L. is thirteen, and is now enjoying her summer vacation. She spends her days at the orphanage, looking after the younger children and playing with them, before returning to her foster family in the evening. H.L. has not improved much in her schoolwork, but her sports performance is excellent, and she is very excited about her growing prowess. She is good at keeping her things in order at home, and does her own light laundry.

H.D. is 12 and has cerebral palsy. She has grown taller and stronger, but is unable to walk. Being unable to walk independently, H.D. can sit in the "trolley" and move forward with her feet. She can "walk" like that freely in the living room, and move to the bedroom to turn on the television herself. She shares the bed with her grandma. H.D. has a good appetite: she has one bowl of rice for each meal and she likes banana and milk rather than apple.



More of Our Foster Children



Sixteen-year-old D.F. (on the right) plays the role of older sister to fourteen-year-old A.X. (left); both are orphans placed in this foster home together. D.F. goes everywhere with A.X.; she peels fruit and nuts for her, helps her get dressed, and takes her to the bathroom when they both wake up. D.F. is a fan of TV series and loves to take walks; their foster grandma takes both girls to walk outside every day after dinner. A.X. loves to eat cold things in the summer, so her grandma often buys ice cream for the girls. A.X. will ask her grandma for a second ice cream, and her grandma waves at her as if to say that eating too much ice cream will give her a stomachache. A.X. seems to understand, and stops asking for another. A.X. can eat and put on shoes by herself, but needs help getting dressed and taking a bath. She seldom smiles... except when playing with D.F.!



A.L. was four years old this June. She can walk with both hands held by her mother, and she can stand without help for some time. She can call "mom" and "dad" and is very talkative. She chatters all the time, and when no one answers, she shouts for her mom. She likes to play outdoors and gets excited seeing other children. She fancies cartoons as well, and giggles and laughs while watching. A.L. is good at imitating; she knows how to wave "hello" and "goodbye."



A.Y. is 8, and cannot express herself using language. Instead, she uses such sounds as "ah..." using the same sound for every purpose, from "I'm hungry" to "I dropped my toy." She has improved little in language, but her family members recently find that she calls "grandma" to her foster mother sometimes, while refusing to do so when requested. A.Y. is interested in the television remote controller. When she switches the channel using the remote controller, she curiously stares at the television and then looks at the controller. A.Y. likes a cool environment; she sleeps well only in a room with air conditioning.

Three ways to donate.

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Altrusa Foundation
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