

# May 8, 2010 Ruijin City Social Welfare Institute Interview

## Report

### 1. Background Information

- a) **Institute Director:** Director Liu (刘院长)
- b) **Institute Vice-Director:** Li Xiangyang (李向阳)
- c) **Head of the Children's Division:** Liu Ting (刘婷)
- d) **Heads of the Amity Project:** Vice-Director Li Xiangyang
- e) **Physical Exam and Vaccination Protocols:** foster children return to the Institute for physical exams once a month and visit the Ruijin City Epidemic Prevention Center at regular intervals for vaccinations.
- f) **Number of Children:** the Institute is responsible for approximately 50 children in all. Most of these children are living in foster homes.

### 2. Overall Impression

- a) There is currently only one child at this Institute who is being sponsored for foster care by the Amity Foster Care Project. Some other children are still at the Shanghai Guangci Social Welfare Institute receiving rehabilitation treatment; all the rest are living in foster families and funded for foster care by the Institute.
- b) The majority of the children at this Institute are disabled children. Their loving and responsible foster families are giving them the meticulous care and warmth of a family!

### 3. Interviews

- a) **Amity Grandmas:** There are two Amity Grandmas at the Ruijin Institute: Guo Ruijuan and Yang Feng. Former Grandma Liu Yuying will soon be leaving the Project. These two Grannies work together to visit the children in the foster families and check on them.



I (Amity staff person) accompanied Grandma Guo (a retired nurse) on the day of

my visit to visit the foster family of Jin XX. Grandma Guo had been visiting XX more frequently as of late, as XX's foster family had just moved into a new home, and Grandma Guo wanted to both familiarize herself with the new house and monitor how XX was adapting to her new surroundings. Fortunately, XX was showing no signs of rejecting the new environment; in fact, she seemed to like it very much. The new neighbors were also all fond of XX.



On the day of our visit, Grandma Yang was visiting Jin XT, one of the children in foster care. XT suffers from paralysis of her left side, so Grandma Yang gives her massage therapy every time she comes to visit. XT didn't like Grandma Yang massaging her left hand and leg at first; she would always pull away and not cooperate. She got used to it after a while, however, and now enjoys it when Grandma Yang massages her and chats with her.

- b)** Interviewed 1 foster child and her foster family (and also some other foster children). Our sponsored child was taking a nap during this visit. She is two years old and initially had been born premature and was undernourished when first placed in foster care. Now she is "developing well on all fronts". She is growing into a clever, lively little girl who likes listening and dancing to music, and also playing outside. She nags her foster mother every day to take her outside to play. Whenever she wants to go outside, she will prepare her foster mother's shoes at the door and say, "Street! Street!"

