

# March 12, 2010 Shanggao Social Welfare Institute

## Report

### 1. General Information

- a) **Institute Director:** Leng Weiming (冷伟明) **Institute Vice-Director:**  
Vice-Director Huang (黄院长)
- b) **Amity Foster Care Project Leader:** Amity Grandma Liu Xinzhen visits and interviews foster families once a month (the exact date varies). She keeps formal interview records and will immediately report any outstanding circumstances to her supervisor at the Institute.
- c) **Physical Exam and Vaccination Protocols:** foster children are brought back to the Institute for physical exams once a month, and periodically to the nearest epidemic prevention center for vaccinations.
- d) **Number of Children:** the Institute is responsible for a total of approximately 30 children. Among these, Amity sponsors 10 for foster care and the Institute sponsors 21. Holt International provides milk powder for 20 foster children.

### 2. Overall Impression

- a) **Social Welfare Institute:** The majority of the foster children from the Shanggao Social Welfare Institute are fostered in a township not far from the Institute. This makes it more convenient for foster parents to take the children back to the Institute to see a doctor, and also for Institute doctors to visit foster children for regular check-ups every month. The doctors have recently been encouraging foster mothers to take preventative steps against illness in the children, as spring is the season for getting sick.
- b) **Foster Children:** All of the Amity Foster Care Project children are enjoying good lives in their foster homes. They are growing up strong and healthy with their foster parents' care and love. All of the foster children are deeply attached to their foster families. For their part, the foster families dote on the children and do everything possible to care for them and make them happy.

### 3. Interviews

- a) Met with 10 foster children and their foster families. The individual reports on each child (with a photo) will be sent to their foster sponsor and also to their school sponsor if they have one.
- b) Met with 3 Amity Grandmas (see next page).



Grandma Li Xinzhen (a retired kindergarten teacher)

Grandma Li Xinzhen is mainly responsible for interviewing foster families. She is also in charge of the Amity Foster Care Project at the Shanggao Social Welfare Institute and prepares the Project's semi-annual reports. Grandma Li interviews foster families every month. She is very meticulous and attentive in her work. For example, if she will notice if a child is not developing as well as last month, or if her complexion seems a bit off. In these cases, she will remind the foster mother to pay more attention to the child. Grandma Li also takes notes of her visits and will inform the other two Grandmas of any important developments in a child's situation. She always follows up with the children to see if their situations have improved.

The baby girl pictured with Grandma Li has been in her new foster home for under a month and has not yet adjusted. Grandma Li has been paying particular attention to her care and nutrition, as she cries often and must be fed small amounts of milk many times a day.



Grandma Liu Lianxiu (a retired orphanage nurse)

Grandma Liu Lianxiu is mainly responsible for the rehabilitation of the Institute children living in foster homes. Whenever Grandma Li Xinzhen discovers a child

lagging in physical development she notifies Grandma Liu. In the picture above, Grandma Liu is administering physical therapy to a little girl in foster care. The Grandmas discovered that her legs are stiff when she walks because her knees are locked, and her feet are also slightly pigeon-toed, so Grandma Liu began massaging her feet and legs. After a period of this therapy, her legs now have more range of movement, her knees can bend, and her pigeon-toe has improved drastically. She also walks much more steadily than before when led by one hand.



Grandma Ding Lingling (also a retired orphanage nurse)

Grandma Ding Lingling is mainly responsible for supervising the nutrition and language development of the children. She will offer guidance to foster mothers if, while making the rounds of foster families, she discovers that a child is not being fed properly. She will likewise remind foster mothers to talk to and communicate more with their foster children if she discovers that a child's language abilities are lagging behind those of others her age. The little girl pictured above with Grandma was born premature, underweight, and weak. Grandma Ding cares about her very much. When this baby first entered her foster home, Grandma Ding would make a point of seeing her every time she went out to interview foster families. She would advise her foster mother on how to better feed and care for her. She is now much healthier than before and falls sick less frequently.