

June 10, 2011 Shanggao Social Welfare Institute Report

1. Basic Information

- (a) **Institute Director:** Leng Weiming (冷伟明)
- (b) **Institute Deputy Directors:** Ms. Zhang (张院长; oversees adoption services)
- (c) **Head of the Amity Foster Care Project:** Amity Grandma Li Xinzhen (李新珍) keeps records of her monthly visits to Shanggao foster families. She reports any unusual or urgent circumstances to her supervisor at the Institute.
- (d) **Physical Exam and Vaccination Protocols:** foster children return to the Institute once a month for physical check-ups and are taken periodically to the nearest epidemic prevention center for vaccinations.
- (e) **Number of Children:** the Shanggao Institute is responsible for a total of more than 30 children, among whom Amity sponsors 10 for foster care. 19 foster children are sponsored for infant formula by Holt International.

2. Overall Impression

- (a) **Administrative changes:** Director Huang resigned as deputy director of the Shanggao Institute in the second half of last year. Deputy Director is Ms. Zhang now. Amity's Foster Care Project at Shanggao is headed by Dr. Zhou and Amity Grandma Li Xinzhen, who visit foster families and check up on the foster children every month.
- (b) Although Deputy Director Zhang is responsible for adoption services at Shanggao, she is also very familiar with the foster care program.

3. Interviews

(a) Amity Grandmas: met with 2 Amity Grandmas



As the person in charge of the Amity Foster Care Project at the Shanggao Institute, Grandma Li Xinzhen is responsible for visiting Shanggao's foster families every month and preparing the Project's bi-annual report to Amity. Grandma Li is a reliable, hard worker who pays attention to every foster child's growth and development during her visits to foster families.

The child shown with Grandma Li in the photo above is a little girl with congenital heart disease. She has been recovering in her foster home after undergoing surgery for her heart condition at the Nanchang Children's Hospital in October 2010. The operation left her physically weak and listless, so Grandma Li and her foster mother have been paying extra attention to and taking careful care of her—Grandma Li visiting her every day and her foster mother keeping Grandma Li apprised of her situation. Grandma Li resolves any problems she can; for medical problems beyond her expertise, she has the Institute doctor come out to examine this little girl.

We are happy to report that, thanks to everyone's love and care over the past several months, this girl has slowly recovered both her physical health and good spirits, and is back to her lively, energetic self!



Grandma Liu Lianxiu (retired, previously one of the SWI's nursing staff) is mainly responsible for doing rehabilitation therapy with the Shanggao Institute's foster children. Along with Grandma Li Xinzheng, she also travels out to the foster homes every month to measure and weigh the children, and also sometimes accompanies Grandma Li on her monthly interviews of the foster families.

Grandma Liu works with those foster children who need speech or physical therapy. She designs a simple treatment plan for each child, customized to his or her specific needs, with the hope that timely intervention will allow the child to develop more or less normally in the future.

On the day of our visit, Grandma Liu was working with the little girl in the photo above. Grandma Liu focuses on massage therapy for her feet and legs, which are too weak to support her weight (though aside from this, she has no other developmental issues). Following a period of treatment the little girl's feet and legs now have more standing strength than before, though she still cannot stand for any real length of time. Grandma Liu will continue to massage and exercise her feet and legs until she can stand up (with support) for a longer period of time.

(b) Foster children: visited 10 foster children and their foster families. Their individual reports, with photos, will be sent to their foster sponsor. But here are a few of the foster children we're sponsoring:



Seven month old girl with a congenital hernia who “likes to laugh”



Seven month old girl with Congenital Heart Disease who “responds to her name and babbles to herself; and is very attached to her foster mother.”



“Chubby” two month old whose foster mom is doing a great job of making sure she gets enough nutrition in spite of her cleft lip and palate.