

# Yingtian City Social Welfare Institute

## August 13, 2010 Report

### 1. General Information

- a) **Institute Director:** She Xiaozhen (余小贞)
- b) **Institute Vice-Directors:** Zhan Jianjun (占建军; also Head of Foster Care),  
  
Ms. Ai Ciping (艾茨萍)
- c) **Physical Exam and Vaccination Protocols:** the majority of these foster children are older, and so only return to the Institute twice yearly for check-ups..
- d) **Number of Children:** Amity sponsors 21 children for foster care, while the Institute funds 7-9 at any given time. There are usually around 30 children, mostly mentally disabled or with cerebral palsy, living at the Institute itself.

### 2. Overall Impression

- a) **Foster Families and Children:** Half of the children in the Amity project at the Yingtian Social Welfare Institute are in school. Sometimes they go to play at the Institute during the summer break by bike. The boys in the picture below are some of the children who were there the day we visited. Three of them are foster children while the other two are former scholarship children.

The Institute director also held a small meeting of these children while we were there. It came up in the meeting that the Institute would do its best to keep the students in school but two of the students would need to improve on their behavior or the school may not allow them to continue. The two former scholarship children were performing quite well. FJ is a mature, hardworking boy with his own dreams and ambitions, while FX has done well at culinary school and is now qualified to work as a restaurant chef.

- b) **Scholarship Children:** FJ will begin at Jiangsu Yixing Vocational Technical School when school begins in September. FX has already graduated from culinary school. He has not yet taken his internship assignment at a hotel due to some stomach trouble and he's currently at the Institute receiving treatment.



### 3. Interviews

- a) Met with 20 foster children and their foster families. The Institute provided us with the details and recent photograph of one child, Fu Liang, who had gone with his foster mother to visit relatives out of town. The photos and individual reports will be sent to the sponsor of each child.
- b) Met with 3 Amity Grandmas and one doctor. We may have to cut one or more of these Grannies if we aren't able to find some additional support for them. They receive a monthly stipend to cover some of the costs of volunteering such as traveling to and from the orphanage and meals.



Grandma Zhong Xiaofang helps to rehabilitate and educate the Institute children. In this photo she is working with a little girl who used to be unwilling to even stand up but can now walk slowly over short distances after therapy with Grandma Zhong. She also working with the girl on her verbal abilities. She will occasionally call others “mommy” but for the most part, if she wants something she will point at it, or just grab it herself if she can. This Granny also does not have an ongoing sponsor so we need donations to cover her stipend of \$55 per month.



Doctor Wang Junji diagnoses and treats the children and elderly residents of the Institute. Doctor Wang was very busy when we visited, especially in the mornings, as some of children were coming down with ailments like diarrhea and high body temperatures. After taking care of immediate concerns in the morning, Doctor Wang goes to inspect the infant nursery. Doctor Wang was giving one of the younger Institute children her medicine on the day we visited. This little girl had been sick for several days but today seemed much improved. We were told that the girl usually cried when Doctor Wang came to see her but today she not only didn't cry, but even smiled at Doctor Wang! We still need support for this doctor who gets a stipend a little higher than the other grannies so the cost is US\$77.50 per month.



Zhou Meizhen helps to rehabilitate and educate the Institute children. On the day we visited she was working with a little boy named XW. He used to walk with a moderate out-toe, but therapy with Grandma Zhou has corrected his gait, and he now steps normally when he walks. Walking is no longer so tiring for XW, the strength in his legs is more evenly balanced, and he can now walk over a longer distance with one hand on something for support. XW can verbally communicate with others, using everyday phrases with relatively clear pronunciation. He learns a little more slowly than other children, needing to be taught something several times before he remembers it, but the Grannies have been working patiently with him. This Granny does not have an ongoing sponsor so we need donations to cover her stipend of \$55 per month.



Working in the Rehabilitation Room, Grandma Yu Hongying helps to educate the Institute children and rehabilitate children with disabilities. Here she is working with DD. Grandma Yu has been training DD to walk every day for several months now and the pair saw a breakthrough this past winter. DD can now walk on her own much to Grandma Yu's delight. DD herself seems very happy to be walking, however slowly, from one end of the Rehabilitation Room to the other, looking for interesting toys. This is our only Granny that currently has an ongoing sponsor.