

Yingtian Social Welfare Institute

Director Yu (seated, white coat) and Vice Director Zan (left, standing) enjoyed looking at pictures and reading letters from adoptive families during Peggy Gurrad's visit.



General Information

Director Yu has worked at the orphanage for 32 years, serving 22 of those years as director. She plans to retire soon.

Institute Facts:

- The current building was built in 2001.
- The institute had four international adoptions in 2012 and paperwork for other children are in Beijing.
- There are just over 60 children cared for by the orphanage, most with disabilities such as "intellectual impairment" and cerebral palsy.
- Altrusa supports 11-13 children in foster care in addition to sponsoring Grannies and schooling.

A Peak Inside



The mural in the special needs room (above) was created by FJ, an artistic young man, who happens to be deaf, who grew up as an orphan in the SWI. FJ's artwork can be seen throughout the SWI.

New Need

Born on September 30, 2012, one of the newest arrivals at Yingtian suffers from heart disease. A note arrived with her stating her unwed mother could not afford her medical care. She is too sick for foster care and the waiting list for the government's "Tomorrow Plan" for treatment has a long wait list. The orphanage is hoping Altrusa/Amity can help her receive the medical care she needs before it is too late.



From the recent visit, pictured below, from left to right, are Ms. Luo (Amity), Director Yu, Vice Director Zan, Peggy Gurrad (Altrusa), Zhou Bo (Amity).



Faces from Yingtian

FA (right, in red, with her foster mother) lives just down the street from the orphanage with her foster family. FA is eight years old and has cerebral palsy. Her ability to walk has improved greatly!

FY (below, in pink) joined the other children and Grannies just for the day as her foster mom traveled for a family member's 90th birthday. FY's foster mom is the mother-in-law of Granny Yu (see below) and they all live together.



Granny Yu

Amity Granny, Granny Yu (in blue coat), is pictured to the right working with FXW (using walker) and another child (reading a book).

The conference room at the Yingtian SWI hosts a banner (below) welcoming returning adoptive families.



Granny Zhou MeiZhen



Hugging Granny Zhou MeiZhen (in blue) is pictured left posing with some of the children at the SWI (left) and pictured below working with two of the younger children. Two of the other Grannies were not at the orphanage on the day of the visit.



Foster and School Sponsorship Updates from Yingtian



Pictured above, left to right: FD (blue coat) is in his third (final) year at his middle school. He would like to go to high school but will need to pass his exams so he is being encouraged to study hard for his tests. FMM (white jacket) also attends middle school and though she was slightly embarrassed by all the attention, she is very fond of Vice Director Zan and was happy to see her. FN (orange coat) is in her third (final) year of high school. She is a good student and because her foster mom comes to events at school, even the principal did not know she is an orphan. She is studying hard for her exams so she can get into college. Another foster child, FX, also attends high school but could not be interrupted as he was taking mid-term exams.

More Faces from Yingtan



Still Loved...

During the visit several foster mothers expressed their desire for updates on former foster children who have been adopted.

One foster mother misses a former foster child very much and has made a quilt that she would like to send her, while another foster mother of a child adopted approximately three years ago, mentioned she is saving up money in hopes of visiting the US just to know the child is happy; she has been worried about her because she has not heard anything about her since the adoption.

What a blessing these foster mothers are to the children they care for!



Pictures clockwise from top left: a young child in the hallway of the SWI, former foster child FKH who now lives back at the orphanage, two little ones in the baby room, artwork created by FJ (mentioned on page 1), photos of the SWI, and a boy playing in the special needs room.