

Xinyu Social Welfare Institute

Amity Report February 2016



Altrusa International of Longview-Kelso Foundation
working together with Amity Foundation in China

XINYU SWI STAFF & FACTS

Director: Liu Shumei

Institute Vice Directors:
Director Li, Director Deng

Amity Representative:
Zhou Xigen

Total Number of Children:
about 110 (varies)

Adoptions in 2016: 2 children
were adopted by foreign
families in January.

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Altrusa Foundation, working together with Amity Foundation in China, is providing educational support for eight of the 110 children at the SWI. Altrusa also supports two Hugging Grandmas to help enrich the childrens' lives. During this visit, we met with eight students and both Grandmas.

Like all the orphanages we work with, Xinyu has seen the need for deeper rehabilitation and special education services, and is trying to meet it. Current rehab efforts involve doctors, nurses, and our Hugging Grandmas, but they need more professional therapists and special ed teachers. A non-profit called Half the Sky is stepping in to help. So far, there is one special ed teacher, managing a class of ten students under the age of 10 (see below).



Hugging Grannies

Grandmother Huang Xiaolan has worked in the Institute for one year and is getting more familiar with her job. Help kids doing exercise and treatment, play with kids and communicate with them are things Grandmother Huang has been working on. During our visit, Grandmother Huang was spending her whole day with TT, who has cerebral palsy. TT cannot speak, but understands others. She has abundant facial expressions. Her agility is not developing well; she cannot straighten her leg or hold objects in her hands. Grandmother Huang helps TT in many ways. During treatments and exercises, she distracts and encourages TT, reminding her to hold her leg up or straighten her arms. Afterwards, Huang massages TT's limbs to help her muscles relax. With such loving attention, in only one day TT gained progress; she was able to crawl slowly and pick up small objects from the floor.



Grandma Liu Donglan works carefully and patiently and likes communicating with children. With her accompanying and helping, the children feel happier than before. HH is a very shy child; he prefers playing by himself. When Grandma Liu first approached him, he walked away. Grandma watched him from a distance. When she began to play with toys, HH watched closely, but didn't move. Grandma gave him toys and HH accepted them, but continued to play alone. Grandma didn't give up; she kept watching until he needed help, and then went to him. Gradually, HH accepted and even became attached to her. When he sees strangers, he hides behind Grandma Liu for safety. Grandma Liu helps HH train his fine movement and big muscle activities, guides his speech, and teaches him knowledge. HH is a lively child, and we hope he will be better with Grandma's company and be happy every day.



Some of Our Students



YJ is becoming noticeably more mature: he's not fighting with other kids like he did last semester. This term the school taught many sessions on safety, and YJ tested very well on that material. When teachers ask them about the most interesting thing during their break, YJ said a lot about playing with firecrackers, getting new clothes, and of course, the singing performance with his friends. YJ has good relationships with all his classmates and he is very active on doing school activities. He is a very hardworking boy and never delays his homework. YJ has a lot of interest in music, although he does not sing very well.

YF, who is 13 and has Down Syndrome, spent her winter break in her ex-foster mother's home this year. All family members of that foster family love and miss YF so much. They took YF many places, exposed her to new foods, and bought her new clothes. YF was delighted with that. On the other hand, YF has good relationships with her classmates and she is very hardworking and is doing very well with her academics. She has more interests in music and handicrafts than math. Overall, YF is very active in school activities.



YX is eight years old, and is in her second term at Xinyu Special School. She is a polite girl in school. She greets teachers and students and gets along well with all. She follows the teacher's instructions better now, remaining calmly in her seat during class. She listens carefully on classes and learned to write some of the characters. She had learned some simple characters and numbers. She likes music class, and she sings loud all the time. She also likes crafting class. Though she does not do well in it, she is much more interested in it after the help from the teachers. She can look after herself, and does well in expressing herself. She is a positive and active child.



A Few of Our Students

YX is eleven years old and goes to Nanchang Special School. It took some time for her to adjust to being in school. She played and couldn't stay in her seat in class. With the teacher's patience and guidance, she has understood the meaning of the class bell and can sit quietly in class. Then she stayed on her seat when the teacher asked them to move. With the same patience, after a period of time, she slowly adapted to classroom learning and following directions. Now she immediately stands up when the teacher asks, and she follows the other classmates doing the morning exercises. Though Xingyan improves gradually, we expect her to continue. She tries hard; though she can't sing, she claps her hands with the beat; she tries to draw, though her painting is poor.



YX is eight years old and attends Nanchang Special School. When she first started school, she did not adapt easily to the classroom. She couldn't stay in her seat, but walked back and forth in the classroom. With the teacher's patience and guidance, she has improved gradually, and now she can sit quietly, but sometimes she still looks around and is not serious in class. She loves to play games with her classmates, and her favorite classes are the active subjects, such as: PE and dancing, because there is no need for sitting there.

Three ways to donate.

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PO Box 1354
Longview, WA 98632

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