

CHINA
CARE
Foundation

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CHINA CARE
CARE PACKAGE

**IMPORTANT
UPDATE!**

A Partner for
China Care

JANUARY 2009

Happy New Year!

**On January 26, 2009,
China welcomed
the New Year,
Celebrating
The Year of
The Ox.**

Dear Friends,

It is the start of a new year and I write to you with some exciting news!

China Care Foundation is forging a partnership with Half the Sky Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Beijing, Hong Kong, and Berkeley, California.

Half the Sky was founded by Jenny Bowen who, like me, had a personal connection to and passion for orphans in China. But, while I witnessed the orphan situation first hand as an outsider, Jenny practically lived it.

In 1997, Jenny and her husband Richard adopted a little girl from a welfare institution in China. The daughter they brought home to love suffered from just about all of the ill effects of institutionalization; she was delayed physically, cognitively, and emotionally. But after only one year with the loving attention of family, she was transformed into a happy and bright little girl.

Jenny thought that if all it took to make a life-changing difference for one small child was love and nurture, she could make a world of difference for thousands languishing in China's welfare institutions by creating nurturing family-like programs inside orphanages – inside the very place that had damaged her daughter. She founded Half the Sky to do just that. Today, ten years later, the children in Half the Sky programs are thriving and the Chinese government now welcomes Half the Sky in welfare institutions across China.

While Half the Sky was busy working to fix the welfare system from within, I established China Care to rescue children from what was then a broken system. I had witnessed orphans with special needs suffering from neglect in institutions which lacked the tools to care for them. By taking the children out of the system and providing them with medical care and nurturing caretakers, we gave these children the chance for a brighter future.

Why Now? We believe that this is the perfect time for an alliance with Half the Sky because China is changing. The broken system is gradually being repaired. The government now acknowledges that hugs, kisses and emotional support are as basic to a child's healthy development as food, shelter, and clothing.

As a result, the welfare system is a much better place than it was when I founded China Care – and there is a detailed plan in place to continue to improve the system in the years ahead. We want to be part of that plan. Over the years, China Care and Half the Sky have both matured into phenomenally effective organizations -- each with its own expertise. By combining forces, we know we can do much more for many more children.

How Will It Work? Half the Sky Foundation will expand its four, nurture-oriented programs to five. Its fifth program will be called The China Care Program at Half the Sky and will implement China Care's established medical program, providing necessary surgery or medical treatment and pre and post operative care for fragile infants with urgent medical needs.

This medical program will move to a state-of-the-art facility in Beijing where the children will receive superior medical care for as long as they need it. That includes the hospital stay, a doting 24-hour caretaker, and all the essentials necessary to make tiny patients as comfortable as possible (from transportation to and from the hospital to hugs and kisses when they are scared to long-term post-op medical foster care with specially trained parents.) By consolidating our medical care in Beijing, we believe we will be able to operate more effectively and efficiently and as a result provide care to more children.

After the children are given a clean bill of health, China Care will now rely on Half the Sky to assume the continued care and education of our children. We realized early on that in addition to medical care, we also needed to provide a sense of family and even an education for many of these children, who after traumatic first days and weeks of life, had no one to go home to for the love and care essential to the healthy growth of any child, let alone a child with special needs. That family-style care and education has been Half the Sky's mission for a decade. I am even more confident now that once the children recuperate from their medical procedures, they will be in good hands.

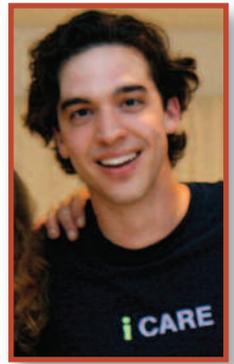


photo by Tracey Kroll

For our children whose special needs preclude them from being adopted, Half the Sky provides *permanent* foster care by trained and loving foster parents who have committed to taking care of the children until adulthood – so these children will also have a mom and a dad of their own.

Youth Empowerment One area where we do not overlap with Half the Sky, but that remains an extremely important part of China Care’s mission, is our dedication to empower young people through our China Care Clubs and Volunteer Program.

When I started the first China Care Club at Harvard nearly six years ago, I wanted to give other people like me the opportunity to give of themselves. I wanted them to experience first hand their own ability to touch the lives of children who needed them. Half the Sky has embraced this program and is going to help us expand its reach by referring their young supporters to China Care Clubs.

I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished and excited at the prospect of how much more we can do by partnering with Half the Sky. I encourage you to learn more about Half the Sky Foundation’s programs by visiting their website: www.halfthesky.org.

Finally, I wanted to thank you. Without your help we never could have gotten to this point. Together, we have built an organization to be proud of. Together, we have given child after child a renewed life of possibilities. With your continued support, we look forward to embarking on our next chapter.

My sincere thanks and best wishes,

Matt Dalio
President & Founder
China Care Foundation

Dear China Care Friends,

I am delighted that Half the Sky and China Care are coming together to help orphaned children in China.

In the decade Half the Sky has been providing nurturing care for orphaned children in China, I have met many children with a desperate need for superior quality, specialized medical care. It has been heartbreaking for me not to be able to help those children. Now I can say yes instead of no.



I am also thrilled that we now have a mechanism for harnessing the energy of our high school and college student supporters through the China Care Clubs. Like Matt, who founded China Care when he was 16, our youngest supporters want to change the world. I know that the China Care Clubs will empower them to follow their dreams and make a difference in the world.

Finally I want to welcome you into Half the Sky/China Care’s global family. When like-minded people come together for a good purpose wonderful things happen. I know that together we are stronger and together we will save more lives and give many more orphans the chance at a brighter future.

Warmest regards,

Jenny Bowen
Executive Director
Half the Sky Foundation



ADOPTION UPDATE

A Home for Nathaniel

On March 7, 2006, Gui was born with a hole in his heart. As luck would have it, he came to China Care and three months later we provided the surgery to repair his heart. He is now a healthy two-and-a-half year-old boy named Nathaniel and lives in upstate New York with his adoptive family, Darlene and Clinton Carroll and big sister AnNi Rose.

As a military couple, the Carrolls moved all over the place. Darlene Carroll had always wanted to adopt a child from China, so when the couple finally settled down, they adopted AnNi. Carroll says she liked the idea of siblings having each other for support, so the Carrolls once again looked to China for another child and



Nathaniel (aka Nate) today

Courtesy the Carroll family



Nathaniel in China after surgery

Courtesy the Carroll family

along came Nathaniel. “He is all I could have asked for and more,” beams Carroll.

Nathaniel sees a doctor for his heart annually who gave him a clean bill of health. Other than a scar and a slight heart murmur, which his mother says does not slow him down one bit, Nathaniel is just like any normal toddler with a hearty appetite and a fun-loving personality. He is “very active, funny and smart,” says Carroll.



Nathaniel with his family

Courtesy the Carroll family

Mia Becomes Part of a Family

Three years ago a two-week old baby girl was found outside a village gate in Taiyuan City in China's Shanxi Province. She suffered from brachial plexus palsy, which means she had lost movement in her arm, most likely due to damaged nerves as a result of a difficult delivery. After spending some time at an orphanage, the girl came to China Care, where she underwent physical therapy and flourished in foster care for the next year-and-a-half. At that time Lisa and Ed Valenzuela, who wanted to adopt a second daughter from China, particularly one with special needs, were accepted as the girl's parents. They decided to call her Mia. Mom, Dad and big sister Sophia were elated to make Mia part of their family in November 2007. The following is a recent update from the Valenzuela family.



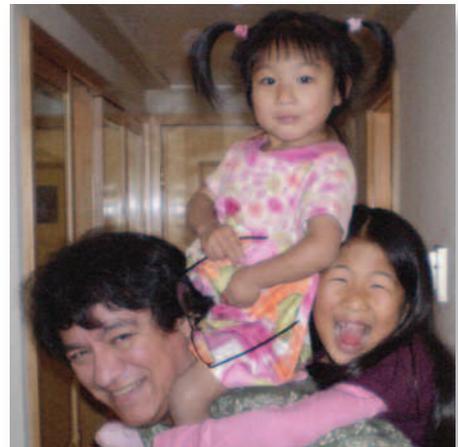
Mia today

Courtesy the Valenzuela family



Mia undergoing therapy in China

"We have been home for a year now and Mia is thriving! She is a spirited, feisty little sprite who is full of joy and curiosity. She is in occupational therapy on a weekly basis and is doing remarkably well and has gotten more function in her arm than even her



Mia with her sister and father

Courtesy the Valenzuela family

occupational therapist expected at first. Our pediatrician observed that she is a happy and secure child and feels that she must have been very well-loved by her caregivers in China. She has a devoted older sister and parents who cannot believe their good fortune as well as a wide circle of friends and family who cherish her. She is a special child.

We cannot imagine life without her, and are so grateful to China Care for making her early days secure and providing her with such good care. I truly believe China Care saved Mia's life, so that we in turn could give her a future."

STATISTICS

China Care in 2008

- 157 children were taken in to our care.
- 164 surgeries were provided for critically ill children.
- 58 volunteers traveled to China to help.
- 82 China Care children were adopted.
- \$65,000 in grants and loans were awarded to families adopting special needs orphans.

Since Our Founding

- 621 children were taken in to our care.
- 567 surgeries were provided for critically ill children.
- 313 volunteers traveled to China to help.
- 196 China Care children were adopted.
- \$446,000 in grants and loans were awarded to families adopting special needs orphans.



The mission of the China Care Foundation is to give special needs Chinese orphans the opportunity for a better life and to empower youth through direct humanitarian service. By providing extensive medical, social and educational programs devoted to children, China Care makes a lasting contribution to our shared future.

We hope you like our new look... coming soon to the web!