



CHINA CARE CARE PACKAGE

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Dear Friends,

Over the past eleven years, China Care's global community has redefined what it means to be part of a family. Our friends at Half the Sky, supporters, donors, adoptees, volunteers, club members and staff, make up a very special kind of family. Together we have become the extended family of orphaned children who have no one else to turn to.

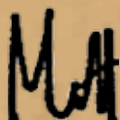
As you will read in the pages that follow, thanks to your loyalty and generosity our China Care Home continues to flourish in the very capable hands of Half the Sky. Every child that enters receives the love and support of a family from our nannies, nurses and caregivers. Our dedicated staff has created a home for these children where they can not only prepare for and recover from medical treatment, but a home where they feel nurtured, encouraged and loved.

I know you'll be as moved as I was when you read about Noah and Maddie, two China Care children who were toddlers in the same foster home, who are now siblings, living with their loving, adopted family. I am so proud that our China Care family was able to care for these children until they were joined with their "forever family" and I am also proud of our Youth Empowerment Program. The commitment and dedication that these club members demonstrate year after year is awe-inspiring!

Looking back on the past decade, it is incredibly moving to think of what we have accomplished and how we have evolved. Our partnership with Half the Sky has proven to be an essential part of that evolution. Over the past two years, we have seen our two missions unite seamlessly. We are now going to continue to take this partnership to a deeper level. With Half the Sky's support, we will be able to ensure the longevity of China Care's impact. When I started this mission, I had no idea that it would exist for even a few years. The idea that it could last for decades was something that I never dreamed of, even in those moments where imaginations go unfettered.

From all of us at China Care and Half the Sky, we thank you for being an important part of our family. We hope you'll join us in moving our missions forward as we begin this next chapter.

My sincere thanks,



Matt Dalio
President & Founder
The China Care Foundation



The China Cares Home's Two Year Celebration

We are so proud of what we have accomplished since our new China Care Home opened in Beijing two years ago. During that time, we have provided specialized medical care for 421 orphaned children, including 372 lifesaving surgeries. To celebrate this wonderful milestone, we held a small party at



the Home for the children, our nannies, foster moms, office staff, and administrators. After speeches given by Program Director Wang ZhiMin, Medical Director Doctor Roger Tang, and Half the Sky Foundation Executive Director Carma Elliot, there was a series of performances, kicked off by four preschool children and their teacher. Even though it was the first time the children had performed in front of so many people, they didn't get cold feet and sang loudly. In fact, they scrambled for the microphone during their performance to make sure their voices were heard.

Then followed more songs, dances, and readings. Several foster moms read touching poems they had written about how they love and care for the children (see page 4). One of our nannies danced beautifully and gracefully, just like a professional dancer. She was such a good dancer that she was asked to give an encore. After the encore, a big, scrumptious birthday cake was brought in on a trolley and we all made our wishes for many more China Care Home milestones.



Siblings Forever

Many of you are familiar with Maddie (Jun Ping) and Noah's (Tian Duo) story. For those who are not, my husband James and I met them in 2006 when they were both lively toddlers in the China Care program, and we were immediately smitten.

Maddie didn't talk, but she managed to boss everyone around with facial expressions and gestures. Watching the two interact was a lot of fun. Our trip was ostensibly to deliver supplies to the China Care Home, but it turned into a trip that was the start of our efforts to bring Maddie home. A year later, we were able to return and adopt Maddie.

As soon as Maddie gained enough language skills to do so, she began to ask questions about Noah. "Does he have a family? Has he had surgery? He needs surgery and he needs a mama in the hospital with him." Every day she talked about him and every night she prayed for him. She would even talk to the moon as if she were talking to him, reasoning that he could see the same moon. "I have a family! You will have a family too! I love you and miss you," she told the moon (and Noah).



Noah with China Care in 2005

The reunion between Maddie and Noah did not go as we'd imagined. There was no running to each other, hands outstretched, giggling, dancing in circles. It had been more than two years since they had seen each other and their reaction was much closer to shock than joy.

After a week or two, Maddie came to me in frustration announcing, "Mama, this Duo is not my Duo. My Duo, a baby. This Duo, a big boy." Maddie was finding that Noah no longer allowed himself to be bossed around and he could indeed take care of wiping his own nose and washing his own hands. He did not need Maddie to mother him and it was initially hard for her to accept.

At the end of last year, Noah had the first of what we knew would be several surgeries--a 14-hour procedure to correct his severe congenital facial deformity. He was in the hospital for a week, and though his recovery was tough, it was a time of bonding

Soon Maddie's talk and prayers began to change. "Why not get an airplane and fly to China and bring him home like you did me?" she asked. "You could be his mama! Jesus, bring him to my family." She did not know that we had been searching everywhere for his adoption file. One day in March 2009 we finally found it. We were thrilled; Noah was coming home.

The Reunion

The reunion between Maddie



Noah and Maddie together at last

and connecting for our family. The day we left the hospital, Noah hugged me for the first time. Later, while I was holding him, his body relaxed against mine in complete trust. We arrived back home on Christmas Eve.

Maddie and Noah continued to work out their relationship and soon language was no barrier. In the spring they very happily told me, "We are twins, mama!" and from that point on they were once again inseparable. This little dynamic duo has a lot of fun together.

Working Through Language Barriers

For a few months Anna, whom he knew from China Care, would call him every weekend. We were so grateful for her calls because he was still learning English and had many questions and things to say that he couldn't communicate to us.

For a while, he would talk for an hour or two each time. At the end, he would give me the phone and Anna would ask his questions: "What is the loud thing mama pushes over the floor?" (vacuum) "I see mama take our dirty clothes into a room and then bring them out dry to fold. How do they get dry?" (dryer) "Why are there no soldiers here to keep us safe?" I'll never forget the day he very excitedly told her, "Did you ever eat in your car? Mama took us to a window and they handed her food for us to eat in the car!"

Last fall, Noah and Maddie started 1st grade. They were both excited and are in the same class. Math comes very easily for Noah. Often he's nearly finished with an assignment before the teacher has even finished explaining it! Reading and spelling take more effort, but he loves to learn and has been quick to pick up his new language. Recently he's been telling me, "My favorite part of school is recess and lunch!" He is a very typical boy.



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Noah in 2010 before surgery

Harvard China Care's Fourth Annual Children's Day Carnival

Most Harvard students would have been surprised to see the radical transformation at the Student Organization Center at Hilles (SOCH) on April 9, 2011. That afternoon, the usually quiet workspace for student clubs was overflowing with vibrant decorations, the smell of popcorn, the strains of traditional and pop Chinese music and, perhaps most striking of all, the laughter of children.

The 4th Annual Harvard China Care Club (HCC) Children's Day Carnival drew a record-breaking 120 attendees. This year, as a special thank you to their community of supporters for their generosity over the years, HCC decided to offer free admission to the Spring Carnival. As a result, the event drew many more guests than usual and HCC was able to introduce even more families to various aspects of Chinese culture while raising money for the children of the China Care Home in Beijing.

To entertain their guests, HCC volunteers manned over 15 games and activity booths. Booths included everything from origami to face-painting and badminton to calligraphy. New (and quite popular) this year was a "Dress-Up Photo Station," where children were encouraged to try on traditional *qipao*, *hanfu* and *cheongsams* and pretend they were emperors and empresses of China. Throughout the afternoon, children ran from one booth to the next with multicolored manicures, tissue paper flowers in their hair, and faces painted like superheroes!

This year's entertainment was a mixture of new performers and old favorites including the Harvard Story Time Players, the Harvard Magic



tuxedos they wear with electric green socks, fit right in at the Carnival). The afternoon finished off with more nods to Chinese culture with

the MIT Dance Team's traditional Chinese Ribbon Dance, the Chinese Music Ensemble's performance on *erhu*, *guzheng* and *yangqin* (traditional Chinese instruments) and the Harvard Wushu team's display of jumps and flips. The team followed their performance of wushu forms with an interactive playtime, giving the children an opportunity to play with wushu props and learn some high-kicking moves from team members.

This year's event was a huge success thanks to the volunteers and entertainers who committed to

the Carnival despite busy midterm schedules and thanks to all the families who made the effort to attend. All proceeds from the Carnival will benefit children in need of surgery and medical treatment at the China Care Home.

In other club news...

A warm welcome to our new China Care Clubs at Purdue University & New Canaan High School!

China Care Foundation is proud to recognize the China Care Clubs with the 3rd Annual Club Awards. We congratulate this year's winners on their hard-earned success!

Outstanding Support & Generosity
Harvard China Care Club

Outstanding Leadership
Boston University China Care Fund

Outstanding Community Service:
Playgroup Program
Bergen County Academies China Care Club

Outstanding Community Service:
Mentorship Program
UCLA China Care Bruins

New Club Award
Quakertown High School China Care Club



Society, Chi, a Harvard freshman who sang two traditional Chinese songs and Dimitri, also a Harvard undergraduate, who did a Chinese Yo-Yo performance to the themes of "Avatar." Following Dimitri's uniquely Chinese performance was a uniquely Harvard one. For the fourth year of the Carnival's history, the Harvard Din and Tonics delighted families with a set of a cappella songs. (The group's renowned playfulness, characterized by the

My Special Connection to China

By Anya Kelly

As I stood among the crowd at the Philadelphia Airport, the bitter December wind whipped my face. With my heart racing, I kept stepping on my tiptoes, attempting to see past the tall bodies towering over me. Finally, I spotted them. I sprinted toward them, thinking of nothing else but reuniting with my mother and meeting, for the first time, my baby sister.

When I was young, I always played with dolls, making them part of the family. Now that I was getting a living, real-life sister, I didn't know what to do with myself. But as I stared into Mya's black eyes and her rosy cheeks, I knew from that point on, I would always have a connection to China, and an obligation to Chinese orphans like my sister.



Mya in China in 2002

I first heard about China Care when my mother received an e-mail from Half the Sky Foundation. This past year, I started and was president of a China Care Club at my high school, Quakertown High. In a little over a year and a half, my club has raised close to \$4,000. My hope in starting the Quakertown High School China Care Club is that it will be there for my sister when she enters high school. Likewise, my goal is to involve and empower adopted youth to start China Care Clubs once they are in high school.



Sisters Anya and Mya today

China Care is the ideal organization for me. I have always had a passion for giving back to my community, and China Care offers me a way to give back to the global community. In addition, my direct connection to China, through my sister and my cousin who was also adopted, makes me even more dedicated.

I am more than excited to volunteer with China Care in Beijing this summer, to spend time caring for the abandoned children with whom I feel this special connection.

I Want to Be Like Everyone

By Wang YuZhi and Song YuBo
China Care Foster Moms

I want to be like everyone
Born in good health
In mom's arms all the time
Enjoying mommy's milk
Getting lots of attention from
my family
Hearing laughter and cheers

I want to be like everyone
With dear relatives around
Taking good care of me
One cry makes them worried
Sickness makes them anxious
I don't suffer alone

I want to be the same as everyone
Families heartbroken when I'm hospitalized
Mom with tears in her eyes when I'm given
bitter medicine
Dad feeling pain in his heart when I get a shot
Families outside the operating room
Praying for my good health

I want to be the same as everyone
Always in a familiar environment
Sleeping in the same bed
Waking up and seeing the same face
Greeting me with my nickname
Providing me with comfort

I want to be the same as everyone
Going to school happily
Mom buying me new clothes
Dad dropping me off at school
Grandparents cooking for me
What a warm and happy family!

Dear children, please don't feel sad
We are here to look after you
Our smiling faces always look toward you
Our loving hearts reach out to you
Our big hands helping you
Our boundless love brings you happiness



Siblings Forever *(continued)*

Family Ties

Maddie and Noah have a little sister, Sophie. One day Noah asked me, "What kind of people is Sophie?" "She is a person just like you and me." "But why doesn't she talk? She just makes noises. Why does she like to tear paper?" "Sophie is autistic and that means her brain works a little differently than yours." "Oh... Sophie is an ostrich?!?"

Later he declared, "When I grow up, I'm going to build a machine for ostrich people. They can make noises in one end and words will come out the other end. Then I will be able to understand what Sophie is telling me." He and Sophie have a special relationship. He is a very good big brother.

We are currently waiting to travel to adopt Josie, who was Noah's little sister at the China Care foster home. Noah and Maddie ask me every day when we are going to get her, though Noah has made it clear that he doesn't think Josie should be our last adoption. "After Josie, we need to adopt another boy so the numbers will be even," he told me. I laughed and told him our car wasn't big enough. At school recently they were learning the difference between "want" and "need." Their teacher gave them a paper with fill-in-the-blank answers. One statement was "My mom and dad want _____. Noah filled in "a bus." Uh oh.



Noah after surgery, 2011

I often look at my children and think what an honor it is to be their mother. I sometimes feel I should pinch myself to be sure I'm not dreaming. I can't believe I have the privilege of watching these amazing children grow up. I have a front row seat and I can hardly wait to see what they accomplish in their lifetimes.

By Marjorie St. John

Loving Care for HuiJun



HuiJun before surgery

HuiJun came to the China Care Home last year, a 1-year-old little girl who was born with a cleft lip and palate, a deformation in her left hand, and no right arm. In just 10 months, HuiJun underwent three surgeries.

Her first surgery was to repair her cleft lip. After HuiJun was discharged from the hospital, she recuperated quickly under the loving eye of her foster mom.

HuiJun didn't let her disabilities hold her back. Because of her hand deformity, she practiced using her toes a lot. When her foster mom put a toy in front of her, she moved her body towards it and then used her foot to reach for the toy. Her foster mom encouraged her to keep trying until she could pick the toy up with her toes.

HuiJun would use her left arm to support herself and became very adept at crawling on her left side, which soon led to walking. Though balancing was difficult at the beginning, with persistent practice she learned to walk a few steps on her own.

Six months after her first surgery, HuiJun had surgery on her hand so that she could finally move her thumb and little finger separately. After she healed, her foster mom helped her practice lifting or pinching small objects. We were all so proud of the progress she made. HuiJun's final surgery in April was to repair her cleft palate.



HuiJun today

Every time HuiJun would return to the China Care Home from the hospital she would be thrilled to see her foster mom, holding on to her tightly and crying when other people held her.

Now, nearly a year after she arrived, HuiJun can use her fingers to reach for the cookies in her foster mom's hand and eat them. Sometimes she uses both her hands and feet to accomplish tasks. She can say and understand a few words, such as "come here," "eye," "ear" and "kiss." We are all so happy that HuiJun has become such a healthy, happy little girl.

Pink Lips & Big Smiles

At the end of last year, when she was 6 months old, tiny YeWen arrived at the China Care Home from the Chuzhou Welfare Institution struggling for every breath she took. She had complex congenital heart defects: Tetralogy of Fallor (four heart defects that affect the heart's structure), a hole between the upper two chambers of her heart, and lung complications as well. These conditions left her with a heart murmur and a blue pallor from lack of oxygen-- when she arrived, her doctors discovered that her body oxygen concentration was only 34 percent.

YeWen was immediately placed on oxygen. Our nannies were told to keep her warm and to feed her small amounts of food frequently to ensure that she received enough nutrition. YeWen's poor lung functions meant that the nurse had to use a suction catheter to suck out phlegm when she coughed. She also suffered from edema and labored breathing.

Our nannies worked extra hard to care for YeWen, holding her constantly and feeding her patiently. Despite the extra care, YeWen contracted chicken pox two weeks after she arrived. She became extremely weak, and we even prepared ourselves mentally to lose her. But no one gave up, and YeWen, our tiny fighter, pulled through.

A few months ago, we took YeWen to see a famous cardiologist. After a series of checkups, the cardiologist expressed confidence that YeWen could get better after heart surgery. The surgery was a success! After a week in the ICU, YeWen was discharged from the

hospital. We were all thrilled to welcome her back and see her pink lips, a sign that her oxygen levels were finally normal.

Happily, YeWen's condition has remained stable since her surgery. She takes heart medication every day and eats and sleeps well--her improved health is obvious. She gets excited when she sees the bottle in the nanny's hands and begins to wave her arms. When lying on her back, she also kicks her legs or plays with her hands.

We will continue taking good care of YeWen so her heart can make a full recovery and she can live a long and healthy life.



YeWen fully recovered from heart surgery

Feeling the Love

FangFang is a 2-year-old boy born with retinoblastoma (eye cancer). When he came to the China Care Home last August, his left eye was atrophied, which required removal, but we were hoping the right eye could be saved.



FangFang received the chemotherapy he needed thanks to China Care

Unfortunately, doctors found that the cancer cells had metastasized to the optic nerves so FangFang had to lose both eyes. After the surgeries, FangFang also needed six rounds of chemotherapy.

For the past six months, FangFang has spent half that time in hospital. During his hospitalizations, FangFang's China Care nannies continued to look after him. FangFang only drank milk and refused to eat any solid food even when his nannies fed him spoonful by spoonful. He would spit out the food in his mouth.

Our nannies tried different ways to help him learn to eat. First they fed him milk with a spoon. At the beginning, FangFang didn't know there was milk in the spoon so he refused to open his mouth. But when he realized it was his familiar food, he began to try the milk. In this way, he gradually got familiar with the spoon. Then our nannies put different food in the spoon and persuaded him to taste it. Feeding him took a long time, but he finally learned to eat solid food. Now his favorite food is dessert!

FangFang used to sleep during the day and play at night. We created a schedule to help him get to sleep at a reasonable hour. Wake at 6 a.m., nap at 12:30 p.m., and sleep at 9 p.m. During the day, the nannies played with him and didn't let him stay in bed. Because he didn't sleep much during the day, he slept at night. Now, he knows when to eat, play and sleep.

FangFang is lucky to have so many nannies caring for him around the clock. With their help, he can say some simple words like "mama" and "grandpa." Sometimes, he hums a song "Ocean... Ocean." When the nannies call his name, he gradually moves his body toward the direction of the sound.

As of April, FangFang has completed chemotherapy and has since been discharged from CCH. Though he can't see the world, we know he can feel the love from people around him.

The China Care Home Preschool Update

Summer is in the air at the China Care Home! To welcome the warm weather, teacher He Jing has been holding many of the preschool classes outdoors. This allows the children to investigate the natural world (they're fond of ants), water the plants in the garden, play ball and use the playground. Many of the children also enjoy singing and arts and crafts projects, so He Jing has incorporated them into the preschool's daily activities. Lessons include puzzles, counting numbers, colors and shapes, and gross and fine motor skill development. Many of the children have developed an interest in books and love to flip through the pages and ask questions about the illustrations. Play dough has also become a huge new favorite--the children enjoy making "food" such as noodles and dumplings. No matter the activity, the children are always excited to help each other and their teacher.



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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.