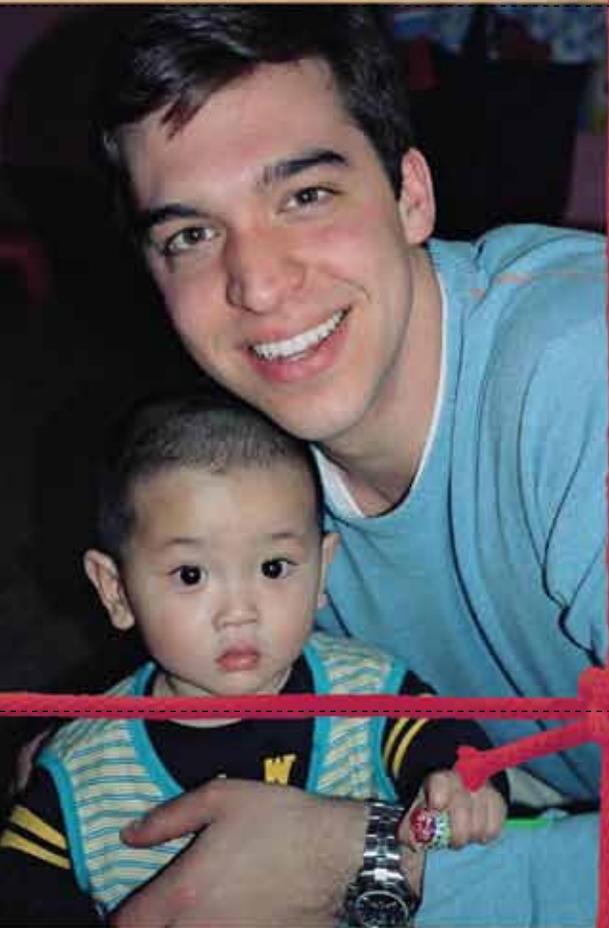


CHINA
CARE[®]
Foundation

P.O. Box 607 Westport, CT 06881



CHINA CARE

Through the Years

COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE 2012

Dear Friends,

It is the start of a new year and an exciting new chapter in China Care's evolution.

As we pass the torch onto our friends at Half the Sky Foundation and the China Care Home continues to flourish, I wanted to take this time to celebrate our legacy and everything we have accomplished together thus far.

In the pages that follow you will see how China Care and our mission evolved over the past decade, and how that path has led us to where we now stand. It makes me incredibly grateful when I look back and recollect China Care's stories, children and milestones. It is a true tribute to the lives we have saved.

To express how thankful I am makes me equally humbled to know I was never alone. I was a young kid with a dream and I want to thank the thousands of supporters worldwide that believed in my dream and helped me make it a reality; to all of the high school and college students who spearheaded our cause and emerged as leaders in their own communities; to our staff in China and the US who worked tirelessly throughout the years to care for our children, coordinate our programs and run our operations; to our Board of Directors that stood behind me in our shared goal to save lives; and to Jenny Bowen and Half the Sky Foundation for streamlining our programs and making lasting change for China's orphaned children. Without each and every one of you believing in me, we never could have gotten to this point.

I want to encourage those who have so generously given in the past to continue to donate to the China Care Home so that it can continue to grow. This partnership exists with Half the Sky so that the China Care legacy will go on just as it always has. With your support, the China Care Home will remain a top medical facility for special needs children and will thrive in the very capable hands of Half the Sky.

From all of us at China Care Foundation, we cannot thank you enough for your years of support. I am excited for the future and all of the opportunities it will bring for the China Care Home and orphaned children in China.

My sincere thanks,

Matt Dalio
President & Founder
China Care Foundation



A Young Boy on a Mission...

In 1995, Matt Dalio, an 11 year old boy from Connecticut, spent a year in China where he fell in love with the people and the culture. Five years later, at the age of 16, Matt personally witnessed the living conditions of orphans with special needs in China and was desperate to do something to give them hope and founded the China Care Foundation to offer these children a brighter future.



In the Beginning...

Foster placements were the major focus of our work in the beginning, placing 50 children in foster care the first year and 50 more the second year. After that, China Care began doing orphanage renovations. But the unsanitary conditions, inadequate nutrition and decrepit overcrowded buildings were only part of the problem. The children living in those orphanages suffered from a lack of medical care and untrained staff.



The Extra Boost

Even in relatively well-run orphanages, two things were inevitably lacking for the children – play and complete nutrition. Over the years, China Care has been committed to giving children this “extra boost” that they need to grow up smart, healthy and strong. In order to achieve this goal, China Care sent play facilitators to more than fifteen orphanages that were specially trained in child care and developmental therapy. They played with the children and gave them a nutritious morning and afternoon snack. The play facilitators worked with the orphanages to make sure that every child got the special attention they needed and deserved.



PROVIDING LIFE-SAVING CARE

It was evident early on that funding orphanage renovations would only be a very small part of what China Care would accomplish. Many of the orphaned children living in China's institutions were special needs children. In our first few years of operation, China Care funded over 100 cleft lip and palate surgeries for orphaned children, making them whole. Just as important, once they were healthy, they could be adopted, giving them both health and home.

With China Care's growth it became clear that we could do even more if we could take these children into our care. We launched a home to care for the weakest children and the China Care Children's Home model was

born. The goal of our Children's Home was to take the sickest, most at risk children who would surely perish in the orphanages, and move them into a loving setting where they would receive the medical and emotional attention they so desperately needed. At our Children's Homes the infants and toddlers in our care were nursed back to health from death's doorstep, given surgeries to make them whole and then placed into a loving Chinese foster family; essentially giving them a permanent home.

In just three short years, China Care was operating 5 medical homes and was caring for nearly 500 children at any given time.

A Tiny Survivor



Qing before and after his life-saving surgery.

Qing arrived at China Care's Taiyuan Children's Home as a tiny two month old baby with a meningocele on his lower back, caused by his spina bifida. Qing needed to have the meningocele removed so that he would have a chance at leading a healthy life. After the surgery Qing grew from an emaciated little infant to a strong toddler thanks to the care he received from our loving China Care nannies.

One Step at a Time

Club feet can be a devastating condition if it is not treated in the early stages of life. Weak little Guo arrived at our Baotou Children's Home when he was just five months old in need of casting on both of his feet so that he would have the chance to learn to walk one day. Guo underwent casting for three months, a process which gently moves the feet into the correct position, while under the care of his encouraging nannies. For the next three months he wore leg braces to keep the position stable. A bubbly little boy, Guo was able to learn to crawl and later walk thanks to China Care's intervention.



Seeing Clearly

Jiao was nearly a year old when he was admitted to China Care's Taiyuan Children's Home. He was born with cataracts in both eyes and needed corrective surgery to improve his vision. The students at NYU's China Care Club sponsored Jiao's cataracts surgery in 2006. The surgery was a success and he was prescribed special glasses with thick lenses to help correct his vision. With the help of China Care's trained staff they performed eye exercises with Jiao so that he could focus better. Jiao wore his glasses for the next three years while he was living with his China Care foster family and in 2009, we were all thrilled when he was adopted internationally!



Walking Tall



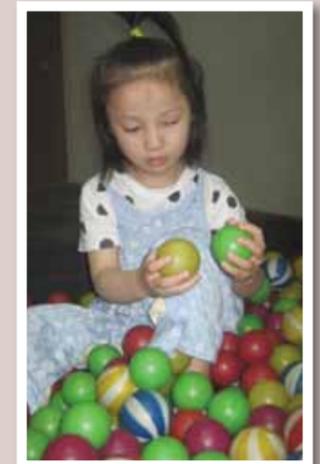
Abandoned in Inner Mongolia, Mei arrived at our Baotou Children's Home when she was a few months old and was given a second chance at life. Mei was missing her right foot and had a serious heart defect known as PDA (patent ductus arteriosus). As a result, she needed surgery to repair her heart so that her blood circulation would be normal. Thanks to the McGill University China Care Club, she underwent the heart surgery she needed to save her life. Four months later, China Care provided her with surgery to correct her foot deformity so that she could later use a prosthetic leg. The following year, Xiao returned to the new China Care Home for a fitted prosthetic leg to stand and walk around on her own, and she has since been adopted into the family she always deserved!



Inner Strength



From the moment she arrived in our care in August 2006, ChunTao brought with her many challenges and lots of love. ChunTao was abandoned in Inner Mongolia with malignant tumors in both of her eyes, a condition known as retinoblastoma. She needed to have both eyes surgically removed to ensure that the cancer would not spread. This procedure saved her life, and was paid for by the Darien High School China Care Club. Our little fighter endured chemotherapy treatment every three weeks when she was only two years old, with a total of six rounds of chemotherapy. But ChunTao was strong and fearless and was taught to feed herself, play with toys and walk with the help of her specially trained nannies that gave her the attention and love that she needed to thrive. After living with a China Care foster family, ChunTao once again visited us when the new China Care Home was opened in May of 2009 to get the prosthetic eyes she was waiting for. Seeing ChunTao grow into a vibrant and smart five year old is proof that the love and nurture the China Care Home provides is saving and changing lives.



A Perfect Smile

Bo was born in the summer of 2006 and was abandoned in China's Shanxi province because of his unilateral cleft lip and palate. His cleft lip caused him difficulties during feeding because he could not form a vacuum around the bottle's nipple. Our nannies at the Taiyuan Children's Home cared for him and arranged for him to get surgery at Mei Tan Hospital in Beijing. Bo quickly recovered from his cleft surgeries under the loving care of his China Care foster family in Taiyuan. Bo thrived with his foster parents and was with them for over a year until 2008, when he was adopted internationally into a permanent family of his own!



The China Care Staff worked tirelessly to help every child that passed through the doors. Most cases were difficult, some were nearly impossible. Taking those on seemed like certain failure. Not taking them on meant certain death for some, and a life of solitude and desperation for others. There really was no choice- we had to take our chances!

Cara's Story



Cara, who suffered from severe scoliosis, was abandoned when she was eight years old. Her diagnosis in China was grim as doctors claimed she was not going to survive due to internal organ pressure from her upper body. An extremely generous donor, the Shaw family, decided to sponsor her as, "It was the opportunity to help somebody who we thought was quite possibly not going to get the help that she needed," explained Jay Shaw. While waiting to have her life-saving surgery, Cara lived in China with her foster family

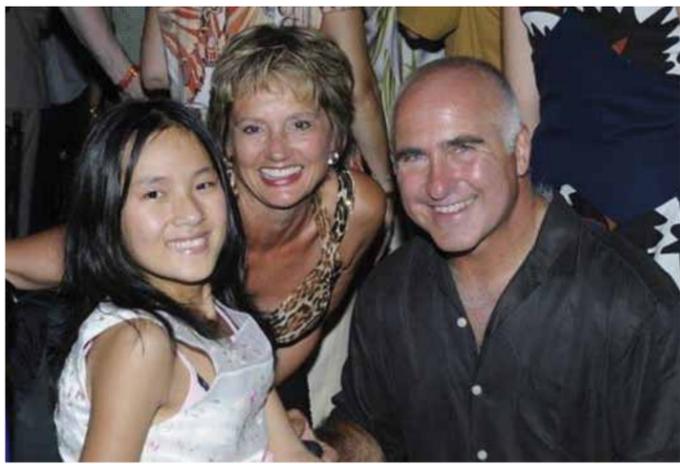
which included a foster brother named Johnny. When a family from Ohio came to China to adopt Johnny, they also met Cara, who by this time was 13 years old. The joy

of taking Johnny home was coupled with the realization that Cara was not only going to die from her disease, but she was once again being left by a "family" member. When they got home, they shared Cara's story with their friends and neighbors in Ohio, which included Diane and Joe Korpics. "They told us that if she wasn't adopted by the time she was 14 she'd be forced to go into an adult institution for the rest of her life," remembers Diane.

A few weeks later, Diane and Joe, who had two biological daughters of their own, started the adoption process to make Cara part of their family. After months of rehabilitation, Cara, who now uses a wheelchair to get around, moved to Ohio as an official member of the Korpics family.

Today, Cara flashes an infectious smile and playful attitude. According to her parents, she is constantly on the move, shooting hoops with Johnny (who now lives around the corner), hitting tennis balls in the driveway or toiling over jigsaw puzzles. "She bonds easily and she loves easily, which is amazing considering the history," Diane Korpics described affectionately. "And, she's very easy to love."

Left: Cara and her sponsors, the Shaw family.
Right: Cara with her sisters and loving parents, Diane and Joe Korpics



Ordinary Heroes

LiYing, now twelve years old, was born with a severe maxofacial cleft lip and palate. Unable to find a surgeon in China willing to attempt the complex repair, LiYing was shunned from society and unable to attend school. LiYing had very little hope for a future, until she met Dr. Hobar, who not only would perform her surgery, but would also do it pro bono.

Working together with the Leap Foundation, the U-T Austin China Care Club, and China Care supporters LiYing was finally able to have the surgeries she so desperately needed here in Texas. The Lo family played a special role as they opened their hearts and home to provide LiYing a place to stay while in Texas. LiYing's future is limitless thanks to the kindness and generosity of Dr. Hobar and everyone who worked together on her behalf.



LiYing and her hero, Dr. Hobar.



LiYing before surgery.



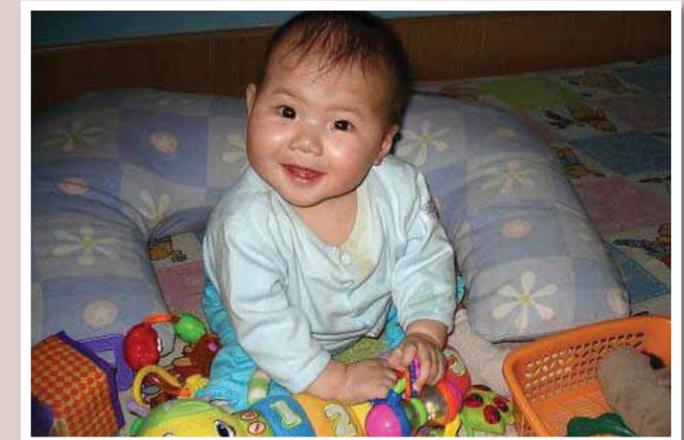
LiYing arriving in the United States.



LiYing with the Lo family.

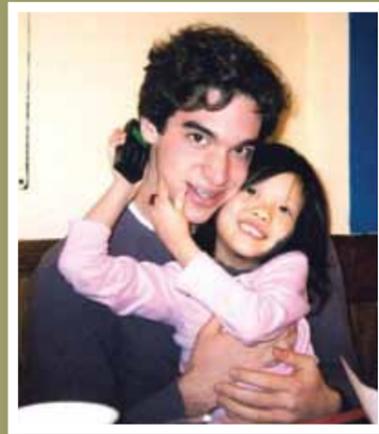
Nourishing Love

When YiRan was admitted to the Beijing Special Care Unit, she was diagnosed with spina bifida, anal atresia and a clubfoot. Severely malnourished, weighing only four and a half pounds, and with pressure sores covering her entire skeleton body, the staff at the Special Care Unit worked diligently to nurture her back to health. Thanks to the students at Brown University who sponsored her medical care, YiRan emerged a beautiful baby girl with a smile and a twinkle in her eyes.



YiRan before and after treatment.

China Care's Financial Aid program began because of a special little girl that Matt couldn't stop thinking about. While walking through the Taiyuan orphanage Matt met Grace, a beautiful little girl with a radiant face and a bursting personality. Aside from the large hairy nevus across her face, she was healthy and infinitely lovable. Matt was instantly taken. He couldn't help but wonder how her life would turn out. Would she live her life in this institution or would she know the love of a family? Matt was determined to help her so he started asking questions which led him to Grace's soon-to-be parents. Matt discovered the difficulties so many families face while trying to adopt - the costs can be overwhelming. With Grace, China Care's financial aid program was born. China Care has since provided 271 families with the financial assistance they needed for their adoption so they could make their families complete.



In Their Own Words: Narratives from Adoptive Families

KIELE



What can I say about Kiele? She was sixteen months at the time, but the size of a nine month old child. She was feisty, adorable and travel size. She promptly earned the nicknames "Pipsqueak" and "Firecracker." She called me mama the first hour my husband and I brought her back to the hotel in Taiyuan, Shanxi

Province, China on March 20, 2006. Talk about being floored and enthralled by her!

Thanks to the nurturing she received while living at the China Care children's home in Beijing, she has adjusted so well. Fast forward five and a half years since we brought her home. Kiele is still petite. She's filled out a lot and holds her own with people larger than her. She's an old soul. Her sister and her cousins don't stand a chance. She is vivacious, wildly funny, sharp as a tack and bossy. I'm talking about the full deal: feet spread apart, hands on her hips and head slightly tilted to one side. She is a girl who knows what she wants. She recently told me that I could either call her Kiele or Pepper. Not Kai Kai, not Pip. Just the aforementioned... or else.

She's now in second grade and on her way to turning eight this coming November. How is that even possible? She loves sports and all things geared normally for boys. This year's Halloween costume will surely be Batman or Spiderman (again). She has shown an interest in karate, baseball and even dance. Thanks to China Care's intervention and arranging surgery for her clubbed feet at an early age, she can go full throttle with those aspirations. What she really wants to be is a basketball player. Maybe she can go out for point guard.

Written by Kiele's Mother - Leilani Smith



JACK

Happy New Year! 2011 was a good year for our sweet, silly 5-year-old boy. Jack (Ai Yu) underwent surgery in January 2011 to get a Baha implant. Baha means bone anchored hearing aid, and it's the perfect hearing aid solution for him. He was born with bilateral microtia which

causes a 50% hearing loss in each ear - this hearing aid allows sound to completely bypass his under-developed ears and go straight to his cochlea and auditory nerve. It's truly a miracle technology! He also had lip revision surgery over the summer. With the Baha and an improved looking upper lip, he was good-to-go for Kindergarten.

Having been raised in a special needs bubble - attending preschool for hearing impaired children and being surrounded by family and close friends - we were bracing ourselves for Jack's first experience in the real world: public school Kindergarten. We had no need to worry. Jack has made friends very quickly and is a top student in his class. Even his speech therapist said she has to find activities to keep him challenged. The other kids are curious about his Baha and why his lip and ears look different, but they are so sweet and accepting. Jack is such a clown and has such a big personality that kids are just drawn to him.

He loves being in "big school" with his older sister (fifth grade) and older brother (second grade). We continue to use some sign language at home so that we don't lose what we've learned, but he hears so well with the Baha that signing has become less necessary. He hears so well, in fact, that we decided it was time to try Chinese language class. Jack attended class for the first time last week and really liked it. We've found a number of websites that teach Chinese on a very basic level so we can practice together between language classes.

Throughout all these recent developments in Jack's life, he has been learning more about China and is becoming proud of being Chinese. One day, our family will travel back to China and show him the country of his birth. For now, we wish everyone a wonderful 2012 and a Happy Chinese New Year, Year of the Dragon!

Written by Jack's Mother - Sara Shoemaker

BRANDON



We have named him Brandon KangPing. He is growing so fast and fitting in so well. We found out that one school that had raised money for his surgery is only 20 minutes from where my husband grew up in Pennsylvania. So we see God's handprints throughout this process.

Brandon was not thrilled to be adopted and had a rough start. He had been very loved and spoiled in his foster home. But now that it has been almost 6 months, he is settling in and learning that we love him and will take care of him. He is doing really well in preschool. He is a smart little guy. He is funny and silly too. He loves Spiderman- we are not sure how it happened but he just loves him and loves to wear the t-shirt and shoot webs! He loved dressing up as Spiderman for Halloween. He loves to show me how strong he is and hold doors open for me! He loves to watch "Little Einstein's" and "Mickey Mouse". He gives great kisses and hugs and seems well-adjusted and happy here.

Brandon loves airplanes and says he wants to be a pilot. His dad is a pilot and his two big brothers are US Air Force pilots so it kind of runs in the family. The first time he saw his dad in uniform he saluted him - we have no idea where he learned that but it was so cute and it melted daddy's heart!

Thank you so much for the love and care that you showed to him. We are so happy he has joined our family. He now has a big family (8 kids in all) and he seems to enjoy the constant friends to play with.

Written by Brandon's Mother - Glenda Nanna



HENRY



We adopted Henry in August of 2007, when he was 21 months old. At that time, we were a family of four: Mom, Dad, big sister Hanna and big brother Teddy. We were not new to adoption. We had adopted Teddy from Korea when he was five months old. We were so excited to travel to China and to meet Henry.

From the beginning, Henry was very competent, wise and funny. He seemed to understand how to communicate with us without language. Henry had many “faces” that were designed to let us know how he felt or just to make us laugh. He could feed himself and put his hand out for soap when in the bath (though he really didn’t want to sit in the water, preferring to stand). When he was tired, he would fall asleep wherever he was. We have a great picture of him sleeping with his head on a plastic toy. Henry has grown so much over the past four years. He learned English beautifully, and though he was born with

a cleft palate, his speech is beautiful. He has gone from a very shy little boy, to a gregarious and popular kid at school and home. Henry loves any type of sport- he would be outside all day if possible. He is a great soccer player and scores a goal for his team every game. He loves school and has been especially interested in math. While his older brother, Teddy, is doing his homework, Henry likes for us to give him arithmetic problems. Henry is very independent at school - he did not even want Mom to walk him in the first day. At home, however, he is an affectionate and loving boy.

Henry truly completed our family. We are so grateful to China Care for making Henry’s journey to his family possible.

Written by Henry’s Mother - Emily Cavanagh



More than a Home



The St. John family has a special connection to our China Care family. Three of their five children were once under our care in China, as they were special needs children awaiting their forever family. They found one with Marjorie and James St. John.

In 2006, the couple traveled to China for their first adoption when they met Maddie and Noah in China Care’s Taiyuan Children’s Home. Maddie was born with a cleft lip and Noah with a severe maxiofacial deformity. As Marjorie recalls, “Maddie and Noah were the best of friends, like true brother and sister. They played together, helped each other and even showed some jealousy when a toy we gave Maddie was picked up by Noah. We were able to go with them to the park and played with both of them for a while.” One year later they returned to China to adopt Maddie and she always reminded them of Noah, who also needed a family. As Marjorie states in her blog, “Maddie prayed for Noah every night. She often asked why we can’t get in an airplane and go get him. You went to China for me and Sophie. Go for him. Be his mama.”



In 2009, China Care helped Noah travel to the US to receive corrective surgery for his maxiofacial deformity that changed his life forever. The St. Johns were his host family during the operation and they adopted him into their family only a few months later, reuniting Maddie and Noah forever. “Noah has moved from being our host child to our legal child. He has been our child in our hearts for a long time now. Welcome home Noah. Welcome to the place where you are loved unconditionally. Where you have sisters who adore you and a brother who can be a role model for you (and show you new ways to tease your sisters). Where you are free to grow physically, emotionally and spiritually into all that God meant for you to be.”

Then came Josie. Marjorie recalls, “It was through Noah that we met Josie in China, as she was his China Care foster sister. I held Josie that same summer in 2006 that we were there meeting Maddie and Noah. Of course, I had no idea then that it was our Josie I held.” Josie has a chronic condition in both eyes that has nearly taken all of her sight. The St. John family was instantly taken and brought her home to the US in late 2011, completing their forever family.

Josie just had laser surgery and continues to see an eye specialist to reduce the pressure in her eyes. But Marjorie explains that “Josie is such fun to be around.



She has a great sense of humor and loves to tease. She also loves music and has the sweetest singing voice. She is at a fun place in her language acquisition too.”

Families like the St. Johns have given loving, permanent homes to countless children that were once in our care. Everyone at China Care is eternally grateful for the unconditional love these children now have for the rest of their lives. Thank you for giving these children the homes they always deserved!

AVERY



In August 2008, we spent many hours watching the Olympics that were being held in Beijing China. As we watched, we had no idea that our daughter had just been born and was being cared for and loved by an amazing organization in Beijing called China Care. Our daughter, Avery LynYing (previously Zhou QianYing), was born with a large unilateral cleft lip and palate. She was having difficulty eating and needed more tender loving care than her social welfare institute could provide. China Care loved our little girl from July 2008 until April 2009. The main objective of our daughter’s care was to help her eat so that she could gain enough weight to have her lip repaired and then be transferred to the devoted care of her foster family. China Care not only gave our daughter the gift of health but also nurtured her soul, helping to mold her personality into the amazing and trusting little girl she is!

We met our daughter on November 30, 2009 and loved every minute of getting to know her that day and on the days that followed. We quickly fell in love with her and we

knew that she was going to blend in beautifully with our family. Her brothers love her immensely and the three of them have so much fun together. Avery is currently 3 1/2 years old and enjoys life! She loves to go to preschool, play with her grandpas and grandmas, paint, be silly, play on the computer, make funny faces, sing, talk, and talk some more (which is pretty remarkable considering her history!). We will be forever grateful for the decision to transfer our daughter to the loving care of China Care. Because of China Care, Avery is a very healthy, happy, smart, social, and loving little girl! Our Miss Avery LynYing is truly a miracle that we get the privilege to love and cherish every day with much thanks to the staff and supporters of China Care!

Written by Avery’s Mother – Tera Carlson



A Little Help from our Friends



Ken Iacurto, second from the left, and Ludwig D'Angelo, far right, and friends.

rooms at the China Care Home in Beijing for the past 4 years, funded 92 surgeries and have provided pre and post operative care to countless special needs children. One of the many children they saved was a little boy named Gong.

Gong was just over a month old when he arrived at China Care's Children's Home as an emergency medical case. Gong was born with spina bifida and already had surgery to remove the meningocele and his doctors inserted a shunt in order to drain the excess fluid. Unfortunately, the shunt had become infected and Gong urgently needed surgery to have the shunt replaced. Our friends at J.P. Morgan Chase sponsored Gong's surgery and he spent over a month recovering in Sanbo hospital. Thanks to China Care's intervention, Gong was able to make a full recovery and moved in with a loving foster family of his own.

For the last four years, J.P. Morgan staff, colleagues, clients and volunteers from the New York office came out for a relaxing day of golf, that ultimately saved the lives of many



Laura Hamilton on the course.

China Care children in need. This annual event allowed participants to spend a day on the golf course in New Jersey and then partake in a delicious dinner and both live and silent auctions. Prizes and trophies were awarded to the first, second and third place foursome, as well as to the golfer who got closest to the pin and had the longest drive. Event attendees even had a chance to read through a book full of photos and stories of the many children that the annual golf outings have saved over the years.



Peter Ahrens of J.P. Morgan teeing off.

To date, the J.P. Morgan Technology Group has raised over half a million dollars! They have sponsored two nursery

J.P. Morgan's dedication to China's orphans is inspirational and the impact this outing has made on hundreds of children's lives is immeasurable. Thank you J.P. Morgan team!



Gong before and after the surgery that saved his life.



China Care developed a unique foster care program called the Group Educational Foster Homes for the older children with ongoing special needs unable to attend state run schools. Five school age, disabled children were placed together in a foster family and provided with an experienced teacher who came to the home to teach the standard Chinese curriculum. The small class size, combined with the talented teaching staff, provided an intimate environment for the children to gain self-confidence. Their classes focused on language, reading, mathematics, music, computers, and arts & crafts.

This model was very successful in giving these bright children a normal education and the valuable life skills they would need as they grew.

Paralympic Games

Just weeks after the 2008 Summer Olympics were hosted in Beijing, the older disabled children living in China Care's Group Educational Foster Homes had the opportunity to attend the Paralympic Games, where physically disabled athletes competed against one another in various sporting events. The event was very inspirational for our children and taught them that no handicaps can hold you back from achieving your goals. They watched soccer and wheelchair basketball, table tennis and volleyball, swimming and wheelchair tennis.

"I think the athletes are very brave and determined," remarked Max, a 13-year old boy with malformed hands and feet, after the wheelchair basketball game. "When they fell down, they picked themselves up without any help. The wheelchair is like part of their body now."

This unique and amazing experience was made possible for our children thanks to the hard work and compassion of Wendy Lee, a pediatric therapist from San Francisco. Lee, who specializes in working with children with disabilities, wanted to bring that passion and expertise to children internationally. The Paralympics provided the perfect atmosphere for disabled children in China, since it offered the world in their backyard. "It gives them the opportunity to see their world peers, people with disabilities who can inspire them with their achievements and successes," she explained. Lee organized the transportation, the tickets and brought nearly two dozen volunteers with her to make the trip a success. The outing was truly a magical experience that our children will never forget.



China Care's Group Educational Foster children attend the 2008 Paralympic Games in Beijing where they had the chance to meet with disabled athletes who competed in various sporting events.



Matt was determined to make sure that every child in our care had a family, but he knew that he could not do it alone. When Matt went to college, he realized how much more the organization could do with a network of students behind it – and he also realized he wanted other young people to experience the same sense of empowerment that he had discovered; a little work could forever change a child's life. That was the beginning of our Youth Empowerment movement. Our first club was started at Harvard by Gary Cooney. Today there are more than 60 clubs at high schools and colleges across North America. These clubs dedicate their time and hard work toward spreading awareness, fundraising and volunteering all to benefit the children of China Care.

Matt never dreamed that getting the students involved would have just as much of an impact on the student volunteers as it did on the kids they were helping, but it did.

Siblings Follow in Each Other's Footsteps – All the Way to China

When my fourteen year old son, Jack, approached me about becoming a volunteer for China Care I was initially surprised, then excited, proud, and then scared. I was proud of the fact that my son had made the leap from doing small school based charitable work to wanting to do something so bold on his summer vacation. I was scared to have him working in a foreign land, but I was also scared to death about what his mother would say.

He was the first person in our family to go to China. None of us realized it at the time but he was going to change all of our lives. China Care became an important part of Jack, and in turn it became an important part of our entire family.

Volunteering for China Care became a rite of passage amongst our kids. The other two wanted to go after they turned 14 like Jack did. My other children Kara and Sydney both volunteered - Kara when she turned 14 and Sydney when she was 15. They went to China as kids that lived privileged lives but they returned as young adults with their eyes wide open. Jack said it best when he said "I realize I don't deserve what I got in life anymore than those kids deserved what they got."

It was amazing that they were just as changed as the children they went to help. They brought to China with them money and love, and they returned with a sincere respect and appreciation for the life and health they had been given. In total our children raised over \$100,000 to help Chinese orphans. I know we made a difference in their lives, but helping them made a difference in ours as well. We are all forever changed.

Written by Jack, Kara and Sydney's Father – Ray Rivers



Jack in Beijing.



Kara speaking at a China Care event.



Sydney volunteering at the China Care Home.

Volunteering Locally – Making a Difference Globally

In New Jersey, the Bergen County Academies high school China Care Club was founded in 2005 by a sophomore named Simon Li. Membership quickly swelled to over 50 students in less than two months and by the end of the first year, the club had started a Dumplings Playgroup for adopted Chinese children, which continues to win awards for their community service even today. Simon Li graduated and is now a member of the NYU China Care Club in New York City.

Hosting the National China Care Clubs Conference for the second year in a row, the NYU China Care Club is now in its sixth year. Founding club members Erica Swallow and Alice Chen who organized the club in 2005, pioneered a playgroup program as well. In 2009, Erica Swallow even had an internship with Cosmogirl Magazine and created an ad campaign for China Care which ran in the magazine.

NYU club member Amanda Fuller also shared a passion for China Care. Similar to Simon, Amanda had started a China Care Club at her high school, Greenwich Academy, in 2003. Like Simon, Amanda also had the opportunity to spend a summer volunteering with China Care. It was there that Amanda, who was born with congenital hip dysplasia, really connected with one girl named Fang. Fang was born with cerebral palsy and Amanda gained inspiration to overcome her own condition, as she learned from Fang the value of knowing you can do anything. Thanks to these amazing leaders and their advocacy and fundraising efforts, our children in China were able to have a chance at a brighter future.



Simon Li volunteering with China Care in 2007.



Erica Swallow and Alice Chen promoting the NYU China Care Club.



NYU China Care's Playgroup.



Amanda Fuller and Fang in China.

Award-Winning Community Service

UCLA's China Care Bruins club alumni, Fiona Poon, was one of the first volunteers welcomed at the new China Care Home in 2009, and she insists China Care had a huge impact on her college years. "2011 marked China Care Bruins' 6th year as a recognized student organization at UCLA. Through being a volunteer, a mentor, a fundraising director, and former club president, I have watched the club grow and prosper each year with new programs and fresh ideas."

Taking over from previous club presidents Stephanie Lo, Brian Chiu and LiAnn Ishizuka left big shoes to fill for Fiona. But the China Care Bruins Youth Mentorship Program has, in the words of adoptive mother Jeri Okamoto Floyd, "far exceeded our hopes and has provided a wonderful enrichment and empowerment opportunity for dozens of kids and their parents."

China Care Bruins is in fact an award winning community service program, being recognized with prestigious honors such as the Emerging Leaders in Philanthropy Award, the Asian Pacific Community Fund Award and being recognized three years in a row for Outstanding Community Service for their Mentorship Program by China Care Foundation.



UCLA student Fiona Poon volunteering at the China Care Home in Beijing.

Discovery Volunteers

In the summer of 2008, a very dedicated group of Connecticut high school students traveled to Beijing, China, to work at China Care's Beijing Children's Home. The students were China Care club members from St. Luke's School and Brunswick School, including brothers Cliff and Glenn Champion, Billy Prince, Parker Masselink and Mary Kelly. Collectively, this group of volunteers raised over \$85,000 to fund the special care unit that was started by Cliff, along with the Group Educational Foster Homes, and various children's surgeries.



Discovery Volunteers from left to right: Billy, Parker, Mary, Cliff, and Glenn in Beijing.



Cliff Champion started the Special Care Unit at China Care's Beijing Children's Home.

What China Care Means to Me

Eva Liu, Harvard China Care Club President 2006-2007

My love for children was what first drew me to Harvard China Care (HCC). I realized at my first Dumplings Playgroup run by HCC for Chinese adoptees, that the get-together not only exposed the adoptees to Chinese culture, but more importantly, allowed the adoptees to interact with others like themselves. By my second semester in college, HCC launched its mentoring program for Chinese adoptees. Our shared love of origami probably led me to be paired with Amanda as her big sister in the mentoring program. When I first met Amanda, she was just about to turn nine. We did everything sisters would do. We went shopping. We successfully and unsuccessfully baked cookies, brownies, and cakes. We ate pizza. We explored Boston. Some of my most memorable experiences from college were from hanging out with Amanda. Even though Amanda is now a sophomore in high school, she still does not cease to amaze me. The reason HCC is so important and meaningful to me is because of the relationships I have been able to form with the children I met through the organization- whether it was from volunteering in China during the summer or through the Dumplings playgroup or, of course, my talented mei mei, Amanda.

Amanda Messier

When I was 6 years old I started to attend the Harvard China Care program called Dumplings where we played



Eva and Amanda at her graduation from Harvard in 2008.

games and did various Chinese arts and crafts; we also ate dumplings which was always fun. As my group started getting older we moved into a one-on-one mentoring program where we were paired with a Harvard China Care student. I was lucky enough to be paired with my "big sister," Eva, who was a freshman at the time which meant that I got to spend four wonderful years with her. The China Care program means a lot to me because I am an only child and having this connection with Eva made me feel like I had a sister. I'm thankful to China Care for connecting me with Eva and giving me an opportunity to know what it is like to have a "big sister."

China Care Brown and Beyond

Since its inception in 2004, China Care Brown has grown exponentially and today has a general body membership of over 200 students. They are a committed group of students who have worked tirelessly over the years to run fundraising events, playgroup, mentorship and Chinese language programs for adoptees from China living in Rhode Island.

Former club president, Emily Cole, was so inspired by her work with China Care that she is continuing to pursue her passion while teaching with the China Education Initiative in rural Yunnan province and plans to apply to medical school upon her return.



Emily Cole volunteering with China Care in 2007.



China Care Brown Benefit Dinner in 2009.

Incomparable to Anything Else I Have Done



Karina visiting with Li.

In 2005, Karina Legradi volunteered with China Care during her summer vacation and upon her return to the US, she worked as president of the Emory China Care Club to run successful playgroup and mentorship programs for adoptive families living in the Atlanta area, and sponsored many of our children in need of surgery. Karina is a true example

of how the power of one can transcend a community and change the fate of orphans across the globe. She recalls her experience with China Care in the narrative below:

Nearly seven years ago when I first volunteered with China Care I fell in love with the orphaned children in a small village in Shanxi Province. The one little boy I spent the most time with was named Li. He was 5-years-old and was born with a mild form of cerebral palsy. I loved playing with him and we became fast friends. Upon my arrival home here in the US, I contacted China Care and sponsored Li for the next two years while he was being cared for by his loving foster family. Li lives with two other foster siblings who also have disorders that preclude them from being adopted.

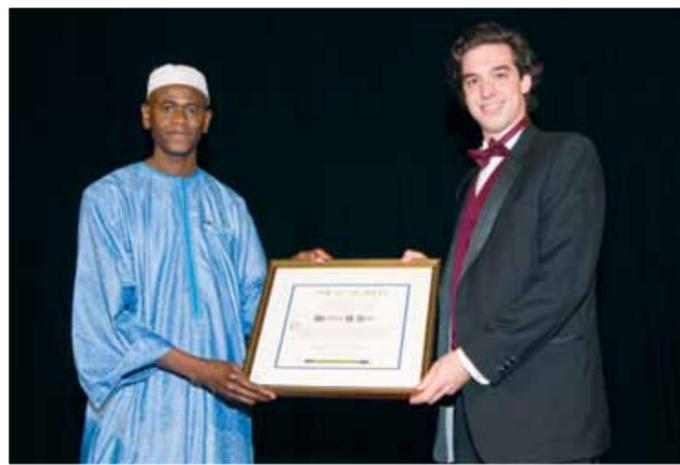
In 2009 I returned to China for five months for a study abroad program. I knew that I wanted to revisit Li and was so excited to see how much he's grown. His foster parents shared that he didn't fall asleep the night before because of his excitement. I was so relieved and ecstatic that Li still remembered me! When I arrived I noticed that Li was dressed up in his finest clothes and did his hair nicely just for me.

By far, the highlight of my time in China was being with the children again. Having such a profound impact on these children's lives is incomparable to anything else that I have done and I am forever grateful to China Care and the work they do to help these children.



Karina now teaches at a school in Taiwan.

China Care Founder Matt Dalio Honored with Fulbright Award



China Care President and Founder Matt Dalio was honored with a Fulbright Award in 2008, to recognize the work he has done to save the lives of orphaned children in China. Matt was one of just four people to receive this noteworthy honor, and was selected for being an outstanding international leader in humanitarian action. "Matt Dalio is the youngest person ever to receive this award," said Tracy Snyder, One To World's Executive Director. "We were so moved by his inspiring vision and service on behalf of Chinese orphans, and his ability to engage other young people in making a difference globally."

In 2009, China Care Foundation joined forces with Half the Sky Foundation to open the China Care Home in Beijing. For nearly three years, the China Care Home has operated successfully as an interim residential care facility for medically fragile orphaned infants and toddlers. It is equipped to provide state-of-the-art pre and post operative medical care for as many as 80 children at any given time in our special care nurseries and family housing units.

Creating Confidence



As one of the oldest children ever to be admitted to the China Care Home, Ling Jun was over seven years old and in need of medical care. His condition is called opacity of the right cornea of his eye. After some tests, the doctor suggested he try wearing a prosthetic eye. After much hesitation and encouragement from his nanny, he hoped it would make him more handsome and so he agreed. When Ling Jun returned to the China Care Home, he showed his new eye off to all his peers. Ling Jun is a polite and smart boy and he was enrolled in Half the Sky's Little Sisters Preschool program before he came to China Care. While at the China Care Home he was enrolled in our preschool program and told the teacher he knew a lot of numbers, pinyin, math and even spoke simple English words. Through his confident style, Ling Jun was able to read and write Mandarin and everyone was very proud of him!



A Second Chance

YeWen was abandoned in Anhui Province and came to the China Care Home (CCH) in December 2010. This 6-month-old girl had complex heart defects including Tetralogy of Fallot, ASD, and a collateral formation in the lung. She had a heart murmur and her skin was a blue hue. Her body oxygen concentration was only 34% and her heart rate was 110 beats per minute, versus a normal heart rate of about 80 beats per minute. Our nurses and doctor ordered she be put on oxygen and kept warm. She was fed more frequently, but in small amounts, and was given medications to alleviate the symptoms of edema and heavy breathing. In late March, YeWen was taken to a first-class hospital to see a renowned cardiologist. After a series of checkups, the cardiologist expressed confidence in performing heart surgery. YeWen was hospitalized on April 8. Five days later, the surgery was done. She was then transferred to the ICU and stayed there for one week. YeWen was discharged from the hospital and came back home to CCH on April 27. Her life was saved. Back at CCH, YeWen was watched carefully, given heart medication everyday and no longer had anoxic blue spells. At long last, YeWen was on the road to recovery and was given a second chance at life.

Be Strong



Fragile little Zhuang.

On New Year's Day 2010, a journalist from Henan province found an abandoned newborn baby and took him to the local orphanage. At the orphanage the baby was given the name Zhuang, which means "be strong," though at the time there was nothing about the pale, frail baby with a distended abdomen that suggested strength.

To our amazement and relief, little Zhuang's fight for life never ceased. After a month in the hospital with IV nutrition, he became strong enough to undertake surgery to close his colostomy and create an anus. After recuperating at the hospital, Zhuang returned to the China Care Home and was cared for in Harvard China Care's Nursery Room where his condition greatly improved. He started drinking more milk and put on weight, and even got the strength to turn himself over from his tummy to his back. The sound of his first giggle was a delight to all! Zhuang has come so far and everyone agrees that "be strong" is a perfect name for this little fighter.



A beaming baby boy.

Several days later, Zhuang arrived in Beijing where he was met by China Care's medical team and was taken immediately to the hospital. Because he was so weak, Zhuang had emergency colostomy surgery for his condition.

After round-the-clock tending by the nurses and nannies at the China Care Home, he started showing glimmers of strength. But he started developing fevers, lost his appetite and had three seizures. We were all heartbroken when the hospital advised us to be prepared for the worst news.

The China Care Home Preschool

Thankfully, many preschool-age children who come to the China Care Home stay only a short time. They receive life-saving medical treatment, heal quickly and graduate, but some of our children require longer treatments and a longer recuperation.

In 2009, we started a Preschool at the China Care Home so our toddlers and young children wouldn't miss out on the fun activities that enhance young children's development and lift their moods. As you will see in these photos our children struggling to heal from their medical problems love to sing, dance, draw, read picture books, play musical instruments, and explore, all of which they do with our talented and loving preschool teacher He Jing.



Fighting to Survive

Just nine days after he was born, ZiMing arrived at China Care severely malnourished and suffering from anal atresia. When a baby is born with this congenital defect, he does not have an anus and therefore has no way to excrete his waste. In order to save this little boy's life he was immediately given a colostomy, which helped him temporarily so that he could become strong enough to have surgery. After months of our nannies nursing him back to health, ZiMing had the surgery he needed thanks to the support of Harvard China Care in January 2009. This surgery allowed ZiMing the chance to grow into a healthy little boy. Although he is very small for his age and took longer than most children to learn how to crawl and walk, ZiMing thrived under the attention he was given by our staff. Through daily therapy sessions he was able to gain a healthy amount of weight and is still awaiting an adoptive family to call his own.



ZiMing when he arrived at the China Care Home.



ZiMing fully recovered from his medical treatment.

“An invisible red thread connects those who are destined to meet regardless of time, place or circumstance. The thread may stretch or tangle, but it will never break.”

- Chinese proverb

a clean bill of health, Half the Sky oversees their continued care and education at the social welfare institutions they operate. By combining forces, China Care and Half the Sky have become stronger and more effective at transforming the lives of orphaned children in need. With your continued support, we look forward to embarking on our next chapter with Half the Sky and all of the opportunities it will bring.

Our Next Chapter with Half the Sky

In the decade that Half the Sky has been providing nurturing care in government orphanages, there were countless numbers of children who desperately needed medical care, and with China Care's medical expertise we can work together to save more lives. Through the adoption of Half the Sky's training of our nannies and staff we are able to give each and every child a doting 24-hour caretaker and have started a Preschool Program for older children in need of longer term recuperative care. After these children are given



Over the Years

1,363 Children were taken into our care

1,090 Surgeries were provided for critically ill children

\$446,000 In grants and loans were awarded to **271** families adopting special needs orphans

558 China Care children placed in foster families

61 China Care Clubs across North America

4,600 Students empowered to volunteer in the US and China



Half the Sky Foundation | 715 Hearst Avenue, Suite 200
Berkley, California 94710 | Phone: 510-525-3377

**CHINA
CARE**
Foundation

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.

China Care Foundation Inc. | P.O. Box 607, Westport, CT 06881 | 203-227-3655 | www.chinacare.org