



CHINA CARE CARE PACKAGE

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Dear Friends,

As we send this newsletter to print, our colleagues in China are putting the finishing touches on our new China Care Home in Beijing. We are incredibly excited that the children who are recuperating from or still awaiting medical care have already moved into their new state-of-the-art facility! In addition, many of our children who no longer need medical treatment are on the road to adoption.

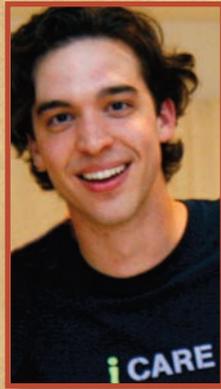


Photo by Tracey Krahl

I want to thank you for helping us get to this point. The support you have given us as we forge our relationship with Half the Sky Foundation has been tremendous. By opening the new location, called The China Care Program at Half the Sky, we will be able to provide critical medical care to even more children.

I know this is not an easy time as we continue to listen to news about the upheavals in the global economy. Economic woes impact every family. That makes us even more grateful for your continued commitment to our cause. While the economy may falter at times, these children always need our help.

We look forward to updating you as the children you have helped reach milestones and when they move on and are enrolled in Half the Sky's nurture and education programs.

My sincere thanks,

Matt Dalio
President & Founder
China Care Foundation

Getting Ready

Our first task was to recruit and train the very best nannies and care staff that we could find.

The staff, which includes both new and old faces, learned from experienced doctors and nurses about using current best practices to take care of medically fragile infants.

While training was going on, we settled on a wonderful site for the new China Care Home – an apartment building in central Beijing, close to many of the hospitals that we will cooperate with.

We were lucky enough

to secure Dr. Roger Tan, a seasoned pediatrician, as our Medical Director, as well as four full-time pediatric nurses who each have more than 30 years of experience working at Beijing Children's Hospital.

Once the training was completed and furniture and supplies began arriving, everyone pitched in.

By the first week in May, the apartments were beginning to look like home.

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Children Move into New Home

In early 2009, China Care Foundation announced a partnership with Half the Sky which provided us with an extraordinary opportunity to do even more for China's most fragile children – babies like the ones we've been treating for more than five years who might otherwise not survive. We decided to move the children from our previous children's homes into one central location at a state-of-the-art medical home in Beijing. Together with our new partner, as well as with the Ministry of Civil Affairs, we have managed to create a much needed government-sanctioned interim care home for orphaned babies who will undergo life-saving surgeries.



Moving Day

Finally, on May 7, the babies arrived! All things considered, it was a pretty smooth move. The children, who were all moved from our previous China Care Children's Homes, spent about 10 minutes looking dazed or grumpy and then



settled right into their new lives as if nothing had happened. The children who would be

moving into the long-term Family Housing Unit met their new moms and checked out their new toys. Those who moved into the Special Care Nursery, got right down to business – a diaper change, lunch and a nap.



Settling In

Within two hours of the children's arrival, we had our first emergency. The stress of the ride to the China Care Home was too much for one little guy. He began struggling for breath. It soon became clear he was suffering from pneumonia, as was another little newcomer. Pneumonia is all too common in such vulnerable babies whose immune systems are compromised by their medical conditions. Both babies were sent to the hospital for treatment.

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DongDong's Journey

You can't help but smile when nine month-old SheDong flashes an adorable gap-filled grin, which he does almost all the time these days. But, "DongDong" as his caregivers affectionately call him, was not always this cheerful.

DongDong was abandoned when he was just days old and arrived at China Care with a cleft lip and palate and a double ear infection. Since his split lip and palate made it difficult to eat, he was also extremely weak, weighing barely 5 ½ pounds.

In his first few days with us, DongDong could not be consoled. He cried endlessly as his caregivers patiently attempted to comfort him and nourish him through a feeding tube. Finally, at the end of that week, DongDong was able to drink milk on his own. His cheeks filled out and as one caregiver gushed, "he started to look awfully cute!"



Now DongDong crawls by himself and makes hand signals when he wants to say "thanks" or "welcome." And, the boy who would not stop crying is rarely seen without an endearing smile on his face. In fact, he jumps into just about anyone's open arms with a boisterous giggle.

Recently, one of DongDong's caregivers noticed he kept kissing her repeatedly on the cheek. She thought it was funny until she felt something hard rubbing her face and realized he was using her face as a teether!

In early May, DongDong moved with more than two dozen of his "brothers and sisters" into the new China Care Home in Beijing. He is currently waiting for surgery to repair his cleft lip and palate. One of his nannies said, "It's hard to believe after surgery this little boy will be even more handsome than he already is!"



Bergen County Academies Hosts Spring Playgroup

“It’s raining, it’s pouring, the old man is snoring...” Three year-old Juliana Frattini sang the “rainy day song” as she twirled around the room holding onto a brightly colored parasol she had just painted at a Dumplings playgroup. Juliana was one of nearly two dozen children that attended the playgroup held at Bergen County Academies (BCA) in New Jersey. Student members of the BCA China Care Club host the playgroup each month to bring together families of children who have been adopted from China.



Juliana Frattini twirls her parasol

“It’s a great program for her to understand her culture,” said Lynn Roehrich,

who has been bringing her five-year-old daughter Paxton to these playgroups for the last two years. “They celebrate all the holidays and I like that she can play and connect with other kids that are similar to her.”

On this March morning, club members entertained the children by painting the parasols, drawing pictures, reading a story and playing games like duck duck goose.

“We generally find a theme for the month and I search online for good crafts that would work for both older and younger kids. A game is a great ice breaker because it’s active and the kids love moving around!” explained the club’s president, Jessica Wang.

Simon Li, who started the club at BCA four years ago, and is now a freshman in college, made a guest appearance to the March playgroup. He was as excited to see the kids as they were to see him. “With Dumplings, you see the impact you are having on America and our own local community here,” said Li, who plans to start a playgroup as co-president of the NYU China Care Club next year.

“We all know there is that dreaded day to come when our child will look at us and say, where is my real mom and why did she leave me?” confessed Stephanie Byers,



Club President Jessica Wang (standing) oversees storytime

whose three year-old daughter Natalie sat at a table coloring a dragon. “What’s great about this group is that when the question comes up, because they have been here and see all these other kids in the same situation, they know they are really not alone.”



Club member Vivian Gao helps Eva paint her parasol

In Other Club News...

Brown Hosts Fifth Annual Fundraiser

Brown club members were so captivated by Professor Shiping Zheng’s presentation at the Clubs Conference that they also featured him at their Fifth Annual dinner and auction, which raised \$2,700.

Third Annual Benefits at Harvard and Emory

China Care clubs at Harvard and Emory recently held benefit dinners and silent auctions at their respective universities for the third straight year. Harvard’s event featured Oscar winning documentary producer Thomas Lennon and raised more than \$26,000. The night was a huge success thanks to the generosity of Bob Maginn and the Jenzabar Foundation. At Emory, a variety of performers entertained guests with traditional Chinese song and dance, helping raise \$5,000 for our cause.

Boston University Holds Art Auction

The members of Boston University’s club asked students to contribute their artwork, including sculpture, paintings, drawings and photos, for a silent auction to benefit China Care Foundation.

Darien High School Dance

More than 130 teens boogied to their favorite music at a fundraiser hosted by Darien High School’s China Care Club. “It’s so much fun to see kids willing to give of themselves for others who don’t have as much,” said the club’s faculty advisor.

A Warm Welcome...

to our newest clubs at The Catlin Gabel School, McMaster University and The White Mountain School!

Clubs Gather at Conference in Boston

China Care clubs from across the country gathered in Boston in the fall to attend the China Care Clubs Conference, where students shared ideas and experiences and learned more about the foundation they support. “Our goal was to provide a venue where clubs could forge relationships and collaborate on future efforts,” said China Care’s Youth Program Coordinator, Katerina Kruzykowski. More than 80 club members attended from nine states, some traveling from as far away as California and Georgia. Executive Director Brent Johnson flew in from Beijing to address the group about China Care’s history and operations. Throughout the day, students broke out into small workshops to discuss their efforts to fundraise, maintain membership, organize playgroups and mentoring programs,



Dr. Shiping Zheng

volunteer and effectively use communications.

In addition to learning from each other, students were treated to a presentation by featured speaker Dr. Shiping Zheng, Associate Professor of International Studies at Bentley University. Dr. Zheng mesmerized the crowd with his perspective on China’s culture and economy, particularly when he pointed out the many contradictions about his homeland.

One club member said she gained valuable information that would help her club promote awareness. “All of the speakers were truly excellent and very informative,” she commented. “I feel more in touch with the Foundation and more determined to do more as a club.”



Club members from Brown University

JPMorgan Chase Holds Second Annual Golf Outing

Despite the extreme economic turmoil rattling world markets, the technology group at JPMorgan Chase & Co. raised more than \$65,000 to benefit China Care Foundation at its Second Annual Charity Golf Outing. Nearly 140 golfers, representing the employees, friends, family and clients of the technology department came out to hit the links on October 27, 2008. The event was held on a sunny autumn day at Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune, NJ, where the fall foliage provided participants with a spectacular backdrop as they swung their clubs for the China Care cause.

“We were overwhelmed by the participation and generosity of our colleagues and our business partners,”

said Ludwig D’Angelo of JP Morgan Chase, who organized this fundraiser with colleague Ken Iacurto. “I was taken by China Care from the very first time I heard about them,” D’Angelo explained. “This is an organization that changes the lives of helpless children forever – children who had no choice when they were born with health issues, and children that were deprived of the love and caring of a family – things that we sometimes take for granted.”

Several multinational corporations contributed to the day’s events by sponsoring specific holes. The golfers capped off their day at a cocktail party followed by a dinner reception, where they participated in a raffle and auction, which also supported China Care Foundation.



All ready for a day of golf



Ken Iacurto lines up the shot

Play Dough and Preschool with Duo



Courtesy Callie Ellison

College senior Callie Ellison, a Chinese Studies major at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania, was excited at the prospect of living in China to better understand the culture and work hands-on with our children. She joined us as a volunteer in the summer of 2008 and helped with our older children in preschool. "Perhaps the best

moment was when I saw one or more of the children in the afternoon and they smiled and waved at me," Callie remembers. "That is when I knew that I had made an impact on their young lives." As she recounts below, one three-year-old boy named Duo affected her as well.

At first, Duo seemed a little skeptical when we came to play with him and his preschool friends. He would raise an eyebrow at me and frown, but would watch with curiosity as I interacted with his friends. But, after a few weeks, Duo's eyes would light up with excitement when we arrived.

Duo was born in China's Shanxi Province and came to China Care when he was four months old. The circumstances of his abandonment are unknown, but he was most likely left because of his various physical disabilities.



Duo and his play dough

He was born with a hernia in his stomach, spina bifida, scoliosis, a deformed pelvis and left leg and too many toes on his left foot. Duo has undergone numerous surgeries already to correct his hernia and to amputate his left leg. China Care provided Duo with a prosthetic leg and plans to get him a brace to correct his spine when he gets taller. In the meantime, the combination of the prosthetic leg and the curved spine make Duo's gate extremely unbalanced.

Despite his many disabilities, Duo remains undeterred. When we visited, he loved to play "Red Light, Green Light," laughing up a storm as he ran across his foster parents' living room in an attempt to win the game!

Duo showed that same enthusiasm with play dough. He would roll the dough into many balls before determinedly smashing them all into flat pancakes! He made a point to include the volunteers in his game and would get up from the table to give one of us some of his play dough balls before sitting back down to make more. When playtime was over, Duo cheerfully helped clean up his mess, packed up the play dough accessories into their little bag and lead the way to where the toys were stored. It was obvious that he was a favorite of many of the staff who smiled and said "Ni hao, Duo!"

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Getting to Know Jiang

John Speed Meyers, a junior at Tufts University, has a passion for China and a determination to make a difference in the world. An International Relations major, he immersed himself in an intensive language program to learn Mandarin and spent a semester studying abroad at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China. Through China Care, he sought a greater understanding of the Chinese people and their country and hoped the experience would give him a better perspective of their society. In his story below, Meyers explains how his time spent with China Care also taught him the importance of family.



Courtesy John Speed Meyers

He towers over the other babies, using his size advantage to boss around the other babies. If another baby has temporarily claimed a toy he desires, Jiang understands the power of a good bop on the head in order to reclaim his treasured toy. Or, if he prefers to stay in one part of the room instead of moving, he can deftly use his bodyweight to strain against you with all his might. In brief, Jiang is one smart baby, albeit a little big for his own good!



Jiang playing around

Jiang came to China Care in order to undergo surgery for hydrocephalus. After a successful surgery in the early summer, he has spent the last two months recuperating at one of China Care's children's homes where I have had the chance to spend time with him.

He has been slowly developing verbal skills over the past few months and has even recently mastered basic commands. "Bao," pick me up, and "zuo," sit down, are now constantly on the tip of his tongue, allowing him to affect the behavior of any adult within hearing distance. Because he knows I have a weak spot for him, his cries of "gege," older brother, have become a panacea for all his ills, prompting me to provide whatever comfort he wants.



Jiang and his ball

More astounding than his budding verbal skills are his ball-throwing capabilities. Having already perfected the "no-look" pass, he is currently developing a mean fast ball. There's one hitch: he often uses the other babies as targets and coaxes me into a mild game of pass only to transform the game into target practice! Even the aiyis, or staff, cannot escape his antics, as Jiang does not hesitate

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Donations Pour In To Save Kang

In December we asked our donors to help us save a little boy with a heart defect who had been abandoned and would not survive without surgery.



Kang after surgery

You overwhelmed us with your compassion and generosity when more than 50 people sent in donations! We are thrilled to report that your contributions raised more than \$15,000, which allowed us to give that little boy, Kang, his heart surgery as well as pre-and post operative care, all accompanied by the tender love of a full-time caregiver.

Kang had been abandoned in China's Shanxi province when he was just ten months old due to his severe congenital heart defect. Several doctors had evaluated Kang and found numerous

complications: his heart was on the right side instead of the left; he had a hole between his right and left ventricles; the blood from his right ventricle to his lungs was obstructed;

he had a displaced artery; and there wasn't enough oxygen-rich blood being supplied to his heart muscle.

Without treatment, doctors said Kang's oxygen saturation level would plummet, which could have been fatal.

When we asked for help to provide the costly surgery for Kang, individuals sent in donations, community groups made contributions and China Care clubs joined the effort. Supporters not only reached into their own pockets to contribute, but posted Kang's story on list serves and held fundraisers to inspire others to help as well. That outpouring of support gave Kang a second chance.

Kang had the necessary heart surgery and is expected to make a full recovery. He is currently recuperating at the new China Care Home in Beijing and will likely lead a normal and healthy life.



Kang today

Play Dough *continued from pg. 5*

He always shyly smiled back and rushed to put away the play dough.

Duo, who entered this world with so many complex health problems, is so lucky to be in the hands of China Care, which has provided him with life-altering surgeries and given him a loving foster family with a mom, a dad, two sisters and a brother.



Duo before his surgeries



Duo gets used to his prosthetic leg

Getting to Know Jiang *continued from pg. 5*

to launch a ball at unsuspecting aya. I should stop this behavior, and I would, but the sheer joy this two year-old gets from such a harmless game is pure magic! The smile that erupts on this child's face is the kind of event that could make even the Grinch's heart grow four sizes.

Though he seems so much bigger than the other babies in size, on a trip with him to the doctor, I realized that he is still just a little boy. Jiang sat happily in the back seat of the car with me, staring over my shoulder at the passing scenery, on our way to a routine vaccination. He remained in good spirits when we entered the clinic, but as soon as he approached the nurse holding a syringe, he used his full lung capacity to let us know he was scared. While other babies, who were much smaller than Jiang, had merely whimpered after the shot, Jiang erupted into full hysterics before the nurse even administered the vaccine. Piercing cries continued for the next five minutes and in the din of that time I realized the enormity of China Care's mission. No parent was going to rush to the aid of Jiang. We were his support. It was our comfort that would stop the crying.

"Somebody Loves Me" Sponsorship

As China celebrates Children's Day on June 1, the medically fragile babies at our new China Care Home in Beijing have settled into their new surroundings. Babies like Ting, Kang and LiuFang who have complex heart conditions; Tao who has cancer in both eyes; and, TongTong and Lan who have had surgeries but need a few months to recuperate.

They all have lost their families. They are all little fighters... struggling to stay alive. They all need somebody to love them.

With the opening of the new China Care home in Beijing, which is filled with state-of-the-art medical equipment, a bright sunny atmosphere, medical experts and doting caregivers, we are introducing a new and very special way for you to contribute to our cause.

Help every child who has lost the love of family know that somebody loves her. Become a "Somebody Loves Me" child sponsor. Your gift of \$600 for one year, or \$50 per month will provide for one baby's basic and nurturing care while in the China Care Home.



Silver Bangles

As a "Somebody Loves Me" sponsor, you will receive periodic photos and progress reports about your child and a beautiful certificate commemorating your gift. The children will receive a special gift too – a meaningful token of recognition that somebody loves them –

traditional silver bangles for babies and adorable "Somebody Loves Me" dolls for older children.

And if you add an additional \$150 gift, we will send our "Somebody Loves Me" dolls and a set of bangles to the child of your choice, anywhere in the world. We will include a beautiful card that says, *"In your honor, an orphaned child in China has somebody to love them too."*

We know that making a gift to help children on the other side of the world whom you'll likely never meet is not so easy these days. But, one thing we know without doubt is that there is strength in numbers! Why not gather your friends, family or neighbors together to become a "Somebody Loves Me" sponsor?

And, if this sponsorship is not for you, please know that any gift, no matter how large or small, will be greatly appreciated and put to good use. For information on giving to China Care Foundation and to learn about additional sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.chinacare.org/help/donate.



Somebody Loves Me dolls

Children Move continued from pg. 2

Every single child at the China Care Home receives a thorough checkup each day. Dr. Tan and the nurses have instituted new policies to bring all of the children to optimum health, eliminating all the little bugs that keep them from getting the surgeries they urgently need.



Finally, life begins to take on its own rhythm for the new residents of the China Care Home. For as long as they will live here, they know they are loved, looked after, and they are home.

**Check out
our new look
on the web –
and read more
about our children.**

www.chinacare.org

**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.