



FAMILIES WITH
CHILDREN FROM CHINA
CHARITABLE FUND

*Ensuring brighter futures for children
in China's orphanages*

Community Update

Winter 2008

FCCCF hears from the recipients of its new educational sponsorship program

Over the past eight years, the Families with Children from China Charitable Fund has raised money to pay for the medical treatment of dozens of children, primarily through China's Amity Foundation, as well as Canada's Smile China missions, and we continue to work closely with both organizations.

This past year we expanded our funding to include the educational needs of children in China's orphanages. Our initial group of 27 students ranges in age from 13-22, and includes a number of students with blindness, deafness, or physical differences. We have committed to funding these students until their educations are complete, and we are very happy to introduce some of them to you!



Long Fuling is 19 years old and lives at the Gaoyou Social Welfare Institute in Jiangsu province. She has a defect of her right arm, and her hobbies are singing and drawing. FCCCF's donors are paying for her to attend the Gaoyou Vocational Technical School, where she's reportedly doing well. She writes "How time fly! Another semester has passed already, by now, I have spent one year in the Gaoyou Vocational Technical School, I did a good job in the last examination. I believe I can be better and get a good job in the future. Thank all of you again for your support! And wish all of you good health!"



Jiang Xiaowu is 18 years old. He lives at the Changde Social Welfare Institute in Hunan Province and is attending the Changde No.7 High School. Xiaowu writes "Thank you very much for your help. With your help, I have the opportunity to learn knowledge. May I report the situation of my study? In the past year, I have made a big progress in the school. Recently, some computers are installed here, I could learn from internet which is very convenient. The uncles and aunts are very kind-hearted. The social welfare institution is just like a family. Thank you, I will work hard and try my best in the school. Wish you happy every day."



Wei Dongwen is 18 years old and deaf. She lives at the Hefei Social Welfare Institute in Anhui province. FCCCF is sponsoring her tuition at the Hefei Special Education School. She loves dancing, and paints beautifully. She writes "I'm very grateful to the warm-hearted persons and organizations that have sponsored my education. You give me an opportunity to attend school and I made a lot of new friends who had given me more help and love."

We are so pleased to be able to support these students, and look forward to following their progress as they develop new skills, build their networks of support, and become more independent. Thank you to all of our donors this year for helping us bring new opportunities to these teens and young adults. We will continue to report on their accomplishments in the years to come.

2008 Fundraising Report

During 2008, the FCCCF Board has continued all of its annual fundraising programs, including the Chinese New Year's Raffle, Massey Dinner, Spring Tea, and Holiday Fundraising Letter (currently in progress). We also added a new silent auction this year at FCC Toronto's Chinese New Year's festivities, and a special appeal to assist the victims of the Sichuan Earthquake through extensive relief efforts overseen by Amity International.

The generosity of our donors continues to grow. In the first seven months of 2008 we raised over \$44,000, including a very generous donation from the McLean Smits Family Foundation toward the Sichuan relief effort. Most of our donations to the earthquake relief were matched by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), so in total we sent more than \$25,000 to Sichuan. Other Funds sent to China this year include our education support to 27 children through Amity International, and Severe Winter Relief through Half the Sky, to assist orphanages hard hit by the extreme weather situation China suffered in March.

The year ahead is likely to be more challenging than usual for many of us. It is our sincere hope that this will not impair our ability to send our support to children living in China's orphanages, through both our medical and education sponsorship programs. Your continued support is needed to keep these important programs going. Thank you for all you've given this year, and we look forward to another year of good news for the many children we support.

Spring Tea goes to the ROM

In May we once again held our Dim Sum "Spring Tea" but with a twist - Dim Sum was enjoyed by all at the beautiful Dynasty Chinese restaurant and then we headed across the street to the Royal Ontario Museum where everyone enjoyed a fantastic customized tour of the Chinese galleries, captivating children and adults alike. It was a wonderful opportunity to get together and enjoy a day of Chinese food, art and culture - plans are in the works for another wonderful Spring Tea after winter is behind us! If you don't live in Toronto and are interested in organizing your own Spring tea to support FCCCF, please let us know and we'll help you make it happen!

Jan Wong headlines the Massey Dinner

This year's Massey Dinner, held in March at the University of Toronto's Massey College, once again proved a very successful and enjoyable fundraiser, and raised more than \$6,000 for the FCCCF's programs in China. Jan Wong's tales of her experiences in China both challenged and entertained the audience, and it was wonderful to see so many long-time supporters come together once again. Special thanks are due to Jan Wong for her fantastic presentation, and to all of the donors who come out year after year to show their support.

Did you know...

- Approximately 35,000 Chinese babies are born with cleft lips and palates each year. In North America, this is treated immediately after birth and children are able to lead normal lives. Many children in China, especially those in poor rural areas, are not so fortunate. FCCCF has sponsored the cleft lip and palate surgeries of many dozens of children living in China's orphanages, both through Amity International and through Canadian charity Smile China, which goes on regular surgical missions to China's most impoverished areas.
- FCCCF is completely run by a volunteer Board of Directors, with no paid staff and extremely low costs. This means that when you donate to FCCCF your donation will go where it's needed most.
- We're currently preparing for our Chinese New Year's Silent Action and Raffle. If you would like to donate a prize, please let us know! Toys, artwork, event tickets, restaurant gift certificates, anything you think would make a great auction item is welcome. If you'd like to donate please contact Dawne Way at dawneway@mac.com

The Families with Children from China Charitable Fund (FCCCF) is a national volunteer organization founded and run by Canadian parents of children born in China. FCCCF is dedicated to improving the lives of children growing up in Chinese orphanages, primarily through supporting medical interventions and education.

For more information or to make a donation please contact us at:
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FCCCF is a registered charitable organization (charitable registration #88537 2243 RR0001). All donations over \$10 are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.

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