



CHINA CARE CARE PACKAGE

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Dear Friends,

I started learning I could make a difference when I founded China Care a decade ago. Looking back over the years, I realize I have never stopped learning and China Care has never stopped adapting to better serve the children.

That's why during this special 10th Anniversary year in addition to looking back we also celebrated new beginnings. The one-year anniversary of the opening of our new China Care facility in Beijing was a celebration not only of our new facility, but also of our thriving partnership with Half the Sky Foundation, which is enabling us to provide care for more medically fragile orphaned children.

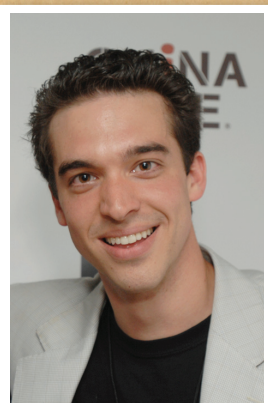
For a few weeks this summer some of our most dedicated China Care club members got to work and play with the children in our new facility. Their experiences inspired them not only to want to do more to help the children, but also to believe that young people can and will change the world. I am so proud that every year more and more students are inspired by their involvement with China Care in the same way I was.

I am also incredibly proud that China Care has saved the lives of so many of China's most vulnerable children. Together we have accomplished so much and will, I am sure, accomplish so much more in the decade to come.

My sincere thanks,

Matt

Matt Dalio
President & Founder
The China Care Foundation



Celebrating a Successful First Year

In May we celebrated the one-year anniversary of our beautiful new China Care Home, one more wonderful milestone in The China Care Foundation's decade-long work providing nurturing love and medical care to orphaned children in China.

By Helena Lv, China Care Program Director



We celebrated with a party for children and the staff. At the party, we looked back on the past year's journey. All of the nannies and staff got emotional when we showed pictures of the children who had come to the Home and recovered from their medical procedures. We clapped with joy at the news that some of these children had been adopted.

The China Care nannies gave a performance of a traditional Chinese poem called "A loving mother's heart," and they sang a nursery rhyme called, "Mama is the best person in the world." During the chorus, everyone present was moved and many had tears in their eyes.

We concluded the party with a big first birthday cake. Jenny Bowen, CEO of Half the Sky Foundation, was present to cut the cake and give a short speech to everyone who helped make this first year a success.

Thanks to everyone who made our new facility possible. With your help, The China Care Home will continue to care for many more children who desperately need medical treatment and, equally important, love and support.



Adoption Update

By Michelle Satler

Born in an area of Inner Mongolia considered remote by many, Xi Mei came into this world on a cold, November morning and quickly forged into life seemingly on her own. Soon after birth, she found herself in the care of an orphanage filled with many other children.

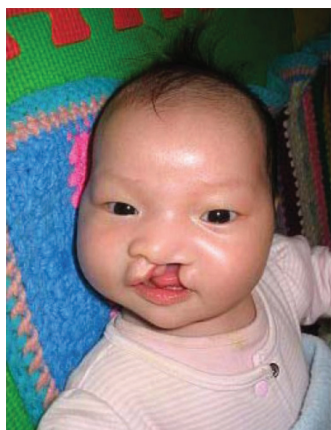
Xi Mei was born with cleft lip and palate. Though this is a relatively common congenital condition in China, few families have the financial resources or access to the medical care required to correct it. The odds were stacked against this beautiful little girl. However, a little ray of sunshine came into her life the day her orphanage entrusted her to China Care.



Mei today

Our family stumbled across Xi Mei's information on a list of children waiting for adoption and those big, beautiful eyes drew us in and seemed to say, "Bring me home." Through countless months, we completed the detailed paperwork required for international adoption and then finally welcomed Xi Mei into our lives.

This year we celebrated the one year anniversary of bringing Xi Mei home. We are usually met with surprise when families find out that Mei has only been home for a year. She has meshed into our hearts, home and life. She's an outgoing and cheerful preschooler who is filled with a joy that brings a smile to the faces of everyone she meets.



Mei before surgery

On the other side of the world, a group of college students at Emory University's China Care Club who had never met Xi Mei, heard about her need for corrective surgeries. Together, the club raised the funds needed to not only provide cleft lip and palate surgeries for Xi Mei, but also to support life-changing surgeries for several other China Care children.

These children received medical care from expert physicians in Beijing. Their little hands were held by China Care nannies as their tiny bodies fought to recover from their surgeries. Their bodies were mended and their hearts were tended.

From a mother who was not able to be there for her child during those dark, scary moments of pain and uncertainty, I cannot express the depth of my gratitude to China Care for those many days of selfless care and compassion.

Mei is a favorite among her classmates and teachers. She's known for making grand announcements upon entering gatherings like, "I'm here!" She loves to talk and sing. At just three years of age, she knows her entire alphabet. This little princess' favorite cartoon character is Bell and she seldom goes a day without the complicated preparations of going to a ball. She's an extraordinary little girl finally getting to live in an ordinary world.

My daughter has three families: her birth family, her forever family, and her China Care family -- she has many, many China Care angels.

I know many of you may never meet the children your financial gifts touch, but these children will carry those gifts of love, hope, health and family throughout their whole lives. Could there be a better investment?



Proud mother Michelle Satler

Fighting For Life

By Lynn Wang, China Care Program Coordinator

On New Year's Day 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 ZhuangZhuang, which means "be strong," though at the time there was nothing about the pale, frail baby with a distended abdomen that suggested strength.

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

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Fragile little ZhuangZhuang

How I Spent My Summer Vacation

This past summer, nearly two dozen high school and college China Care Club members traveled to Beijing to volunteer at The China Care Home. Below are some accounts of their life-changing trip.



Perrin Brown, Darien High School



Caroline Neumann(left) & Madeline Burbank (right), Greenwich Academy



Brodie Olson, Hotchkiss

Being at The China Care Home and interacting with the children meant so much and it made me so proud to be a part of this organization throughout my four years in college. I am so touched by the work of the staff and by the smiles of the children. I leave The China Care Home with a visual insight of what it means to make a real difference in the life of a single child – it's something that even words cannot fully describe – it is pure love.



LiAnn Ishizuka, UCLA

Being loved and to love others; I believe this is the most important lesson anyone can teach.



Rachel Lin, Northwestern University



Melissa Wong, McMaster University

Today we took the toddlers to the park and I'd never seen them so excited! They ran up the stairs and slid down the slide more times than I could count. These children really know how to embrace the little joys of life. They inspire me every day with their carefree, happy lifestyle despite some of the challenging medical obstacles they face.

When I first arrived, Jie was wary of me, crying whenever I approached her. But gradually she began to warm up to me. Although it may sound trivial, I felt especially proud when she insisted that I be the one to feed her lunch and she called me "mama."



Catherine Lee, UCLA

Being here has been incredibly inspiring. I am simply amazed by how minor a factor one's age plays in altruism. It has made me feel like I can do anything, as long as I set my heart and mind to the task. — Jane Zhao



Jane Zhao, Vanderbilt (second from left), Kaytlena Stillman, University of Pennsylvania (right), and children at The China Care Home

These children don't have a family and they've experienced medical disabilities that many of us will never have to go through. Yet despite all this, they are still smiles and constant love. I am so thankful for the truly amazing things that China Care is doing for these children. I am so happy that I can be a part of this enormously wonderful cause. — Kaytlena Stillman

Each smiling face further reinforced a concept that I did not truly comprehend beforehand: humanity. While it might seem clichéd, China Care taught me that all people are at heart the same. Within all of us there is the ability of humanity's nature to be kind, passionate and caring.

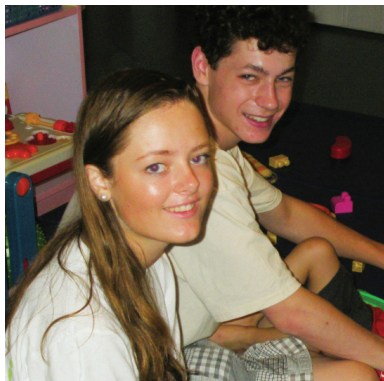


Ethan Pearce, St. Luke's



Jon Stokes, McMaster University

I will always take with me the memories of these smiling children, their laughs, their songs, their joy, and the knowledge that all of them are well on their way to enjoying a life filled with happiness, good health, and a loving family thanks to China Care!



I hope all of the children at The China Care Home are adopted and get to share their happiness with a family of their own. My experience volunteering with China Care has made me much more grateful about my life and how lucky I am.
– Arnie Welles

I was able to travel to the local children's hospital with the medical director to visit the China Care babies receiving medical treatment. China Care is fortunate to have this hospital so close to The China Care Home.



Parker Masselink, Brunswick

The first time I fed Chen I was in bliss. There is something so special about holding a bottle and feeding this small person.
– Meredith Schmidt-Fellner

CHINA CARE Club

Clubs Corner

Clubs Conference 2010

On October 1 & 2, NYU China Care Club is hosting the Annual China Care Clubs Conference, which brings together high school and college students from across the US and Canada. Participants learn from China Care staff and volunteers, and most importantly, each other by exchanging ideas about fundraising, community service and how to get involved.

Start a China Care Club

"As a China Care club member, you will make a big difference in the lives of the children and other young people who want to make the world a better place." – Matt Dalio

If you are a high school or college student interested in making a difference in the lives of special needs Chinese orphans, visit our website at www.chinacare.org/empowering/clubs and fill out an application to start a China Care Club at your school.



Meredith Schmidt-Fellner, Greenwich Academy (second from right), and Sydney Rivers, Westminster School (second from left) at The China Care Home

I would definitely recommend China Care to my friends and I know a lot of them already want to help and do their part to save these children. – Sydney Rivers



Angela Chu, McMaster University

I expected the volunteer trip to be a memorable, emotional and inspirational experience, and I was proven right.

Three Little Heart Girls

We are thrilled to report that three special girls with complex heart conditions, who spent the first few years of their lives receiving treatment, love and nurture with China Care, have now been adopted! With the help of our partner organization, Half the Sky Foundation, all three of the girls, LiuFang, CaiPing and ZiJun, have found their true homes. Here are the heartwarming first reports from their proud parents:

Teresa Caroline Bartlinski (LiuFang)



Teresa is absolutely adorable. As soon as she saw us come into The China Care Home she ran up and gave me and Ed a big hug and kiss saying "My Momma, my Baba." It was amazing to see how desperately she wanted a family. Teresa's transition to our family has been so easy - she is our fifth adoption and hers has been by far the easiest.

Teresa's health has us very concerned even though we knew how sick she was. She is absolutely adorable and has the personality to match, but for a three year old she is very tiny. Her liquid intake is closely monitored - if she gets too much liquid it quickly builds up in her body causing her eyes and neck to swell and could then lead to heart failure. She is on several heart medicines and we will take her to Johns Hopkins Hospital as soon as we get home.

Teresa's nanny told us she has the insight of an older child and feels emotions that most children her age do not. From the moment we met Teresa, we immediately saw exactly what her nanny was talking about. Teresa has such a kind and gentle nature. She will sit on our lap and gently stroke our face with her hand and look into our eyes as if saying, "It is ok now." We are so blessed to have her in our family. She is Magical!

Ann, Ed, Eddy, Paul, Alex, Grace, Mary Mei, Lucy, Emilia, Gemma, and Teresa Bartlinski

Lily Cai Ping Lee

Lily is doing really well. She is a delight! We've been down this road twice before, so we're happy to be experiencing adoption again. We immediately see a difference with Lily. She easily states what she wants and how she feels, which is not at all what we were expecting. She correctly and easily identifies her emotions without being prompted ... and that includes good emotions, not just the hard ones. It is completely obvious to us that she was very well cared for and that she was in a place where people cared for her.



The China Care Home "thank you" for their devotion and commitment.

We took Lily to Doernbecher Children's Hospital where she had an ECHO of her heart. The doctors feel very good about being able to repair her heart with just one surgery! The next step is an MRI followed by a heart catheter procedure, which will give them highly detailed imaging, numbers, internal pressures and tell them exactly how Lily's heart works. These doctors are amazing! Lily is doing great, so sweet and wonderful ... we're all loving on her 24/7!

Clearly the work The China Care Home staff invests in these children is exactly what they need. Please make sure to tell everyone at

Mike, Tanya, Jake, Nick, Shelby, Anna and Lily Cai Ping Lee

Jennifer Mei Hamm (ZiJun aka DouDou)

We took one look at her and knew we were in love. She is perfect and it is hard to believe she has a heart condition. Please tell her China Care nannies that she is happy and laughing and full of spirit!



She sleeps through the night and eats with both hands. This little girl has an appetite!

We know she loves to be called "DouDou," the loving nickname given to her by the staff at The China Care Home. When we showed her her passport, she pointed to her picture and said

"DouDou" with a big smile! Mei Mei (our nickname for her) is a momma's girl, loves to go swimming and loves having two sisters to play with -- she follows them all around the house. She understands lots of English now. We taught her to high-five today- she can't get enough of it!

Our latest news is that Jennifer underwent open-heart surgery at UCLA Mattel Children's Hospital on July 8th. She received a bi-directional Glenn shunt and her blood oxygen level increased immediately to nearly normal levels. Forty-eight hours after surgery Jennifer was walking out of the PICU with a sippy cup in hand! Jennifer's cardiologist "couldn't be more pleased" with the results from surgery. Mei Mei is our little hero!

We want Mei Mei's caregivers at The China Care Home to know how grateful we are -- we know her spark for life is due to the love and care she received at The China Care Home.

Greg, Josie, Jean, Julia, and Jennifer Hamm

Fighting For Life

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ZhuangZhuang's recuperation process was long and rocky- he developed pneumonia and anemia. After round-the-clock tending by the nurses and nannies at The China Care Home, he started showing glimmers of strength.

ZhuangZhuang started to interact with the nannies and just like a curious, healthy baby would, he started to suck on his fingers and take interest in his environment. But little ZhuangZhuang had more health crises to endure. 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.

To our amazement and relief, little ZhuangZhuang'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, ZhuangZhuang returned to The China Care Home and 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. He enjoyed playing with toys and searched the pile for new ones he had not played with before. The sound of his first giggle was a delight to all!

Soon ZhuangZhuang will have heart surgery for the atrial and ventricular septal defects that affect his heart. We all hope and trust that after heart surgery we will hear more giggles and see more smiles from Zhuang-Zhuang. He has come so far and everyone agrees that "be strong" is a perfect name for this little fighter.



A beaming baby boy

A Wonderful Night in Connecticut

In June The China Care Foundation held its annual benefit celebration in Greenwich, Connecticut that raised nearly \$1 million to provide life-saving medical care for Chinese orphans with special needs.

Over 400 special guests came out to support the Foundation in its efforts to provide critical surgeries and treatment for orphaned children in China who suffer from a range of health problems, from heart defects to club feet.

China Care President and founder, Matt Dalio, introduced the Foundation's Ten Year Anniversary video, which celebrates how far our community has come and how many children we have been able to serve by working together.

Matt also welcomed Kellie Liacopoulos and her children Grace and Jamie on stage to demonstrate how important it is to find loving adoptive families for orphaned children with special needs. As Kellie hugged her children and proudly talked about each child's special qualities, it became evident that China

Care's role preparing orphaned children with special needs to thrive in families of their own is a crucial one.



Guest speaker Kellie Liacopoulos (second from left) with her son, Jaime (left), daughter, Grace (right), and Valerie Jensen (second from right)

The evening's silent auction featured escapes, experiences and cultural activities, including a spa weekend in the Italian Alps and box tickets at the Metropolitan Opera. One lucky bidder even walked away with a signed Dave Matthews Band guitar! Because China Care's Board of Directors underwrites all the event costs, all proceeds from the festivities go to help the children cared for by China Care.

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.

Last year, we started a Preschool at The China Care Home so our toddlers 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.



CHINA CARE
Foundation, Inc.



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.

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