“...there is always hope for these children...”

Georgie Day is one of the people who visited China earlier this year for a 'look/see' of the various areas Care for China works in. She has shared some of her experiences and impressions:

Ni hao! My name is Georgie - I am a 23 year old from Australia, and I would like to tell you a little about the opportunity that I recently had to visit the work of Care for China.

Firstly, I am so thankful for the opportunity that I had to visit the work of CfC! It was just amazing, and really opened up my eyes to the ways that people from all over the world are sharing love with the needy and also with those whom others would consider unlovable.

Whilst I was in China, I had the opportunity to briefly visit with people who work in three of the four CfC areas. Although I would love to tell you about the wonderful work of each of these, I would like to focus on the work that CfC does with the local welfare centres. One centre, in particular works in training those with special needs in the arts of card marking, and other handy crafts, such as sewing. The products that they were making were really good! It was just such a joy to see dedicated local workers, and visiting foreigners, working together with this small group of people to develop a small business. Although it was difficult to communicate with some of these students due to their special needs, love and smiles were able to overcome all language barriers!

Whilst I was at the centre, I was given the job of teaching the students how to make little hand sewn creatures. I haven’t picked up a needle and thread in 10 years (sorry mum!), but suddenly everything I had learnt in Year 8 Home Economics class came flooding back to me! The creatures that the students made were “interesting” but they had fun making them! Whilst we were at the centre, the children also performed a musical concert for us. Although the concert consisted of special needs students mimicking playing the guitar and singing, it was lovely to see the happiness that was radiating from their faces.

After class had finished, a local staff member from the centre took me and the other two foreigners who had come to visit the work of CfC on a journey through the plains to go fruit picking! Although the staff member was deaf, that did not stop him from teaching us some great lessons about how to pick and enjoy delicious persimmons! Whilst in China, I was moved by the kindness of the CFC staff members. From picking me up at the airport, to assisting in food finding and translating, the hospitality that they show towards the locals and also towards the visiting foreigners is remarkable! I really got the sense that these staff members were passionate about helping others, and could see the difference that He is making in their lives.

My experiences overseas allowed me to see just how much CfC is helping those in China. Seeing the smiles of the orphaned babies who had been taken in by CfC, seeing Chinese university students spending quality time with their foreign teachers, hearing the local staff sing out songs from the word, hearing stories about the number of people who want to been seen by CfC Health Care workers, and finally, the feeling of being hugged by a needy child, all reemphasise the fact that love, joy and hope are moving throughout China.

My time in China was superb! In fact, now that you have finished reading this article, why don’t you contact CfC today and see how you can get involved!
Special Needs Education (SNE)

Qing Xing is a centre that supports children with special needs and has trained a number of Chinese people to assess and develop therapy/education programs for these children. The children who attend the centre receive therapy and aids to help their daily lives. Without special needs education support most of these children are ‘shut-ins’ whose families have no access to any services. The families also receive support and training to help develop the children.

Kevin, the manager, reports for September 2012:

This month 3 new children commenced coming to the centre and I will introduce you to them next time. This brings the total number of children coming each week to 26 with 6 children currently on the waiting list.

On behalf of the staff and children at Qing Xing I send you their greetings and thank you for your continuing support in His name.

Some snippets from our Childcare Centres recently

◊ In order to improve the quality of foster care in a local village, we held an event on 15th September to educate the parents to respect our children, no matter how disabled they are. The children enjoyed it very much and we pray that God will work in the hearts of all the foster parents. Susie shared her experience as a foster mother and it was so helpful.

◊ Please give thanks to God as he touched the people at the Chinese Welfare Centre to have a vision to expand the Eagle’s Nest Occupational Training Centre. We ask for wisdom and guidance so that we know how to cooperate with the government in this regard.

◊ Please give thanks that Mary (5 months, normal) was adopted by a Chinese family, lift up Ruth (1 year 6 months, with heart disease), as she has pneumonia, Morris (1 month, with Downs Syndrome and heart disease), as he needs surgery for his condition.

Foster Programme

◊ A birthday party was held for Ruth (19 years old, Epilepsy and Cerebral palsy) Jason (19 years old, Epilepsy) in the local village in July.

◊ The monthly meeting for all the foster parents was recently held. Leah emphasized the health and security issue and promoted home school for the fostered kids unable to attend the local school.

◊ Jordan took part in a two-week’s long training programme about how foster families can raise children healthily. The trainer was Sandy who is from Australia. She is very good at children’s education and this will definitely help him to teach improved parenting skills for all the foster mothers.

◊ Four new children were placed in foster families in August. They are: Lian, 5-year-old girl, Cerebral Palsy and Blind; Eric, 6-year-old boy, Cerebral Palsy; Abra, 12-year-old boy, Cerebral Palsy; Dang, 6-year-old boy, Congenital Cataract and Cerebral Palsy. Please pray that God will help them adapt to their new families as soon as possible.