



China Foster Care Programs

Families Thru International Adoption

Fall 2006

Zhanjiang, China

In our Summer issue of the newsletter we let everyone know that FTIA had signed an agreement for a new foster care program with Zhanjiang Social Welfare Institute in Guangdong Province. In this issue I wanted to let everyone know a bit more about Zhanjiang City and our new program.

Zhanjiang City is located in southwest Guangdong Province on the coast of the South China Sea. Zhanjiang is a trade center and is involved in several different industries including textiles and sugar refining. The South Sea Fleet of the Chinese Navy also finds its home in Zhanjiang.

Zhanjiang has a population of about 6.7 million people. The weather is mild with temperature averaging between 46-62 degrees in the winter and 77-84 degrees in the summer.

By Nikki Bilderback



FTIA's has contracted with Zhanjiang Social Welfare Institute to foster up to 20 children. At this time there are 13 children in the program. Zhanjiang Social Welfare Institute currently cares for over 300 children. Families adopting children from Zhanjiang Social Welfare Institute would complete their adoption in the provincial capital Guangzhou. The trip from Guangzhou to Zhanjiang is about 9 hours by bus or 1 hour by plane.



Zhanjiang Volcanic Lake Park



Playground at Zhanjiang SWI



Gate of the Zhanjiang SWI



湖南 *Hunan News*

Ai Xuan - A Caring and Brave Girl

Ai Xuan has been with her foster parents for a little over a year. Ai Xuan's foster parents describe her as "a very cute and smart girl."



At times Ai Xuan can be a fussy eater. Her foster mother always tells her, "Our little kitty ate. Our little puppy ate. Now it's your turn." Ai Xuan will look at her foster mother and then suddenly runs away. She will come back with all



Have all my friends ate yet?

her toys in her arms. Ai Xuan then tells her foster mother, "Mom, teddy bear hasn't eaten yet. Little cub hasn't eaten yet. Little bee hasn't eaten yet. Mom, feed them first and I will be the last." Her foster mother has to pretend to feed all the toy animals first before Ai Xuan will eat!



Ai Xuan - about 6 months old

Ai Xuan's foster parents say she is also a very brave girl. One day she needed to take a shot for a cold. On their way to hospital, she kept asking, "Mom, it isn't going to hurt, is it?" Her foster mother said, "No, not very much. You won't cry, will you? You are a good girl." Ai Xuan shook her head. Fighting her fears, Ai Xuan didn't cry out during the shot. On their way home, she asked her foster mother, "Am I a brave girl?" Her foster mother was so proud of her and held her tight in arms to let her know she was a brave girl.



July 2006



August 2006



From Hunan to Home

Lily Cai Hong (Cai Hong)

Lily was adopted in June of 2004. Lily's mother reports she is thriving and talking very well. Lily is now three years old and is already a world traveler having traveled from China to the US and also to Malaysia and Vietnam!



Lily in Foster Care - 5 months old



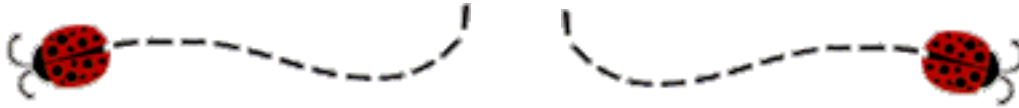
Lily in red



MMM... what a good cupcake!



In each issue of the China Foster Care Programs newsletter we would like to share stories and pictures of children who have been adopted and were in our programs. If you have adopted a child who was fostered in either of our programs, please feel free to send us stories about your adoption experience or about how your child is doing now that they are home. We will try to feature 2-3 stories and pictures in each newsletter. The *From Hunan to Home* section is really a sharing place for families! In future issues we hope to also have stories about children from Zhanjiang.



Contact Information

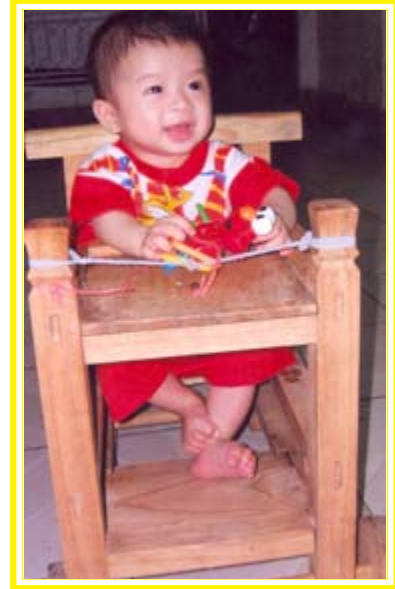
FTIA has been keeping track of the contact information for all families who adopted a child through our Foster Care Program. If you have moved since you requested the photos of your child, or if you've added an email address or changed your email, please let me know and I will update your file. Once in awhile I will get in contact with families to ask for stories or photos, or just to let you know the new newsletter is up. I would like to keep in contact with as many of you as possible. Please send me an email to let me know of changes, or if you just want to check that the information we have is current, you can email me too. My email address is nbilderback@ftia.org. Thank you!



Zhanjiang Cuties



Ming Dian - Always a smile to share!



Ming Lun - Loves to talk to everyone!



Wei Na - An excellent eater!



Continuing Needs

Hunan

Our 1st quarter total for 2006 donations was \$4,236. We are excited to report that is almost a \$1,500 increase from our 2005 1st quarter total! For the second quarter we had donations of \$5,325 and this is almost a \$3,800 increase from the 2005 second quarter total! For our third quarter we received donations totalling \$2,385 and have received donations of \$770 for the fourth quarter.

While donations are up from where they were last year, we still have a long way to go to meet our goal of covering the costs of caring for the children in foster care 100% through donations to the program. Total expenses for the Hunan Foster Care Program run about \$37,500 per year. FTIA covers the administrative costs of the program which are about \$7,500 per year. While FTIA does cover the portion of child care costs that are not covered by donations, our goal is to have \$30,000 expenses for child care paid through donations.

2006 marks the 5th year the Hunan Program has been in existence. In our first year we were able to place 25 children in foster families. We have since grown to one hundred foster families, enabling us to provide foster care for one hundred children at any given time. To date we have served nearly 500 children with the Hunan Foster Care Program. We hope to serve hundreds more children in China at the most critical time of their life – the first year.

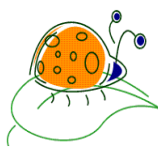
Zhanjiang

To date we have received one donation of \$1,000.00 for this program. As the program gets up and running we hope to expand and see the success we have had with the Hunan Foster Care Program.

Please remember that monies donated to the China Foster Care Programs are completely separate from other adoption related expenses. Also note that 100% of all monies donated to foster care go directly to the care of the children as FTIA covers all administrative costs for the programs.

Fun Funding

A Quilt of Wishes - Teresa Werner, an adoptive parent, has written a beautiful tale about adoption. Her book is called *A Quilt of Wishes*. A portion of the proceeds from her book sales will benefit the FTIA Hunan Foster Program. You can learn more about the book and order it from the website www.aquiltofwishes.com. I want to thank Teresa for such a wonderful story and helping out the foster program!



Archer's Archives turns your adoption photos into beautiful DVD movies with music. 20% of profits from the DVD projects will be donated to the FTIA China Foster Care Programs. Please visit the *Archer's Archives* website www.archersarchives.com for more information.



China Foster Care Programs

Families Thru International Adoption

Contact Information



If you would like more information on the FTIA China Foster Care Programs, or would like to check to see if your child was fostered through one of the programs, please contact Nikki Bilderback by calling 888-797-9900 or emailing nbilderback@ftia.org.



Families Thru International Adoption is located at:
400 Bente Wes Court
Evansville, IN 47715
www.ftia.org

If you would like to contribute to help give a child a better start in life you may do so by completing the form below and mailing in a check or money order to the address above. It does not take much to help out. A donation of \$50 will provide food, clothing, and other necessities for a child for one month. A donation of \$350 can provide food for a child for an entire year! We appreciate your support!



FTIA China Foster Care Programs

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Email _____

Amount of Donation \$ _____

One Time Gift

Monthly Gift

(Please check one)

Please let us know which program you would like to give to:

Hunan Foster Care

Zhanjiang Foster Care