



Heartbeat

Shepherd's Field
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE
牧羊地兒童村

August 2018



This is a Time of Transition & Change

Back in 1995 when the Philip Hayden Foundation (the parent organization of Shepherd's Field Children's Village [SFCV]) was formed, our goal was to provide assistance and services to special-needs orphans and orphanages from all over China. In the 23 years that we've cared for these amazing kids, we've been able to do just that. We've seen more than 500 children receive therapy treatments and special-education services; provided over 4,000 medical procedures; and helped more than 1,000 children meet their Forever Families through adoption. We're proud to help these kids reach – and exceed – their highest potential.

However, due to China's new orphan-care policies, orphans are no longer permitted to receive care outside of their home provinces. As a result, we'll continue to provide medical, therapy and educational services to our orphanage partners and the children in their own provinces, on-site. Over the next week we'll help our children transition back to life in their home provinces, to ensure a safe return and adjustment to life there. All of their treatments will continue as planned.



Stay connected with us for the latest news, updates, photos and stories from Shepherd's Field.



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This is a Time of Transition & Change



Through the past 23 years, Shepherd's Field has faced many periods of change, and with every one we've adapted and succeeded in providing better care for our kids. This new challenge presents us with the opportunity to retrain our staff, re-register, restructure our organization and refine our mission. We're refocusing on providing therapy and vocational training services to a wider group of special-needs kids, young adults and families all over China. This transition presents us with the opportunity to equip our staff with the training and resources they need to help create a much larger impact in the lives of those we care for. During this time, we'll continue to need your prayers, financial support and love as we carry out our mission to serve special-needs individuals throughout China.



Pray especially for our kids and staff, as we all transition into this new phase of care for the children who have become family to us. This separation will be difficult for all those who have grown so close, but we look for the

opportunities and blessings whenever we're faced with a change like this. Despite not being all together on one campus, we're still ONE big family. We'll continue to maintain relationships with our kids and their orphanages, and provide them with the training and services they need.

Thank you for your faithful support through 23 wonderful years. We're excited and encouraged by your love, and look forward to continuing our mission to provide therapy, medical care and educational services to the neediest Chinese children and families for many more decades.



Q: What's the plan going forward?

A: This week, our plan is to help our kids transition to their new lives off campus. We'll continue to partner with our children and their orphanages to provide them with the care, therapy and services they need. Beyond that, we've already begun the process of registering Shepherd's Field Children's Village as a Therapy Center and Vocational Training Facility. Once that's completed, we'll be able to accept more special-needs kids and young adults from the Tianjin orphanage. Our hope is to also provide services to parents and families throughout China who have children with special needs. Most have struggled to find much-needed therapy, medical and educational services for their kids at an affordable rate. We want to provide these services to them, as well as train and equip parents with the skills and strategies they need to best help their kids.



Q: Will all the children leave Shepherd's Field?

A: The new policy requires that all children return to their home provinces. Currently, SFCV does not have any children that are local to Tianjin – thus all of our children will return to their home provinces. **Maggie** has been given a medical exemption due to her renal failure and ongoing dialysis treatments. **Annie** will also be able to stay, as she's now an employee of Shepherd's Field. Lastly, we'll take **Mico** to the hospital this week to finish her surgeries in Beijing.

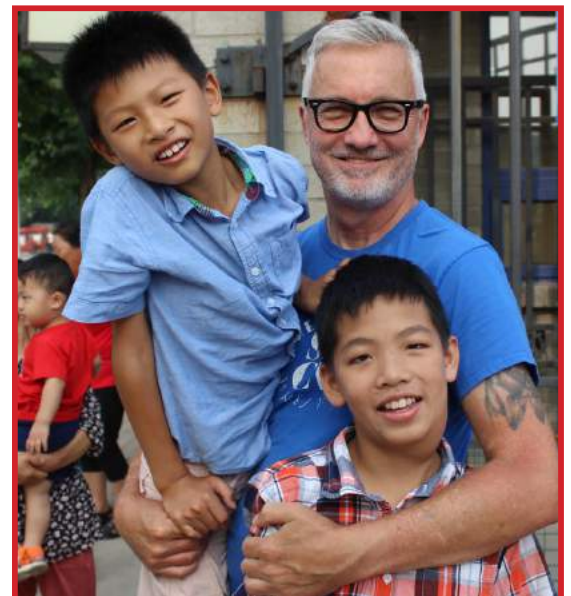
Q: Does this mean your staff will be traveling more?

A: Yes. Therapy, vocational, medical and support staff will be traveling to provide our kids and partnering orphanages with the hands-on and one-on-one training they need. As mentioned,

we'll continue to support our kids and partners by any means necessary, including: providing wheelchairs and mobility devices, therapy and medical supplies, therapy training, vocational training, special-care training, special-education training, and medical training – to ensure they receive the best care possible. Our children may live at different addresses, but they're still our family.

Q: Will there continue to be a sponsorship program?

A: Yes! During this time we need your help more than ever. We're committed to the children who have been in our care, and ask you to continue to support Shepherd's Field with your prayers and donations. We have strong relationships with the children's home orphanages, and we'll continue to provide treatment to our kids, as well as to the other orphans living at these orphanages. We'll train the kids' new caregivers to provide the specialized care and therapy they've received at Shepherd's Field. Your donations will allow us to continue our involvement with the child you sponsor, and we'll keep you up to date with their progress through our sponsorship updates.





Answers to Questions You May Have



Q: Are you closing?

A: No – our work is far from done. As mentioned in our statement, we're committed to continue to provide care for our kids in their new homes. We look forward to re-opening Shepherd's Field Children's Village as a therapy center and vocational training facility for all of China, which will allow us to provide specialized care to orphans and families affected by disability.

Q: What will happen to your current staff?

A: Within the next several weeks our staff will undergo employee

evaluations, which will help us formulate a plan to re-train and re-educate them, and prepare them for the next phase of our work. Re-training will begin shortly after evaluations have been completed.

Q: Will you still have interns and teams? Can we still visit?

A: Yes, we'll honor all summer internships for the 2018 season and beyond. Looking to the future, we'll continue to need a lot of help from visitors, volunteers and interns as we expand our services; thus, we'll continue to accept visitors, interns, volunteers and teams to help us. Further questions regarding internships and team bookings can be emailed to our staff, at info@chinaorphans.org.

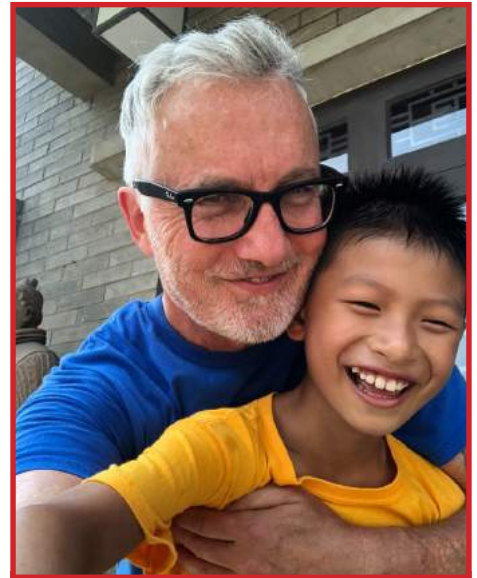
Q: How long will the Therapy Center and Vocational Training registration process take?

A: With the help of the local government, we've already begun the process of registering, and are hopeful that we can complete the entire registration in about two to three months.

Q: How can we continue to support Shepherd's Field?

A: You can continue to support us by adopting/advocating for the kids; sponsoring a child; making financial donations; volunteering; donating supplies, resources and training materials; and, of course, by covering us in prayer. All of our children are still adoptable, and many have papers that are ready to be matched with families. These policies do *not* change the current status of any in-process adoption – this is just a change of address for the kids. We're very excited for all that's in store for us, the kids, young adults and families we'll be able to help in the future.

Thank you from the depth of our hearts for your prayers, love and financial support. We're grateful for each of you. Please feel free to contact us with further questions, at: info@chinaorphans.org.



We are grateful for your prayers and financial support!

To donate by check:

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