



Christmas 2004



Christmas 2008

A loving home for orphans with medical conditions to recover, be comforted and loved.

News for 2008 - 2009

✧ 5 years on... we have... ✧

Helped almost 100 children get the medical help needed, on occasion it has been life saving...Helped 19 children from poor and destitute families that could not afford the child's surgery... 4 resident children who are in recuperation or awaiting surgery, sponsored in international kindergartens getting a bilingual education...Had staff trained by volunteers in Montessori concepts to better work with the children...Had 11 of our children get adopted internationally and have families of their own... Outreached to poor orphanages and villages where sick children are identified and have come into our care. The needs of the orphanages are also monitored and supplied as best we can...Achieved a reputation that has other foster homes asking us to take over cases that they cannot handle. Their amazement when they see the same child months later is testament that Blue Sky is doing it's job...Brought children to more than 15 hospitals all over China for various specialties, and travelled 3 children to Singapore and the US for surgeries...Dedicated volunteer teams in areas of nursing, therapy, nutrition and education...Survived on private donations from our supporters who trust our work with the children...

✧ Thanks ✧

On behalf of the children we help, a big thank you to everyone as always, for supporting our work. Blue Sky has been fortunate to have hardworking and dedicated staff, lots of volunteers who give of themselves selflessly, and trusting donors who believe in our work and help us to continue through financial support. We are not the best at fundraising, PR or marketing (and have no hired staff for this and other administrative roles), and often get absorbed in the immediate work at hand with the children. We have been lucky to get the support (sometimes just in time!) that we have needed to pay rentals, operating costs and medical fees, and truly thank our supporters. Through the years we have relied on word of mouth for support, and do not advertise or publicly fundraise, as we are not allowed to due to our registration status in China. The good news is that we do not spend donors money on advertising-related expenses, but will have to hope that luck continues to be on our side for incoming donations. Thank you to our volunteers who have helped to fundraise and vouch for us as well!



Tania Hoahing, Founder

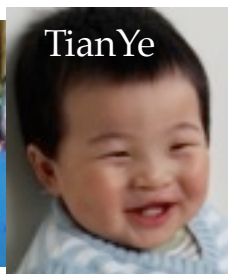
New Residents for 2008-2009



An Dao



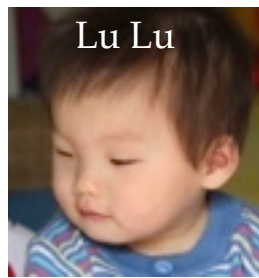
Anni



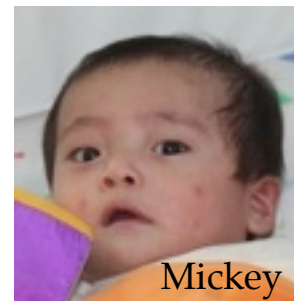
TianYe



YaNing



Lu Lu



Mickey



YinFeng



WenXuan



Qianyin



DangXiao



LiYong



Taolu



RuiXue

New Additions in 2008

March08-AnDao, newborn boy from Shanxi province born with spina bifida. Underwent successful surgery and returned to his orphanage in Oct08.

March 08-Anni, 13mth old baby girl from Shanxi province, born with a complex heart condition. Sadly, she passed away in hospital during surgery.

April08 - Tian Ye and YaNing, both boys from Henan province, born with cleft lip and palate conditions. They have completed 2 stages of surgery.

June08 - Lu Lu arrived at 1 yr old to Blue Sky. He is partially blind and malnourished. He will stay with us before transferring to a fosterhome for blind orphans.

July08- Mickey arrived at 7mths old. He had a very complex heart condition. Sadly he passed away in Feb09 unexpectedly.

Oct08 - WenXuan and YinFeng from Xining, Qinghai. Both have deformed limbs and need physical therapy and special splints. WenXuan returned to his orphanage end April 09. QianYin, has the sweetest girlie smile. She was abandoned at a migrant school, and at 2 years old, has very little muscle tone. She could barely sit up when she came to us. We have put her through a barage of tests and she has been diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), a motor neuron disease, and doctors here have told us that there is little that can be done for her and that she may not be able to walk. Our volunteer physical

therapist and staff are working with her to improve her movement and strength, and we are hopeful that she will have some mobility.

New Additions in 2009

Feb09- Dang Xiao, 1.5mth old baby girl from Henan province, born with dislocated knee and hips, and badly clubbed feet. She is undergoing casting treatment.

March09-Liyong, from Jiangxi province, was undiagnosed upon arrival. It has now been determined that he has PMD – Pelizaeus Merzbacher Disease (<http://www.pmdfoundation.org/>), a neurological disease. The doctors also do not think that he will ever be able to walk.

April09-LuTao, 2 mth old boy, and RuiXue, 3 mth old girl, are from Henan province and are both born with cleft lip and palate. 1st stage surgery completed 1st week May. Thank you to the Sondag family for sponsoring the hospital expenses.

For more information on our children, or to sponsor some of their expenses, please contact us, or donate via our website (Paypal). We are in need of sponsors for specialised high calorie infant formula that we provide our low birth weight babies with. Each small tin of this formula costs 110RMB (USD 16) , and lasts 5 days per baby. enquiry@blueskyhealinghome.org

Number of residents July 2009: 18



Kids in School !

We are very thankful to Mammolina’s Children’s Home (<http://www.montessori.ws/index.shtml>) for sponsoring 4 of our children in their bilingual Montessori program. FuXia, who has been with the school for almost 3 years now, has progressed from a child who barely spoke village Chinese, to now a fluent speaker of English and Chinese. He often acts as our in-house translator for the local staff and visitors. Other children at Mammolina’s now include Xiao Dai and Xiao Yu. We also thank private donors for sponsoring LuoFei’s school fees at Daystar Academy (www.daystarbeijing.cn) who have been very supportive of LuoFei as an addition to their school. He is blossoming to say the least in his new school environment.

Blossom House

Pictured is our new Blossom House unit. Our original Blossom house looked great on the outside, but gave us a multitude of problems with heating, ventilation, plumbing... This new unit, which has so

far been problem-free, is conveniently located directly behind our Healing Home unit (with all the babies!). Our 3rd rental house, where our staff live, is still a walk



away in another similar rented house. All our houses are outfitted with mostly donations from the Beijing expatriate community. We are very fortunate to have everyone’s support in our work to help these children. Even the clothes on our children are all donations ! Thank you !

Out for walks and playground time

Spring is by far one of the most enjoyable times in Beijing. Bright sunshine, with cool air. The kids have been cooped up almost all winter and now they are taken for walks and fun in the playgrounds near Blue Sky. Pictured are Yana, Ziping and XiaoYu. Yana came to us in Nov2007 very weak and sick, having a heart condition, cleft lip and palate. She survived her heart surgery, and recuperated to be strong enough to undergo cleft lip and palate repair. She will be leaving us soon to join her local adoptive family. Ziping, who has Downs

Syndrome, arrived in Jan2007, weak and malnourished with a heart condition and asthma. Quite often the little trooper would be in the isolation room, getting nebulised with medications, while all the other kids were playing. He also accounted for our increased expenditures on medicines when his asthma was active ! These days he is much more stable and walking independently. He will be transferred soon to another fosterhome for long term care and to open up a bed space at Blue Sky for a sicker child in need of care. Xiao Yu, was born with imperforate anus, clubbed feet and extra fingers. She had surgery followed by dilation therapy for her imperforate anus, and now functions normally. Her clubbed feet were successfully repaired with regular casting, and finally her extra fingers were removed by Dr Roye and his team on a mission trip in Nanchang in Oct 2008.

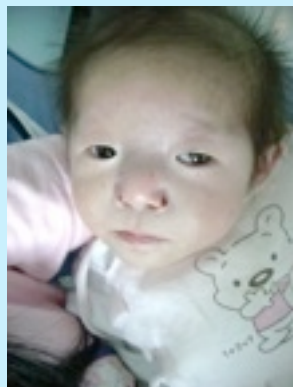
These kids have each been through a lot



of pain and suffering, but you would never know when you meet them now. They smile, laugh and play like all kids their age.

Latest Update: new arrivals April-May 2009

YuTong arrived underweight. Initial assessment by the heart surgeons show her to have atrial septal defect and patent ductus arteriosis. She is to be monitored for now (possibly her ASD will correct itself over time) and take care of her malnutrition needs and stabilise her. She will need high calorie infant formula. If you’d like to sponsor her formula needs, please contact us.



Baby Girl, Dang You En, born 9 January 2009, arrived May 5th, at Blue Sky. Heart is on the wrong side as well as some other organs. Most likely a condition called situs invertus. Underweight and malnourished. Needs TLC.



New arrival in July - Fu Yao Zhong, born 28 Jan 2009, male with cleft lip and palate. 1st stage surgery completed, but underweight and weak.

Introducing one of our long time residents, ...Xiao Dai



Xiao Dai is now 5 years old, and has been at Blue Sky for 4 years now. He was born with absent ribs on the left side of his body. He currently attends Mammolina's Montessori Kindergarten, under their sponsorship program, and is fluent in English and Mandarin. He is an active boy and a keen learner.

Through the years, Xiao Dai has watched his fellow resident "brothers" and "sisters" get adopted and leave Blue Sky, and he is sad for weeks after, missing them.

We can only hope that one day, his chance to be adopted into a family will come. For now, his Blue Sky family loves him to bits !

Where are they now? Our adopted children

Xiao Mei was born with bladder exstrophy and came to Blue Sky at 1 month old. She had reconstructive surgeries in Singapore and was one of Blue Sky's more critical babies. She was adopted by the Dillow family



in America and has 2 older adopted chinese sisters.

"Xiao Mei (Elaina, who still chooses to

be called MeiMei) has now been with us in the United States for over 6 months. She continually brings laughter to our home and is doing well. Her English skills are doing great and most people are able to understand what she is saying. The doctors are pleased with her progress. We will be seeing her specialist again in a few months just to make sure some of the changes he made to her care are still working for her good. She has had no infections and has learned to use the potty chair for most of her needs. Although she does empty some of her bladder in the "normal" way, she still cannot completely empty her bladder on her own, so we do catheterize her 3 times a day to help her fully empty her bladder. She does not wear a bag at night any more. The doctor is letting her bladder capacity grow. We so want to thank everyone that has had a part in her care!!! We know there are so many to thank and we want you to know how grateful we are to each and every one of you. May God bless you all.

~~ The Dillow family

Zhijing was born with cleft lip and palate and came to Blue Sky at 9 days old. She was adopted by the Meyer family in America and has 2 older adopted chinese brothers.



"Dear Tania, I want to give you an update on our newest family member,

Meili Rose. You and your readers will remember her as the vivacious Zhi Jing. We travelled in January of this year to adopt her. What a joy and privilege it was to be able to meet her at Blue Sky Healing Home and to meet all of the staff that have cared for her and loved her these past three years! Our time at Blue Sky was memorable, and it is a true gift to be able to give Meili a first hand account of the home she lived in prior to becoming our daughter. We especially enjoyed the morning that we spent with Fu Xia and Luo Fei. They are truly remarkable boys and I pray daily they find forever families. I witnessed true affection for each other and Meili and I know that Meili has felt their absence. Her face lights up when I pull up their photos on the computer, which is quite frequently. She often wants to see the photos from our time at Blue Sky. I am grateful that she feels secure enough with us that she can look at the photos and be happy for the sight of her friends and caregivers. I feel that Dr. Maria He and the rest of the staff did a great job of preparing her for her new family and that has made the transition easier. Thank you Blue Sky for our beautiful daughter!

~~ The Meyer family

Outreach Trips



Poor Families

Outreach Trips



The picture shows the welcome our volunteers received from the residents of a small church orphanage. Our van was filled with basic

necessities like oil, flour and rice, medicines, vitamins as well as lots of clothes, towels, and much to the children's delight, TOYS! The goods were donated to Blue Sky, and we have always had the habit of sharing our donations with whomever we believe needs it more than us! These children were well mannered and loving to each other, despite being in very poor surroundings. Some had repaired clefts, others minor physical deformities. What we could tell right away was that the children were being loved by their caretakers.

Our goal with the outreach trips is to assess the orphanages needs, the children's medical needs, and to encourage basic hygiene practices (to improve their basic health standards and prevent sickness). Dr He will spend quality time with the head of the orphanage, discussing their needs and how Blue Sky can help. These trips also serve to introduce Blue Sky to them, and to assure them that our work is purely to help children in need. Gaining their trust is vital, so that when they are in need of help, they will immediately feel that they are able to rely on us to help them. Often, these places are fearful of asking for help, because they operate unofficially in China, and they do not want to attract attention from the authorities.

Children from poor families in need of medical care

We are often referred cases of children needing medical assistance, who come from families that cannot afford the surgeries. We explore each case, and will help if we have the funds, and the space to



accommodate the families upon their arrival in Beijing. We make all the arrangements with the doctors and hospitals, and help the families with emotional and logistical support. Often the families are uneducated farmers who have never been to a big city like Beijing before. The experience of travel from their small villages to Beijing is stressful in itself. At Blue Sky, the staff help the families to integrate into our home and the families are welcomed as part of the household during their stay pre and post surgery of their child. We do our bit to impart to them guidelines of hygiene and basic healthcare. To date, we have helped over 19 children from poor families, the majority of children suffering from congenital heart conditions.

Through the years, we have met wonderful and loving families, many of whom we still keep in contact with today. We have been touched by the gratitude these families have shown us, with some even wanting to pay us back for the expenses incurred when they gathered funds after the surgery - this despite the fact that they are still so poor on an everyday basis (often we are moved to tears!).

The Blue Sky Team

*Introducing our key people
(with lots of help from many others...)*

Staff

- Dr Maria He** — Chief of Operations
- Qin Qin** — Manager, Blossom House
- Xiao Pei** — Manager, Healing Home
- Xiao Fang** — Assistant Manager

Our total staff load of 20 local hires include child caretakers, cooks, cleaners and drivers.

Pictured from left are: Xiao Fang, QinQin, XiaoPei, and Dr Maria He



Volunteer Team

- Tania Hoahing** — Founder (tania@blueskyhealinghome.org)
- Celine Wong** — Treasurer, Advisor
- Tony Cheah** — Volunteer Coordinator, Blossom Team

Nursing Team

- Joanne Wheater** — Nurse
- Joke Klaas** — Physiotherapist
- Elaine Tsang** — Occupational Therapist
- Gunilla Fransson** — Honorary Nurse Advisor
- Marie-Ange Sice** — Honorary Nurse Advisor

Blossom Team

- Anna Furlan** — Social Worker
- Laura Bugatti** — Educator

If you would like to volunteer, please do contact us.



enquiry@blueskyhealinghome.org

Needs List

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Hand Sanitisers | Infant Formula |
| Masks | Diapers |
| Vitamins & Supplements | Diaper Creams |
| Cough and Cold Mixtures | Moisturising Creams |
| High Calorie Formula | Antiseptic Creams |
| Bibs | Printer Ink (HP ?) |
| Baby bottles and nipples | Recycled Paper for kids to draw and scribble |
| | Office Stationary |

Actual expenditure for 2008 was 896400 RMB.
NO surgery expenses are included in the budget, as we often apply for funding through other foundations, or we fundraise on a case by case basis. Individuals have sponsored surgeries in the past and made payment directly to the hospitals.

Budget for 2009

Rentals	170000 RMB
Salaries	280000 RMB
Utilities	30000 RMB
Transport	40000 RMB
Living Expenses	140000 RMB
OTC Medicines/Visits	96000 RMB
Repairs and Reno	10000 RMB
Communications	8000 RMB
Furniture/Equipment	2000 RMB
TOTAL :	776000 RMB
(exchange rate : 7 RMB/1 USD, 4.7RMB/1 SGD)	