HOPE STATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



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INTRODUCTION & MISSION

Here's what we are all about

There are over 9,000,000 orphans in China. These children have been orphaned or abandoned, left in trash heaps, on doorsteps, or in public parks. The majority of them are healthy girls or children with special needs that are all unwanted. They are struggling to survive in orphanages across China that have inadequate facilities, staffing, and resources to meet their needs. Staff-to-child ratios are as high as 1:40, causing these children to receive little to no adult interaction in a day. Babies stay in their cribs for hours on end, and toddlers and school age children are expected to fend for themselves throughout the day. These children are neglected, malnourished, and nameless.



Abandonment and abortion of girls and children with special needs is a glaring reality in China, due to the one-child policy. This policy prohibits families from having more than one child. In China, because of a strong preference for sons, and very little disabilities awareness, parents often abandon their female or disabled first children in order to try again for a son. Unplanned pregnancies are another reason parents might abandon their second born, for fear of being arrested, imprisoned, fined, or beaten, not to mention publicly humiliated for breaking the law. According to Georgette Mulheir, an expert in international orphan research, "60 years of research has demonstrated that separating children from their families and placing them in large institutions seriously harms their health and development" and this is "particularly true for young babies."

These children deserve better.

HOPE STATION serves the orphaned, abandoned and disabled children of China, by providing quality care and the necessary enrichment for their healthy growth and development. In receiving children from government orphanages in the Sichuan province, we will give these children a loving home in the city of Chengdu where their unique needs will be addressed through individualized care, therapy services, and medical attention. Hope Station will be prepared to deal with a wide range of special needs (such as cleft lip and palate, developmental delay, heart conditions, imperforate anus, clubfeet, hydrocephalus, spina bifida, scoliosis, and more), in addition to any children we receive without special needs.

We believe that each child deserves the chance to experience life to the fullest. With this in mind, Hope Station's main goal will be to find loving adoptive families for each and every one of our children. Loving parents are necessary to a child's healthy development. Mulheir explains, "This forming of the powerful attachment between child and parent provides the building blocks for physical, social, language, cognitive, and psychomotor development... We find if we get them out of institutions and into loving families they recover their developmental delays and go on to live normal happy lives." We plan to do just that.

OUR HISTORY & PREPARATION

We're proud of our past, and we've done our homework

- 1998 Rebekah's dream of working with orphans in China began
- 2004 Sara first became connected to and fell in love with orphan care
- **2010** Rebekah and Sara met and the idea for Hope Station was born
 - Visited and researched other foster home models in China
 - First visit to partnering orphanage outside Chengdu
- 2011 2012 Research, networking, planning
- 2013 Board of Directors is established
 - Hope Station registered as a 501(c)(3) in the U.S.
 - Hope Station signs partnership agreement with CRDF
 - Fundraising
- 2014 Fundraising and planning
 - Summer spent in Chengdu, serving the children in partnering govt. orphanage







Hope Station is partnered with the **Chinese Relief and Development Foundation** (CRDF), a Chinese nonprofit organization that serves the people of the Sichuan province, based in Chengdu. CRDF operates as Hope Station's umbrella organization, in order for Hope Station to legally operate within the province. CRDF provides administrative support, networking connections, financial guidance, and legal advice. In addition to organizational support, CRDF provides work visas for Hope Station's foreign staff. They assist in hiring local staff members, collaborating with the local orphanages to transition children to and from Hope Station foster home, securing a location, and more.

Hope Station is also partnered with a **local orphanage**, just one hour outside of Chengdu. The orphanage director is extremely receptive to our mission and goals, and has agreed to give us our first foster children. At this point, Hope Station provides resources to this orphanage that helps them to care for their kids in a greater capacity. We visit on a regular basis, bringing supplies and offering support to the staff.

GOAL: Reduce the number of institutionalized children in China.

- Hope Station will consistently advocate for children's adoptions into forever families.
- Hope Station will open a small-scale children's foster home, initially taking in five children under the age of two from large-scale government institutions. We will continue to refill those five spots as children are adopted out of our care.

GOAL: Improve the quality of care for orphans in China by treating the "whole" child.

- Children will make developmental progress according to each child's maximum ability, by receiving therapy services and 24-hour care by trained nannies.
- Children will achieve and maintain full physical health according to each child's maximum ability, by receiving regular medical support and therapy services.
- Children will make strong, positive attachments to caretakers and adults, by receiving care in a nurturing, family-like environment at a 1:2 nanny to child ratio.

GOAL: Create awareness in Chinese orphanages and communities about the cause, state, and needs of China's orphans.

- Local community members will receive opportunities for paid positions or volunteer work in our foster home, to expose them to the realities in which these children live.
- Local orphanages will collaborate with Hope Station, by sharing information and knowledge about caring for orphans and children with special needs.



This year, Hope Station was primarily focused on organizational planning and development. We believe that how we begin will set the tone for how we continue. We want to set our organization up for success, both in the near future and long term, so we put a lot of thought and effort into our goals, programs, and operations. We also spent a significant amount of time advocating and fundraising for our future ministry. Again, how we begin will set the tone for how we continue, and we refuse to take children into our care unless we are financially prepared to keep them in our care. We feel strongly about living within our means, while giving our children high quality care.

Hope Station staff spent a total of three months in the year working directly with the children in our partnering orphanage. During that time, the children made exciting progress physically, mentally, and socially.



OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED

- human touch gross and fine motor activities and toys social activities •
- music and movement activities behavioral therapy feeding therapy
 - play therapy reading nutrition & general health •

OUR DONOR FAMILY

Our impact is a result of your generosity.

We have an incredible donor family dedicated to making an impact in our children's lives day after day, month after month. This year, Hope Station has seen more new donors than ever.

From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU.



236

DONATIONS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES

101
DONORS

INDIVIDUALS,
ORGANIZATIONS
& CHURCHES





\$46,126 IN DONATIONS \$41,471 NEW SPONSORSHIPS

PLUS: 22 VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONALLY

FINANCIALS

A cco	40
ASSE	LS

Restricted by Board	\$2,500
Inventory	\$0
Other Assets	\$0
Property and Equipment	\$0
Total Assets	\$87660

Revenue & Support

Contributions	\$46,126
Non-Cash Contributions	\$0

Total Revenue & Support

\$46,126

Expenses

Program	\$14,431
Management & General	\$5,347
Development	\$837

Total Expenses

\$20,182

CONTACT INFO

Who's who within our organization

Our **Board of Directors** is based in Minnesota, currently consisting of five people:

Tim Eaton, Chair Kelsey Terry, Treasurer Michael Wilder, Secretary Yaning Xu Pamela Solvie

Other staff and volunteers include:

Rebekah Wilder, Founder & Executive Director Marsha Wilder, Administrative Assistant Meghan McCarthy, Grant Researcher Charity Hayden, Intern to Rebekah Wilder Corry Hammett, Event Coordinator

U.S. Mailing Address:

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