

CARING FOR CHINA



Health for China
May 2002



Training Center and Hospital Clinic



Health Team

For the past eight months, preparations have been underway for the commencement of the Training Service, another arm of Health for China. Last year, Richard resigned from his job in an Australian hospital to devote his time and energy in training Carers who are involved in the care of abandoned and orphaned children in Central China. This was in response to a call from God, not only to be involved in nursing training but also to call all men and women unto Himself. It has been marvelous to see God's hand at work, to be a part of this exciting venture into somewhat unchartered territory. God has been preparing the way ahead and through His Word, has shown me that His purpose is to bring light to the Welfare Center, to demonstrate God's love to all people.

Richard, May (translator) and Simon (Assistant) spent the month of March preparing material for the first set of courses, and on April 1st, the dream became a reality, with the commencement of training after a brief opening ceremony. Margaret (Nurse from Hephzibah) also participated in lectures and role-plays during the course. Officials from the main office of the Welfare Department for Central China, as well as the President and Vice-President of the Welfare Center delivered short speeches, and Dr. David responded on behalf of HFC.

Also, during March, we were able to have access to the Main Welfare Center, which allowed us to become familiar with routines and procedures, to get acquainted with the staff and children and just build relationships with them. Transport to and from the Children's Welfare Center is provided for the team by means of their mini-bus. This has also proven to be an effective means of developing relationships and determining needs of staff members. One activity on the bus is regular English "classes" in exchange for Chinese "classes". During one visit to the Main Welfare Center and one occasion on the bus, we have been asked if we are Christians and there has been opportunity to share about God's love with them.



Margaret & Richard with Carers in the classroom, undertaking teaching and role-play.



The training courses include nursing care of infants and children, nursing children with abnormalities and diseases, special needs and education as well as nursing leadership later in the year. Lecture material is prepared and presented in English then translated Chinese for the Carers. The evaluation forms and feedback was very positive with new skills such as the baby check, writing nursing reports and growth & development records being learned. Practical skills in these areas were also demonstrated and assessed. Progress continues to be made within the Main Welfare Center with developing communication channels and relationships with the staff. One example of such progress is that Carers from the main CWC asked to have some practical assessment sessions on the last day of the course in Hephzibah. They said to me "we want to observe Hephzibah, the hand-washing, routines, procedures, can we go to the fourth floor this afternoon to do the assessment?" After consultation with the Manager of Hephzibah, this was then arranged and occurred and with positive outcomes. One of the supervisors from the Main Welfare Center suggested that the group commencing the course the following week undertake their practical assessments also in Hephzibah. Praise the Lord!! As a team, we prayed about opportunities like this one that same morning, and every time I think of the outcome from today, I cry with joy in what the Lord has done and is going to do in the weeks ahead. This is only the first week! Imagine what God has in store for us next week!

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