



Shepherd's Field
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE
牧羊地儿童村

Heartbeat

November 2017



Flying to America

Levi (Han Qian Nan) has been extremely interested in airplanes lately, and every day in our preschool art class he'll plead with any nearby adult to "please draw me an airplane!" When a jet flies overhead, he stops whatever he's doing to catch a glimpse and enthusiastically call out, "Airplane! Airplane!" Recently, both he and his friend **Isaac (Dang Meng Yang)**, asked their teacher to draw an airplane for them. As she was sketching, she overheard the boys talking about flying in a plane, high in the sky, so she asked them where they wanted to go. Both quickly said, "Beijing!" These two may be only four years old, but they're smart boys who know that big, exciting things happen in the large cities. They often talk about flying to Beijing, so when their teacher told them that you *drive* to Beijing – not fly – they said, "Yes! Go to Beijing, and fly a plane ... to America!"



Levi

Since the school year started, six students from the Preschool 2 class have been adopted, so the remaining kids often talk about their friends who "went to America." After saying goodbye to another classmate, they wonder what it would feel like to have their own Forever Family. To Levi and Isaac, it seems that exciting things happen not only in Beijing, but also in America. These soon-to-be four-year-olds are determined to someday take that flight themselves! *Maybe you know someone who can get them that ticket.*



Isaac

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



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Is China Calling You ... to a Life-Changing Internship?

We had an amazing summer, as more than **45 interns** volunteered to serve the Shepherd's Field children. Read for yourselves how volunteers were impacted and changed through their service here, and remember that the **Summer 2018 Internship** window opened on November 1. Come to China, meet some amazing kids, and discover new talents and callings. Get info and applications from Naomi, at: naomi.preedin@chinaorphans.org, and return them to her as soon as possible. **Now check out these testimonies from Summer 2017:**

"This summer was the first time I had the opportunity to volunteer at Shepherd's Field Children's Village (SFCV). I've worked with special-needs children before, and I was looking to serve and be used by God this past summer. My brother is from Shepherd's Field, and I first visited there the summer before he was adopted. Working as a Therapy Intern this year was such a privilege. I've learned so much about Occupational Therapy and how it improves the children's physical and motor skills. Being at SFCV was a life-changing experience for me. The kids' continual happiness is just one of the many ways that God's been able to use these children to touch people's hearts. I spent a lot of my time with a child on my lap, playing with kids on the ground, or having one of the children play with my hair. Every moment with them was a blessing. I truly look forward to serving the children again."

– Emily Padden, New Jersey, USA



"When I applied to spend my summer as an intern at Shepherd's Field, I thought it was going to be a summer full of watching and learning, of sitting back and observing and doing small tasks whenever I was needed – but wow, was I wrong! The two months that I spent at Shepherd's Field were some of the most amazing and transformational of my life, and I can't wait to go back! From the very beginning I was able to jump right into therapy sessions – from helping to plan the sessions, to facilitating them, I was able to daily apply everything that I've been learning in my university Speech Therapy classes. The hours that I spent in the therapy room were some of my favorite, and the hands-on learning in Speech, Physical and Occupational Therapy was so unbelievably valuable. While my time spent in the therapy room was certainly amazing, it was the kids themselves who made my internship so special. It was very easy to love them, and so much fun to see their personalities emerge over the course of the summer. I highly recommend interning at Shepherd's Field to anyone and everyone – it is an absolutely amazing experience that you cannot pass up!"



– Stephanie Jewett, North Carolina, USA



“In my sophomore summer of high school, I came to Shepherd’s Field on a 10-day mission trip. I fell in love with the children immediately; their smiles lit up my heart and made me feel fulfilled. I knew this was a place I wanted to invest in – I desired to connect more closely with the children, and make a significant impression on the orphanage itself. The last two summers I’ve interned for one month each, and it has completely changed my life! Although I was nervous to live in a different country at first, investing in these kids is one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. Their laughter filled the room every time I walked into their houses, and I’d think to myself, ‘This is what a full life looks like. This is what living with a purpose feels like. This joy is something I wish everyone could experience.’ Every day I went to sleep with a smile, knowing that my time at Shepherd’s Field was well spent. Without a doubt, I’ll be back again.”

– Connor Castleberry, Georgia, USA

“Last summer, I was fortunate to volunteer for a third consecutive summer at Shepherd’s Field – it was another amazing and impactful time in my life. There’s absolutely nothing better in this world than the pure joy found on the faces of these precious Chinese orphans, and I wouldn’t trade the relationships I’ve formed with the kids, staff and other interns for anything. Every day after work I would welcome the amazingly fun and exhausting task of taking Momo, Brody and Rocco out to the playground. I’ll always think back to those sweat-filled, sandy days as some of the most joyful moments of my life.”

– Jackson Simpson, Georgia, USA

An internship just might change your life! We are taking applications for Summer 2018 now! Deadline for submissions is March 1. Please email our Internship Coordinator, Naomi Preedin with applications or any questions: naomi.preedin@chinaorphans.org.



Someone is Looking for Ella



Sweet, little **Ella (Song Yuxuan)** has been a part of our Shepherd’s Field family for almost eight months, and we love her. She’s been in our Therapy Program since March – getting both physical and speech therapies – and we’ve shared many joys and developmental gains with her. Our team has focused on helping with her interactive play skills, verbal and speech play, standing, crawling and most recently, walking. When we first began working with Ella, her sessions were filled with tears – because she didn’t know us, and she was scared. Now, she comes to therapy with a trusting smile on her beautiful face. She’s been working so hard, and making great progress in her gross motor development and interpersonal play skills. We’re very blessed to be able to help this precious girl as she grows and develops. *Please pray with us for Ella to be found by her very own Forever Family.*

The **Mid-Autumn Festival** is a traditional Chinese harvest festival, celebrated by families gathering together, eating moon cakes and gazing at the full moon. This year, our staff taught the children how to make their own tasty moon cakes. The kids worked together, and added food coloring to make the moon cakes a variety of fun colors, while staff made the dough and fillings from scratch. After all the mixing, shaping and baking, the kids stated how much they enjoyed learning about one of China's great food traditions. They were excited to take their moon cakes home to show their nannies and housemates what they created, then eat their cakes together. China has many great traditions, foods and festivals, and we hope to teach our kids about them all through cooking, arts and more.



You Can Change the World

Is China Calling You? Are you interested in serving special-needs orphans? Here are some current staffing needs. If you'd like to volunteer or just want more info, send us an email at: naomi.preedin@chinaorphans.org.

Medical Professional – Are you looking to change children's lives? If so, then we are the place for you! We're currently looking for a long-term volunteer to help with our medical team for four to six months, beginning late this summer.

Office Worker(s) – We are looking for two office staff, who are preferably bilingual, to take on the following responsibilities: administrative tasks; guest relations duties; the organization of children's files and records.

Greenhouse Staff – We have an immediate need in our greenhouse and gardens, for someone to tend the flowers and plants around campus.

Teaching Staff – Are you a teacher who is looking to better the lives of our kids? We have a need for someone to join the teaching staff in our school starting immediately. Bilingual must be perfected.

Media Staff – Do you have experience in website and/or graphic design? We are searching for an individual to take over responsibility of our website and Newsletter.

For more information please visit our staff page on our website or contact us via email at: naomi.preedin@chinaorphans.org.



We are grateful for your prayers and financial support!

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