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# Altrusa Foster Care Sponsorships

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Every child deserves to have a loving home, family and individual attention. Motor and speech development improve. The child learns how to form attachments and trust in other people. Infant mortality rates drop. When they are old enough to attend school they have someone to help and encourage them and by being out in the community they see the value of staying in school so they can be independent some day.

And, when a child becomes a part of a local community, their chance for adoption increases greatly.

## Tell Me More About Your Foster Care Program...

Dr. Peggy Gurrad of the Altrusa International of Longview-Kelso Foundation in Longview, Washington works closely with the Amity Foundation in China, coordinating and monitoring the foster care project in the Jiangxi Province. Amity requires that the orphanage staff member in charge of overseeing foster care visit each family regularly once a month. In addition, Amity staff members make regular rounds to visit with the parents and children involved in the program.

Foster parents take the children to the orphanages once a month for a medical health exam. During a recent visit, Dr. Hong reported, "We found that each foster care family loved the child that was put into their care very much, treating the child as their own. All the children we saw were clean and beautifully dressed. Some of them wore sweaters that were knitted by their foster moms. We also found that the children were well fed. We can see that there is an attachment between the children and their respective foster moms. All of the children were more active and lively than they were in the orphanage."

By providing enough additional foster care sponsorships, Amity can require that children remain in their foster homes unless they are adopted. This ensures that children will have a "forever" family of their own. Currently, orphanages in Nanchang, Ganzhou, Hengfeng, Yichun, Wanzai, Yingtan, Pingxiang, Leping, Gao'an, Jingdezhen, Shanggao, Shangrao, Ji'an and Linchuan (Fuzhou) are participating in the Amity Foundation foster care program. It has been difficult to find sponsors in this time of economic decline and we have had to make some cuts in our programs. With your support, we hope to provide for the current children.

## Foster Care Sponsorship

The cost of Amity foster care sponsorship is \$384 per year in most orphanages. It can be paid monthly, quarterly or annually. \$32 per month is a small price to pay to change a child's life forever.

The cost of the special needs foster care sponsorship in Nanchang has increased to \$576 per year or \$48 per month, due to a higher cost of living in these areas, and the increased needs of the children.



Visit our web site at [www.altrusa.ws](http://www.altrusa.ws) for further information or send your donation to Altrusa Foundation and let us know if you have a specific orphanage for which you would like to provide sponsor assistance.