

# Stories of Hope

SEE THE DIFFERENCE YOU ARE MAKING EVERY DAY IN THE LIVES OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

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*"I hope I can earn enough money to help make my dreams come true." Dong Jie.*

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Your Support is  
Shaping Her Future

BRINGING YOU CLOSER TO THE LIVES YOU HAVE CHANGED

March 2023

# Made possible by you

This year ICC celebrates 30 years of love and service in China.

**Now thanks to you and all the amazing people who have prayed, given gifts, and volunteered over the last 30 years, life for these children is filled with love and joy. I want to thank you and encourage you that it has all made HUGE difference!**

**You'll read in this newsletter about how your amazing support has had such a wonderful impact on so many young people over the years. And, how your ongoing support will transform the lives of our latest new arrivals to the Hengyang family!**

There are more children on their way in Hengyang, and in Changsha we've signed a new extended agreement to continue providing 24/7 care to young children who have experienced abandonment. We're also very excited about more opportunities to reach out to families in the countryside. Our FPP Cross Care teams are meeting parents who never had anywhere to turn. Now, thanks to you, they can see hope for the future and opportunities for their children.

**You have given vulnerable children a chance to not only survive but to thrive. So, grab a warm drink, relax and enjoy reading how you change their world.**



National Director ICC UK





## From Institutional Care To A Family Style Home

**You'll be providing so much for them - thank you!**

You have changed the lives of 8 beautiful children. Thanks to your support we recently welcomed 8 new children who had been living difficult lives at county-level facilities near Hengyang. They are all underweight.

We were so excited waiting for them to arrive. **As soon as they came through the gates you made it possible for us to begin to love and care for them.**

Now, thanks to you they are settling into family style group homes, receiving good nutrition and experiencing circle times and having therapy assessments.

**This is what your support provides for children who have been abandoned into institutional care.**

Nan Fuzheng is one 11 year old boy who arrived. ----- He needed a wheelchair, so the carers and therapists went and sourced a suitable one. He had his first ever circle time. The therapy team are assessing him at the moment for a sleep support system. We are so looking forward to seeing changes in him over the coming weeks as he settles.



**As little as £5 a month could provide Fuzheng with all the support he needs to thrive. You can know that you are changing his life and his future!**  
Visit [www.chinaconcern.org/uknewsletter](http://www.chinaconcern.org/uknewsletter)

**Your gifts provide good nourishment, 24 hour care, therapy and much more.**



## YOU Changed Kai's Life!

**From Bullied, and Begging on The Street, to Learning New Skills!**

Anna first met Ling Kai, when he was begging in the streets.

As a twenty-four-year old with an intellectual disability, he had little choice. Kai shared that he was often "bullied and chased off by people who thought I was a nuisance." **Thanks to lovely people like you, Kai is now off the streets and working on the Little Ark food truck!**

Kai grew up in Zhuzhou, a small city in Hunan Province, in a single-parent household. He left school with only a middle school education. Anna introduced Kai to ICC's Pathways programme on October 31st, 2022. He threw himself into training on food preparation and hygiene. He enjoyed life skills and safety training. And, he started working at our third Little Ark in November!

**Your gifts mean that he has been able to learn so much and be supported by people who really care about him.**

**"I help prepare the ingredients for the desserts," Kai says. "It's a lot of fun! And it's given me a sense of responsibility. It gives me an income and great hope for the future."**

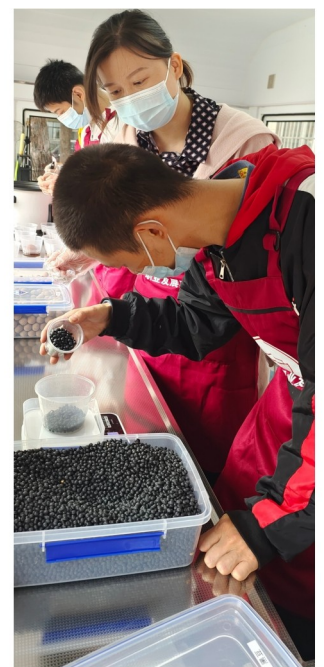
Our Pathways team continues to provide Kai with holistic, loving support. Last November, Kai went to a young people's camp with us. He joined a group of young people like him on an overnight excursion to Guali Farm. He studied in the "classroom of nature."

With his new friends he picked sweet potatoes, fed chickens and made bamboo crafts. This was a wonderful chance for him to meet people who understood him and his struggles.

**Your gifts have brought him safety, friends and opportunities. He has embarked on a journey towards independence and self-confidence thanks to you.**

Kai's mother brought his younger siblings to our celebration at the Lighthouse. She wanted them to meet the people that changed their brother's life.

**#youchangedhislife**



**Kai is off the streets, making new friends and gaining skills for life thanks to you.**



## Poverty, Disability and Bereavement.

### How you helped one family to cope.

We first met Fengfeng, a playful, bubbly ten-year old with an intellectual disability, in June 2022. He and his younger brother were living with their parents, who also have intellectual disabilities. Our team assessed Fengfeng and created a therapy and special education plan for him that focused on his verbal and social communication skills, gross motor skills and cognitive ability.

Although he was initially quite shy around our team, he soon formed a close bond with Teacher Guo. After their sessions, he would often call her on Wechat to talk. She always picks up, even if it he calls after 9 pm! **I find that amazing - such love and commitment.** If you could listen to these calls, you would hear the joy, excitement and love in Fengfeng's voice.

**Thanks to your amazing love and commitment,** Fengfeng's entire family attended a fun-filled event for the first time. I can just imagine their excitement! When they first arrived, Fengfeng began to cry, he was so overwhelmed by the large crowd. Thankfully our lovely team noticed and immediately approached him.

At the familiar sight of his beloved teachers, he was comforted, and began to calm down. Fengfeng and his family had an absolutely wonderful day that they will remember for a long time! Their time splashing around in the swimming pool together was a particular highlight.

This family have faced more than their fair share of challenges. Now they also face an uncertain financial future. **Thankfully, your gifts provided a much needed financial subsidy for the family.**

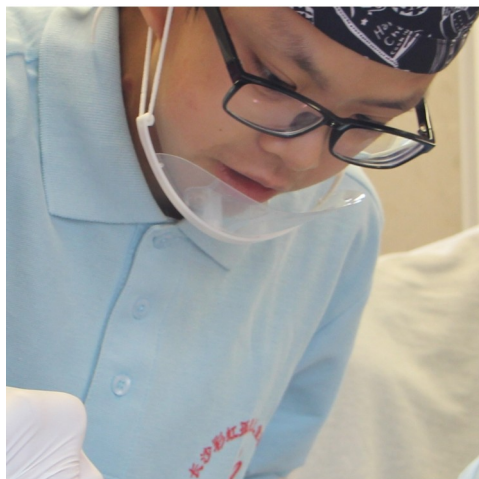
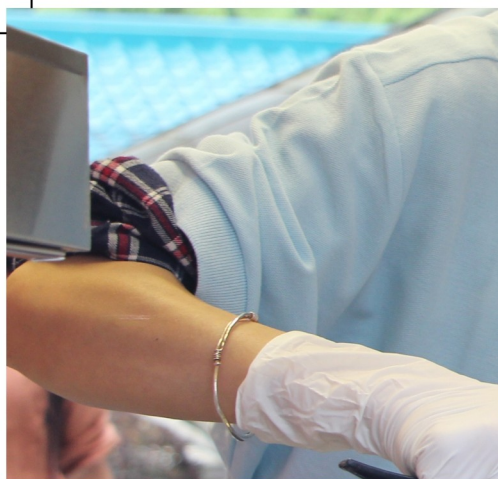
**Thanks to wonderful supporters like you, Fengfeng and his family will continue to be loved and supported by trained and compassionate staff.**



**Sadly,**  
**Fengfeng's grandfather**  
**recently fell ill.**  
**As Fengfeng's father devoted**  
**his time towards caring for**  
**him, he also lost his job.**

**Over Chinese New Year, the**  
**family said goodbye to their**  
**beloved grandfather.**

**You're making a difference in this family's life and giving them practical help**



## Dong Jie's Dreams Can Come True - **Thanks to YOU!**

Jie, is an intelligent and compassionate young woman who came into ICC's care in Changsha when she was just seven years old. She has muscular dystrophy. She was one of the first children to come into ICC's care all those years ago. **She has gone on to grow and thrive thanks to your support.** She attended public school, where she earned excellent grades in Chinese and writing.

**Your support changes the lives of vulnerable young people. Vocational training opportunities, funded by your gifts, give them a future with dignity and purpose.** The Little Ark teaches young people food preparation, hospitality, accounting and communication skills.

Smart, passionate and an excellent leader, Jie was an easy choice to be our first Little Ark "Captain." Here, she shares some of the triumphs and challenges she has faced during her years as Captain.

**Q: How do you feel about your time at Little Ark?**

**Jie:** It hasn't always been a smooth journey!

During the pandemic my crew encountered various issues. Some of them had just undergone surgery and were hospitalized. My own hands were weak, and I couldn't knead noodles or make coffee.

**Q: What was the biggest difficulty you encountered, and how did you face it?**

**Jie:** The most difficult thing was that during the pandemic, there were no customers! Many workers in the nearby Welfare Centre and hospital didn't have much time to eat.

**Your support empowers young people with disabilities through vocational training opportunities.**

There were limited options in the cafeteria. So Teacher Su taught us how to make egg noodles! We young people would knead, cook, and mix the noodles by ourselves. It was all handmade. The noodles were easy to roll out, very popular with everyone, and our

**Thanks to you Jie can now dream about her future.**



**Q: What skills did you gain during this process?**

**Jie:** I am quite introverted and I don't like communicating with people. But as a "Captain", I have to take the initiative to understand the needs of customers. With the help of the teachers, I learned to make different food, and I helped to guide Ganggang and Huahua.

When I am recording the day's accounts, this is the happiest time of day for me. Although it is not my own money, it represents the fruits of the labour of the whole team. This makes me feel valued and I have a sense of accomplishment for the work I do.

**Q: What are your hopes for the future?**

**Jie:** I hope I can earn enough money to help make my dreams come true. I want to go to Yunnan and Hainan to see the sea and the mountains and the rivers.

**Your support has helped to:**

- create four Little Ark food trucks
- establish and support a bakery for young people with hearing loss
- provide training programmes and learning opportunities for young people in the community
- support the community farm in Hengyang
- develop a vocational training centre in Changsha



**Every day your support is changing the lives of 100's of vulnerable children!**

# Other ways You Can Make a Difference

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**"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16b**

## **Pray With Us**

The monthly ICC Prayer Calendar is a wonderful and powerful tool for people to pray for us daily. Our Prayer Calendar provides you with much needed prayers for our children and young adults on their birthdays, those who have special or urgent needs, and the development of ICC. To subscribe please contact [uk@chinaconcern.org](mailto:uk@chinaconcern.org)

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## **Keep Up To Date**

Keep up to date with all the latest news by liking our Facebook page: chinaconcernuk  
Let us know what you think of our newsletter - we always love to hear your thoughts and any suggestions you might have!

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## **Leave a Legacy of Love, Hope and Opportunity.**

With a gift in your Will, you'll be standing with the next generation of dedicated volunteers and care givers as they transform the lives, and the future of children who have no voice.

This could be the most influential gift you ever make.  
Please contact [judy.elliott@chinaconcern.org](mailto:judy.elliott@chinaconcern.org) for information

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## **Easy ways you can get started as a church ambassador**

Thank you for being willing to give of your time, effort, and enthusiasm.  
If you have just 5 minutes a month: You could put some of our brochures out at your church.

15 minutes a month? Could we become your church's Charity Partner?  
Talk with your leadership team or church council.

For more info please email: [judy.elliott@chinaconcern.org](mailto:judy.elliott@chinaconcern.org)

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