

Hope Station



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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INTRODUCTION & MISSION

Here's what we are all about.

THE NEED

There are over 469,000 orphans in China. These children have been orphaned or abandoned, left in trash heaps, on doorsteps, or in public parks. The vast majority of them are children with special needs of varying severities. They are struggling to survive in orphanages across China that have inadequate facilities, staffing, and resources to meet their needs. Child-to-staff ratios are as high as 40:1, 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 children with special needs is a shocking reality in China. Due to a lack of awareness regarding disabilities and little to no resources or support, parents of special needs children often feel scared and helpless in the face of such diagnoses. Medical costs in China are high and life with a special needs child is financially impossible for many families. Often, parents receive pressure from their extended family and friends telling them that this child is simply “not worth it.” Countless parents of special needs children decide that giving up their child is the only option. According to G. Mulheir, an expert in international orphan research, “separating children from their families and placing them in large institutions seriously harms their health and development,” making it nearly impossible for children already born with special needs to lead thriving lives.

These children deserve better.

Hope Station serves children who are orphaned in Asia by raising up champions and caregivers who are motivated by love and equipped to care for their unique needs. We partner with local and international organizations and people to provide real and lasting solutions for vulnerable children through caregiver training, support for child care centers, adoption advocacy and support, and raising community awareness. The children we serve move from simply surviving towards thriving.

OUR MISSION

We believe that every child deserves the chance to experience life to the fullest. With this in mind, Hope Station's ultimate goal is to see each and every child in a loving, forever-family. However, recognizing that many children will never have the chance to be adopted or reunited with their families, we strive to ensure that each child is surrounded by loving and dedicated caregivers, therapists, and community members. Our vision is for every child to have a champion in their life who is uniquely equipped with the love, knowledge and skills to guide the child through healthy growth and development.



OUR HISTORY & PREPARATION

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

TIMELINE

- 1998** - Co-Founder Rebekah Wilder's is called at age 9 to work with orphans in China
- 2004** - Co-Founder Sara Zhou answers her own call to orphan care
 - Rebekah's first trip to China
- 2010** - Hope Station is founded
- 2013** - Hope Station registers as a 501(c)(3) and nonprofit organization in the U.S.
 - Hope Station begins a partnership with the Chinese Relief and Development Foundation
- 2015** - Rebekah moves to China and begins regular visits to the government orphanage
- 2016** - Hope Station begins a therapy program in one government orphanage
 - Hope Station advocates for and supports it's first adoption
- 2017** - Hope Station develops a short and long term strategic plan for future work in Asia



PARTNERS

Hope Station currently operates in China with the support of the **Chinese Relief and Development Foundation (CRDF)**, a Chinese nonprofit organization in Sichuan province. CRDF functions as Hope Station's umbrella organization and provides administrative support, networking connections, and financial and legal guidance.

With CRDF's assistance, Hope Station is actively working with a **local orphanage**, outside of Chengdu. Each week, we host activities for the children, provide therapy services for children with special needs, and offer support and training to the staff. We have successfully advocated for several children's adoptions and continue to do so. The goal is to create more partnerships like this with more orphanages in the future.

OUR GOAL

We believe in the value of what we do.

Hope Station serves children who are orphaned in Asia by **raising up champions** and caregivers who are **motivated by love** and **equipped to care** for their unique needs.

WHO ARE THE CHAMPIONS?

Hope Station strongly believes that each child deserves to have a loving, forever family of their own. Forever parents are the ultimate champion for a child, especially a child with unique needs, cherishing them and fighting for them. Unfortunately, most children with special needs are abandoned by their parents and forced to live as orphans for a very long time if not forever. These children are just as deserving of having an adult to champion them. For orphaned children, champions are their **nannies, therapists, social workers, foster parents...** anyone who makes the commitment to do whatever it takes for the child thrive.

GOAL: MINDSET SHIFT AMONG CAREGIVERS

We want caregivers who are *motivated by love*. Love is the cornerstone of family. There is no comparison to the love a parent has for their child. That's why we believe it's so important that champions who stand in the gap should be motivated by the same kind of unconditional love. When a child's caregiver is motivated by love to care for him, he can live a thriving life no matter the obstacles.

GOAL: SKILL SET SHIFT AMONG CAREGIVERS

We want caregivers who are *equipped to care* for their children. Caring for orphaned children with special needs is a tough job. Helping them to move from surviving to thriving requires a very special skill set. Those with special needs have an especially difficult time surviving in a harsh environment with no one to fight their battles for them. Our vision is for every child have a champion in their life who is uniquely equipped with the knowledge and skills they need to guide the child through healthy growth and development.

GOAL: MINDSET SHIFT AMONG COMMUNITY

We envision a community that supports every child. Children with special needs are sometimes viewed as less-than-perfect, undesirable, or too needy. But we believe that every child is a precious gift from God and deserves to be loved. So, we do our best to model that as we interact with children, their caregivers, and the community, and to create opportunities for anyone to see each child's value.



OUR IMPACT

We are making a tangible difference.

This year, Hope Station focused on solidifying our local partnerships, strengthening our programs, and making room for more growth. In 2016, Hope Station encountered a lot of closed doors and ultimately realized that the original mission and goal of providing foster care services for children was not going to be possible. Due to these circumstances beyond our control, we shifted our focus to provide lasting solutions to real life problems that the children and orphanages face.

Going forward, Hope Station continues to support children and caregivers in orphanages. In 2017, we provided resources, hosted activity days, advocated for adoptions, conducted therapy, and modeled positive childcare practices at the orphanage we serve. Children and caregivers alike showed positive growth and learning as a result of our efforts.



SERVICES & RESOURCES PROVIDED

human touch • physical therapy activities and toys • social activities
music and movement activities • behavioral therapy • feeding therapy
play therapy • reading • positive childcare modeling • air filters

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. The increase to our donor family in 2017 is a tremendous blessing.

From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU.



363 DONATIONS FROM
SEVEN COUNTRIES

75
DONORS

INDIVIDUALS,
ORGANIZATIONS
& CHURCHES



\$33,646
IN DONATIONS

\$15,895 IN
MONTHLY GIVING

2017 FINANCES

Assets at Year End

Cash	\$68,042
Property and Equipment	\$0
Total Assets	\$68,042

Liabilities

Short term & Long term	\$0
Total Liabilities	\$0

Income

Recurring monthly donations	\$15,895
Single gift donations	\$17,751
Total Revenue & Support	\$33,646

Expenses

Salaries	\$19,727
Staff Support & Training	\$2,212
Partnership Fees with Chinese Relief & Development Foundation	\$8,031
Administration - China	\$483
Administration - U.S.	\$927
Board of Directors Insurance	\$2,888
International Travel	\$1,530
Transportation in China	\$3,516
Rent & Utilities	\$6,272
Supplies for the Orphanage	\$1,663
Fundraising	\$321
Total Expenses	\$47,571

CONTACT INFO

Who's who within our organization.

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

Deanna Morrow, Chair
Jim Smith, Treasurer
Michael Wilder, Secretary
Kelsey Terry
Tarrah Palm

Our **staff and volunteers** include:

Rebekah Wilder, Founder & Executive Director
Stephanie Li, Program Associate
Marsha Wilder, Administrative Assistant

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