

January 2010

Happy New Year! We've had a busy month, with 7 new babies arriving at our two infant homes. Babies **Ping, Li and Bao** are preemies in need of special care. Bao is the smallest at just over 3 lbs, and Li also has a cleft and a severe infection we are trying to overcome. Baby **Ni** is a bouncing 5 month old girl with a severe, inoperable heart defect. Little **Yang** appears healthy, except for some unusual birth marks on her face. Baby **Wang** (6 weeks) is in critical condition, with a history of severe vomiting, malnutrition and dehydration. Our dedicated staff is working incredibly hard to provide the care that these babies, as well as the other 28 in our care, need to survive. We are also happy to share that none of our little ones passed away this month!



An Amazing Journey: Little Xue Hua (her name means snowflake) came to us for hospice care as a tiny baby. She was born with Down syndrome and a heart defect. Surgeons who initially evaluated her thought that she was too weak to survive surgery. However, she blossomed in our care and grew in

strength and personality. When she was nearly a year old she was able to have her heart defect repaired. With that surgery successfully done, it seemed she might live a long, healthy life, but her Down syndrome would almost certainly prevent her from being adopted internationally. Well, we are delighted to share that she joined her forever family this month. She'll be busy keeping up with two brothers and a sister! We are sure this little Snowflake will be melting the hearts of all who meet her as she travels to her new home in the United States.



New Blog: Our newsletters are a great way to keep in touch, and are a wonderful summary of the work that we do each month. However, we know that many of our supporters would like more frequent, detailed updates on what is going on in China with the children in our care. If you'd like to see more photos and find out the latest news, check out our blog: <u>www.littleflowerprojects.blogspot.com</u>

To learn more about how you can help please visit us on the web:

www.chinalittleflower.org



Families of their own: While we are proud of the outstanding level of care that we provide in our homes, what we want for all of our babies is that they grow strong and healthy enough to join families of their own. We take in babies in fragile condition who are in need of specialized care and we nurture them until their care is no different than normal infants'. Then we arrange, together with their sending orphanage, for each baby to be cared for in a loving foster family. Many of these children will be available for international adoption, and we are so grateful that they can know the love of a mother while they wait for their "forever families"! Four of our babies joined foster families this month: **Bo**, **Feng, Hang** and **Qing** are shown above with the mothers who will continue to provide loving care until these little ones can be adopted.

2009 Reflections: At the beginning of each new year we take a moment to reflect on what we've accomplished in the previous year. 2009 was a year of great growth for our projects, as we expanded the baby care work of our former hospice, starting several new baby care units and opened a new home in a second location. We are very please to share with you that in 2009, China Little Flower:

- Accepted 63 medically fragile abandoned children for care
- Lovingly cared for 17 precious babies who passed away
- Provided foster care for 19 children with pending adoptions so that they would not have to return to institutional care; during 2009 thirteen of these joined forever families of their own

Those numbers may not seem like much, but we **ARE** making a difference in the lives of these little ones. Whether we nurture these babies from sickness to health, or merely comfort them until they rest in the arms of our Heavenly Father – each life is touched in a special way. With your prayers and support we will continue to change the lives of orphans, one child at a time.



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