

Care for Children

Annual Report 2019

A Year of Empowerment





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What a busy year we had in 2019. After reaching our vision for a million we brought the leadership team together to focus on our Vision and Mission for the future. The aim was to develop a new Strategic Plan for the next three years. Following a further meeting later in the year the strategic report was published, highlighting a new vision: Vision for the Nations.

The documentary clearly shows the positive outcomes in the lives of not just the children but also their families.

We also realised within the year that we needed to document and place on a digital platform, the training and methodology of our twenty years of work of government system change.

In May we had the wonderful experience of returning to the village in Yunnan where so many incredible families took in children, many of whom were disabled, from the Kunming Social Welfare Institution. We were there to open the new Community Centre, a place the children are able to receive special needs education, physiotherapy, medical services and family community activities.

Alongside this was the development of the documentary 'Children of Shanghai', focusing on the lives of six children who were placed twenty years ago from the Shanghai Social Welfare Institute. Elizabeth and I returned to Shanghai to meet them and their incredible families. The stories are remarkable and a massive credit to the outcomes of children growing up in substitute families.

This would also become part of the My-Family platform in China; a legacy project that could withstand the test of time in developing, supporting and encouraging the ongoing independent sustainability of placements of children in China. This resource would also help Care for Children to be quickly adaptable to new governments interested in system change from institutions to family placement.

Thank you to all our supporters, initially to place children into families in the community but more recently to develop community centres to support the families.



Dr Robert Glover OBE

OUR LEGACY

In 1998, when Care for Children first began supporting the Chinese government to introduce family-based care for orphaned and abandoned children who otherwise would have grown up in institutions, there was not even a phrase in Mandarin for ‘family-based foster care.’ Today, after 22 years of partnership between Care for Children and the Chinese government, over 85% of orphaned and abandoned children in China are growing up in families.

This remarkable transformation has left a powerful legacy, embodied by the generation of children who have grown up in families rather than institutions. China’s success in this area has led the way, which many countries in Asia are now following. Care for Children’s ‘Legacy Project’ seeks to build on this success, deepening and sustaining family-based care within China as well as creating the tools and strategy to share this legacy with the rest of the world.



“I am so proud to be an ambassador for Care for Children- championing their incredible work to help so many of Asia’s most vulnerable children.”

Bear Grylls
Care for Children Ambassador

SHARING THE LEGACY

The Legacy Project’s primary function is to deliver Care for Children’s ‘My-Family’ online platform. Run from Care for Children’s Hong Kong office, My-Family is a dynamic member-based training and information resource, using the latest digital tools to make it accessible anytime, anywhere.

The flagship service to be provided on this platform will be Care for Children’s complete, fully digitised training programme which has proven so successful in China and across South East Asia.

According to the national bureau of statistics in China, in 2018 it was estimated that over one million children are now living in families instead of orphanages, therefore meeting our original

‘Vision For a Million.’

In 2019, key leaders and associated friends within Care for Children met to explore the future direction of our work. It was decided that having seen such wholesale transformation in China, it was now time to share the legacy of China’s transformation globally. Care for Children’s new vision therefore is to address the urgent global challenge of 8 million children who are still growing up in orphanages, striving to achieve our

‘Vision For The Nations.’

OUR MODEL

Working exclusively at the invitation of governments, Care for Children implements the following system;

1 Deliver Care for Children's world-leading training on family placement to the staff of government-run orphanages. These staff members are extremely committed to the children in their care and can now become family placement workers.



2 Support those staff to recruit, train and supervise local foster families. Children can then begin to be moved safely out of the orphanage and into loving, local families.



3 Develop the freed-up space in the orphanage building into a Community Resource Centre, providing vital services to foster families as well as support to local families, aimed at reducing child abandonment rates.



4 Deliver a specialist 'Train-the-Trainer' course to the most experienced orphanages and family placement workers. This enables them to deliver Care for Children's training, making the project 100% sustainable and independent.

WHY FAMILIES ARE THE ANSWER

When an orphaned or abandoned child is placed with a loving foster family, their life is transformed.

They begin to 'catch up' with other children in areas like IQ, physical health and development where they had previously been held back. They can also begin to develop emotional resilience and overcome some of the emotional difficulties their early deprivation has left them with.

Many of the children placed in institutions are victims of wider intergenerational cycles of poverty, abuse or abandonment. A loving foster family can teach and support these children to be effective parents themselves, helping to break these cycles.

When cycles of abuse, neglect and poverty are broken, children from disadvantaged backgrounds can contribute positively to society - benefitting the whole community.



OUR TRACK RECORD

1998-2019

For over 20 years Care for Children has been at the forefront of developing family-based foster care as a positive alternative to institutional care.

When this work began in China, in 1998, there was not even a phrase in Mandarin for 'family-based foster care.'

Today, over 85% of orphaned and abandoned children in China are growing up in families!



1998

Joint pilot project with Shanghai Civil Affairs Bureau began.

2000

Project replicated in Kunming, Chengdu and Yinchuan.

2002

1,500 children in new families.

2003

National Foster Care Project established with 15 orphanages across China.

2007

Agreement signed with CASW to expand national project to 30 provinces.

2008

Estimated 200,000 children in families.

2011

Care for Children headquarters moved to UK from Beijing.

First 'Asia Family Placement Conference' in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

2012

Thai Project launched with pilot in Chiang Mai.

2013

First 20 children supported in families in Thailand.

2014

China changes their legislation: 'family placement is a positive alternative to institutional care.'

2018

2018 marked Care for Children's 20th year helping disadvantaged children in Asia.

85% of China's orphaned and abandoned children in families!

2019

Phase 3 of our China Project, 'Preparation for Independence' completed.

National Family Placement Workshop held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

2015

Estimated 300,000 children in families in China.

Five key cities partner with Care for Children to train their regions.

2017

Awarded a grant of £3million over three years from the IKEA foundation.

Our Vietnam project was launched.



Want to keep up to date with our work?

Why not sign up to our mailing list at www.careforchildren.com/signup.



CHINA

2019

YEAR IN NUMBERS

INSTITUTIONS PARTNERED WITH

21

TRAINING WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

6

PEOPLE TRAINED IN FAMILY PLACEMENT

223

In 2019, Care for Children's project team made family placement services more sustainable in China by repurposing orphanages to become community-based resource centres. Our training programme continued to influence decision-makers to support necessary government policies to ensure all orphaned and abandoned children have the opportunity to live in good families.

Furthermore, Care for Children's ground-breaking online digital product, called 'My-Family', is set to revolutionise the way training can be delivered, and the latest information can be shared, in order to advance foster care practice nationwide.

The beta version will be tested with our project partners in 2020, with the aim of raising and maintaining high standards in family care, and increasing the number of children being placed into families.

Care for Children's work continues to focus on promoting a national shift away from institutional care towards family-based care, and the pioneering changes 'My-Family' will enable is key to the project's strategy going forward, further cementing our position as the primary organisation supporting the government's development of family placement in China.

Sun Yuan Jie
China Country Manager

REFLECTION- Seeing Results

One of the best things about working on 'Children of Shanghai', the documentary detailing the ground-breaking impact of Care for Children's China Project since 1998, has been meeting some of the children who were placed in families during the early years of the project. It is incredible to see the transformation that has occurred in their lives.

One really inspiring story we uncovered in 2019 was of a boy from Chengdu. At a young age he was placed in a local foster family, whose continuous love and support he credits with dramatically altering the course of his life. This secure family base gave him a clear personal identity and the confidence to strike out on his own, eventually leaving home to train as a baker. Now back in Chengdu, he volunteers at the Chengdu orphanage, running bakery courses for the children there.

The feature-length version of the documentary is almost complete, and there have been numerous discussions with international film festivals, TV channels and online platforms interested in this project. We cannot wait for the general public to witness these children's transformational stories, brought about by the sacrificial love of foster parents in China!

Matthew Gao
Head of Group Communications



YEAR IN NUMBERS

INSTITUTIONS PARTNERED WITH

12

TRAINING WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

26

PEOPLE TRAINED IN FAMILY PLACEMENT

380

At the beginning of 2019, Care for Children's Thailand project team signed a new three-year agreement with the Department of Children and Youth to launch project stage 3 (of 4): establishing national models of best practice. Work has begun with five Child Welfare Homes (orphanages) representing the five geographical regions of the country.

The agreement also included a commitment to develop a family placement training programme for the government's 'Shelters for Children and Families' in each province (77), five of which will be incorporated into the work with the models of best practice.

The national government approved a pioneering new public communications project to raise awareness of family placement opportunities in local communities.

The enthusiasm of the provincial and district leaders to go out and share about the need for foster families has been a huge encouragement to the Child Welfare Homes running family placement programs, as traditionally they have shouldered all responsibility of recruiting families.

The data collected from this work will eventually inform a national multi-media awareness campaign. We are excited about the momentum that continues to grow in support of family placement in Thailand, and the increasing number of vulnerable children moving from Child Welfare Homes into local, loving families.

Jane Arnott
Thailand Country Manager

REFLECTION- Changing Attitudes

So often when we talk about foster care for the first time, we hear comments about Thai people's fear of accepting a child who isn't of the same blood line into their home and into their hearts. I can't count the number of times we have been quoted a well-known proverb that warns how unsavoury the idea is. It would be easy to feel deflated and wonder if we can ever change such mindsets, but every time we do training, I witness someone in the room turn their fear into knowledge and with knowledge comes a softness towards the plight of children who are not able to grow up in a family.

I'll never forget the look on one village leader's face as he listened to the foster family who had come to share their experience of fostering. When the session was over, he couldn't wait to get up and put his arms around the foster Dad's shoulders and shake his hand.

Within minutes they were exchanging numbers and the village leader was making plans to visit the foster family in their community. "I want to go and see where this little boy is receiving such good care," he said. "Then I'm going to go home and talk to my wife and my daughter about fostering."

These are the moments that make my day! - Jane



YEAR IN NUMBERS

INSTITUTIONS PARTNERED WITH

2

TRAINING WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

5

PEOPLE TRAINED IN FAMILY PLACEMENT

67

Throughout 2019, Care for Children's Vietnam project team translated, contextualised, and then delivered Care for Children's entire core family placement training programme to key government agencies, which included workshops such as 'Recruitment & Assessment of Foster Carers', 'Preparation of Children: Life Story Work', and 'Matching & Placement: Support & Supervision of Foster Placement'. Engaging with key stakeholders at ministerial level in Hanoi, to child care staff on the front line in the orphanages, this ground-breaking work in Vietnam provides the secure foundation required to implement foster care safely.

It has also been a successful year engaging with communities and organisations such as the British Embassy, Concordia International School Hanoi, and the Hanoi International Women's Club, to generate new support towards the work.

The 2020 Annual Work Plan with the government has been approved, giving the project a great start for the year in which we will see the very first children placed from orphanages into local foster families, and a National Foster Care Conference in Hanoi to prepare for the national rollout of the project in 2021.

Clayton Green
Vietnam Country Manager

REFLECTION- Life Story Work

Our "Preparation of Children: Life Story Work" was the most colourful and entertaining training workshop we have done to date, in which our Training manager Emma delivered an excellent session for a group of local family placement staff. The Life Story Book is a therapeutic aid used by social workers and care staff to give children a visual understanding of their personal history. It will initially be written by orphanage staff, then taken over by social workers and eventually when that child is moved into a family the Foster Parents continue the work. It is a never-ending story of redemption, acceptance and love which the child can read to gain understanding of their life and why they were specially chosen.

My wife and I adopted our daughter seven years ago. Annie was only one year old when she came to live with us, but she already had three Life Story Books! We knew and understood the importance of carrying this work on for her.

I was given the opportunity to share Annie's Life Story Book (with her permission!) to those attending the workshop. It was so good to share about my own family's experience, and it really deepened and personalised the connection between us on the Care for Children team, and the Vietnamese orphanage staff we work with.

- Clayton



Following Care for Children's baseline visit to Cambodia in 2017, working with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY), and then MoSVY's participation in Care for Children's international Family Placement Conference in Shanghai in 2018, MoSVY hosted a two-day National Family Placement Conference in Phnom Penh, in November 2019.

During the conference Care for Children shared how our model and methodology empowers both national and local government to take the lead in ensuring the most vulnerable children in their nation can be cared for safely in loving, local families. The conference was a great success, with over 120 delegates including senior government officials, local government and residential care staff representing every province.

While family placement is not a new concept to the Cambodian government, it is a service currently only managed and funded by the private sector. Care for Children is now working with the Child Welfare Department in MoSVY on an agreement to launch a new family care project in 2020, beginning with a three-year pilot with two government Residential Care Institutions (orphanages).

REFLECTION- A Successful Conference

In November, Care for Children was invited to support a two-day 'Workshop on Family Placement' run by the Cambodian Government. We were delighted to have our fantastic intern Ellie there to help the conference run smoothly! Here is her take on the experience;

There was a wide range of delegates at the event, from central government officials to orphanage directors and child welfare staff, representing all of Cambodia's 25 provinces. The two days consisted of speeches by Care for Children staff and MoSVY officials (Cambodian Ministry of Social affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation) as well as Q&A sessions and training workshops. One of the most inspiring speeches was made by Care for Children Honourary Patron Lord Laming, he spoke about implementing a system of family placement in Cambodia asserting that "It can be done, because it is already being done in countries across this region."

It was in the interactive workshops on day two that the delegates really came into their own and engaged with the subject matter. One memorable moment came during a 'Family Assessment' workshop, when a delegate shared fascinating insights into cultural values and traditions, and the group discussed how these could be navigated in a Cambodian family placement context. It was really encouraging to see the delegates relating the training to their own work and experiences.

Ellie



Want to keep up to date with our latest project developments?
Sign up to our mailing list at www.careforchildren.com/signup

COULD YOU BECOME A FAMILY CHAMPION?

2019 saw a 110% increase in Care for Children's individual giving as we launched our 'Family Champions' initiative. Our Family Champions help Care for Children to operate sustainable, empowering programmes across Asia.



IF YOU'D LIKE TO GET INVOLVED

“A little rain each day will fill the rivers to overflowing.”

We want to take a moment to say a huge THANK YOU to our Family Champions Community. Launched in April 2019, Family Champions are our brilliant group of regular supporters, committed to giving regular gifts each month. They are also helping us to raise awareness of our work in new ways, inviting family and friends to get involved and join us.

And this community is beginning to have a significant impact on Care for Children's work. Like each drop of rain in the proverb above, every regular personal donation is like a raindrop building together into a river of support; enabling us to transform more lives, support more family placement workers and give more orphaned children a family than ever before.

This year, we're aiming to double the amount of support provided by our Family Champions Community.

Currently, our amazing Champions give enough to cover a year's worth of training costs for 150 trainees in Thailand. These trainees are on the frontline of bringing foster care to a nation, and have the capacity to support up to 3,000 children to move out of institutions and into families!

It's an incredible legacy, and an amazing community to be a part of.

Why don't you join us?

Visit www.careforchildren.com/familychampions to sign up today!



The new Community Resource Centre in Lu Quan.

RETURNING TO 'THE VILLAGE'

Many will have seen our short film, 'The Village', telling the incredible story of Lu Quan in China; a village which has come together to transform the lives of hundreds of orphaned and abandoned children, many of whom are severely disabled.

In 2019 the incredible work of these villagers was given a boost by the completion of a Care for Children-funded building project aimed at enhancing local service provision.

Nestled amongst the breathtaking green mountains of Yunnan Province sits the tiny village of Lu Quan, where something truly remarkable has happened.

In 2000, 700 children were living in the nearby Kunming Child Welfare Institution, with little hope of ever having a family of their own. 93% of these children had some form of disability. When Care for Children introduced our family placement model to the Kunming orphanage, Lu Quan's remarkable Village Elder was inspired to get involved.

Under his leadership, by 2015, 53 families in the village were fostering over 160 children, many of who suffered from severe disabilities and needed constant care and attention. The total population of the village was just 370. The incredible sacrifice and love displayed by these people is the perfect example of why children need to grow up in families, not institutions. The children in these families receive the unique care, attention and consistency that loving parents can provide.

The completion of the community resource centre in 2019 marks the final part of the transition from institutional care to family-based care in the community for vulnerable children.

Find out more on pg.24



Right - Robert Glover, Care for Children's Executive Director, opens the completed Community Resource Centre, June 2019.

LU QUAN

Community Resource Centre



SPECIAL NEEDS EDUCATION



SPECIALIST MEDICAL CARE



FOSTER CARER SUPPORT



PHYSIOTHERAPY



Care for Children's model results in children being placed with local foster families in the community. Our work doesn't end there though - the children need the support of a variety of tailored services, as do their foster parents and the wider community. These services, which include physiotherapy, special needs education and healthcare, make it possible for children with severe disabilities to be cared for in the homes of local families.

The provision of these services is facilitated by the redistribution of orphanages' resources as more children are moved out into the community - Lu Quan provides a fantastic model of this in action.

Whereas they once entered an institution to receive vital services, children can now be seen by specialists within their own community. These staff are based at the Children's Social Welfare Institution in Kunming, from where they make the two-hour drive to support children in the new satellite Community Resource Centre in Lu Quan. The new centre includes staff accommodation so practitioners can stay in the village while they care for the children there.

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY

The Care for Children team returned to Lu Quan in July 2019 for the Community Resource Centre opening ceremony. We always love coming back here as it is such an encouragement to witness the amazing, selfless villagers showing what can be achieved when a post-institutional model of care is implemented.



Lu Quan is a fascinating community for many reasons. The village is populated by members of the minority Yi community who welcome the children they foster into their own unique traditions. On being accepted into a local family, the children of Lu Quang become part of a culture that expects older generations to remain as important members of the household. A really lovely aspect of this village community is that the child not only gains parents, but usually grandparents too!

KUNMING

Children's Social Welfare Institution

Lu Quan
68 Miles



COMING UP

2020

As we enter the 2020s, Care for Children is forging ahead, making our work ever more sustainable, wide-ranging and effective.

There is lots to be excited about over the coming year - here are some key things to look out for...

LOOKING TO THE YEAR AHEAD

1. CAMBODIA PROJECT



Over the last few years the groundwork has carefully been laid by Care for Children and our Cambodian government partners for the launch of Cambodia's first-ever family placement project.

Keep an eye out in 2020 for the official launch of the project's pilot phase.

3. DOCUMENTARY



Following a run of successful private screenings throughout 2019, 'Children of Shanghai' is being developed further into a full feature-length documentary.

The film will be released in the US in 2020, and will be coming to a screening near you soon!

2. DIGITAL TRAINING

A key part of Care for Children's future strategy is the digitalisation of our world-leading training resources.

To host these resources, a bespoke online platform is under development which will provide holistic training and support services to social workers, foster parents and institution staff.



Want to keep up to date with our work in 2020?
Sign up to our mailing list at www.careforchildren.com/signup

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

GOVERNANCE

In accordance to the laws and regulations of each of the countries in which Care for Children is registered as a charity, the organisation is fully compliant with the necessary governance and accountability guidelines.

PROJECT SUPPORT

Care for Children is a registered charity in England and Wales, the USA, Hong Kong and Thailand in order to diversify fundraising opportunities. The Finance and Fundraising offices work together to raise and manage the funds that support our project work.

PROJECT OFFICES

The Project Offices and training teams are based in Beijing, China, Chiang Mai, Thailand and Hanoi, Vietnam. These offices work in direct relationship with Care for Children's government partners and are responsible for launching, managing and evaluating all aspects of Care for Children's project work.

Our three boards of trustees (directors) exist in the UK, Hong Kong and the USA, and are responsible for helping to clarify our vision and monitor legal and financial compliance and controls. Dr. Robert Glover OBE, Care for Children Founder & Executive Director, is a member of each board of trustees.

UK

Jon Scott - ITM
Keith Hilton - Print Industry (retired)
Sue Johns - Charity Director
David Devenish - Civil Service
Michael Bonehill - Edwards Duthie Solicitors
Mark Stolkin - Property Investor
Edward Amies - Investment Banking
Lorne Armstrong - Event Academy
Nick Chance - Former PPS to HRH Prince Michael

HONG KONG

John Snelgrove - Pastor
Gerald Ang - Raffles Medical
Chris Knop - Adwater
Samuel Song - Pastor
Ben Liang - Magusta Group
David Liao - CEO HSBC China
Ilaria Chan - Group Adviser Social Impact, Grab

USA

Roy Lee - Meriton East
Kenneth Higgins - Santek Environmental
Annie Presley Selander - ACE Publishing LLC
Richard Hastings - St. Luke's Health System (retired)
Evan Chuck - Bryan Cave LLP
Jonathan Lim - Investment Advisor
Larry Ross - A. Larry Ross Communications
Brad Davies - Hatch Fundraising
Gabe Cooper - CEO Virtuous

2018 EXPENDITURE

EMERGING PROJECTS

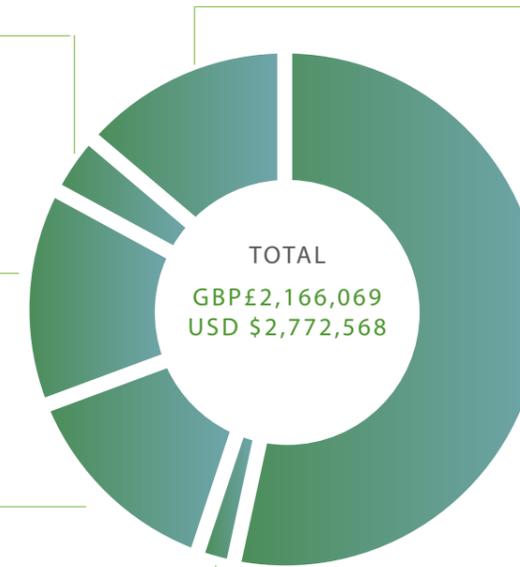
GBP £31,320
USD \$40,090
1%

VIETNAM PROJECT

GBP £350,597
USD \$448,764
16%

THAILAND PROJECT

GBP £327,801
USD \$419,585
15%



COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

GBP £230,423
USD \$294,941
11%

CHINA PROJECT

GBP £1,194,956
USD \$1,529,544
55%

GOVERNANCE COSTS

GBP £30,972
USD \$39,644
1%

FUNDRAISING

Care for Children actively fundraises in the UK and Europe, the USA and Asia.

Our fundraising sources include:

- Foundations and Trusts
- Corporate Partnerships
- Churches
- Individuals
- Events

If you require any further information regarding fundraising, please contact your relevant project support office directly or email Care for Children at: info@careforchildren.com

FINANCE

Care for Children files its consolidated accounts with the Charity Commission and Companies House.

The financial year end is 31 December. The GBP expenditure shown on the opposite page is extracted from the full 2018 consolidated accounts. These accounts have been audited by MA Partners LLP in Norwich, UK.

The full 2018 consolidated accounts can be found at: www.charity-commission.gov.uk. For further financial information, contact Care for Children's Group Finance Manager Nick Nundy at: nick@careforchildren.com

CONTACT

Would you like to receive regular updates about Care for Children's work?

For regular updates direct from the field, as well as information about events in the UK, USA and Hong Kong, sign up at;

www.careforchildren.com/signup

Web www.careforchildren.com

Email info@careforchildren.com

f /careforchildren

t @careforchildren

i @careforchildren



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CARE FOR CHILDREN'S VISION
IS TO SEE A WORLD OF
CHILDREN IN FAMILIES

WE SERVE GOVERNMENTS OF NATIONS TO PIONEER
A POSITIVE ALTERNATIVE
TO INSTITUTIONAL CARE BY PLACING
CHILDREN INTO LOCAL, LOVING FAMILIES
IN THE COMMUNITY (FOSTERING AND ADOPTION)



Royal Patron HRH Prince Michael