

Bringing Love, Hope and Opportunity to Abandoned and Disabled Children

International China Concern (ICC) is a Christian development charity established in 1993 by British man David Gotts. David had first-hand experience of the conditions in which children were living within Chinese welfare centres and what he saw broke his heart. He cried to God for the abandoned children he saw and God challenged David to be the answer to his own prayers. As a result ICC was born. Since then hundreds of children have been given loving care, and the abundant life that Jesus speaks of in John chapter 10 verse 10.

Children are abandoned in China for many reasons; some have minor disabilities, whilst others have very serious medical conditions. ICC has funded complex surgeries, provided therapy, specialised wheelchairs, education and nurture. Many children have been adopted into loving families.

I first went to China in 2003, during that time I saw many things that broke my heart. I worked within a government department of a large welfare centre. ICC had their own centre within the complex and the contrast between the two levels of care was stark. One little boy had Downs Syndrome, when I first saw him he was about two and a half years old, he weighed ten and a half pounds and was extremely sick. The team cried to God for him and ICC staff tried to have him released into their care but permission was withheld.

However, on Christmas Eve 2003 ICC staff fasted and prayed for him and on Christmas morning the welfare centre staff brought him to ICC. He made amazing progress, having been given loving care, therapy and medical support he flourished. I've been sponsoring this incredible boy since 2004, I have seen him twice since then, he is a delightful child, full of joy, fun loving and very helpful.

That little boy changed my life and I became an ambassador for ICC. I have been privileged to go to China on nine occasions, working in three different locations and seeing the incredible transformations that God's love has brought to countless children through the ministry of ICC.

ICC is changing attitudes to disability. Many of their children are now part of the community, some are living semi independently in flats, and some are in mainstream school, other's work in sheltered workshops. All children and young adults (and some not so young) are loved, cherished and nurtured.

Over many years God has shown his heart for these children and ICC's work. Please pray that ICC can continue to partner with the Chinese government to help and support the development of care for disabled children and young people.

The children in ICC's care have been given hope and love through people like you and me. Will you sponsor a child, give a one-off gift, join a team, volunteer long term? The opportunities are endless and the experience is life changing. I would love to pass the baton on, could it be you that takes it from me?



My granddaughter Daisy in Heng Yang 2013

Jean Newman

Find out more visit at [chinaconcern.org](http://chinaconcern.org)