



Gladney Center is Partnered with Shanghai Children's Home for Adoptive Child Placements

The Shanghai Children's Home (SCH) is a well-regarded child welfare institution. Various diplomats and their spouses have been invited to visit SCH to learn about institutional care settings in China. SCH is a well-staffed campus that delivers comprehensive care, medical services and education to children of all ages.

Gladney's partnership with SCH was formalized in 2011. The partnership has been approved by the Shanghai Social Welfare Center, Shanghai Children's Adoption Center, and the China Centre for Children's Welfare and Adoption (CCCWA -- previously known as CCAA). Gladney's partnership with SCH follows upon a 15 year history of close relations. Gongzhan Wu, VP & Managing Director, was born and raised in Shanghai. Gladney's first China adoptions were children placed from SCH. Gongzhan travels to China several times each year and almost each trip include a visit to the Shanghai Children's Home.

The Shanghai Children's Home is looking to Gladney to find adoptive parents for many of their "Waiting Children". Waiting Children are children of all ages with medical issues (some are minor and some are more complex) as well as older healthy children (over the age of 5). Most of the children live on the campus of SCH; some children live with foster families throughout the district.

The children assigned to Gladney by SCH will be available only to adoptive parents who have chosen Gladney Center as their adoption agency. It is possible for families who are currently working with another adoption agency to switch to Gladney to complete the adoption of a child with SCH.

Once a family has been matched with a child from SCH, families may prepare age-appropriate booklets to send to their child so the orphanage staff can begin to prepare the child for adoption. We usually do not send care packages as this becomes difficult in a group care setting where many of the children will not have personal belongings or special items arriving for them.

Gladney's partnership with SCH includes the exchange of professional personnel, including licensed social workers and child development specialists. These exchanges have helped to strengthen the partnership. During these trips Gladney is able to have open discussions to exchange information and best practices. It is also during these trips that we are able to spend time with the children and learn more about their abilities and needs. Superkids, a humanitarian aid initiative that sends specialists to orphanages to train staff and provide assessment and therapeutic intervention services, is one of Gladney's programs that enhances our partnership with SCH. If you are an experienced child development specialist, or have medical background and experience, and would like to learn more about being considered for an upcoming Superkids trip to SCH, please contact Superkids founder, janet.fink@gladney.org.



The joint efforts of Gladney and SCH come together for one reason – To find loving parents for each child at SCH who is waiting for a home and family. We ask that you consider adoption of a waiting child, and if it is not possible to bring a waiting child into your family – if you would consider helping the children in other ways. Simply spreading the word about Gladney and the Shanghai Children’s Home, can help us bring a child to his or her parents. What kind of parents? Parents who can be open and flexible – who want to prepare themselves for adoption so that they can be fully available to meet their child’s needs – big or small. These parents are special, yet they are also “ordinary” people, who will celebrate their child every day, provide needed resources and boundaries, and be present to offer the guidance, love, and understanding that all children need and deserve.

Families interested in supporting Gladney’s efforts to find adoptive homes can also provide support with contributions directed to the SCH partnership. Monetary donations as well as in-kind donations are possible. We rely on the help of volunteer families to collect, store and organize delivery with families during their adoption travel. If you are interested in making a donation or volunteering to help with in-kind donations, please contact wendy.stanley@gladney.org.