

# 水富苗圃 一所苗圃的兒童福利院

## Shuifu Sowers — A Children's Home by Sowers

彝山裡五歲的嵐子牽著四歲蘭子的手，高高興興的跑進家裡，她們嚷著：「不藏了，不藏了，爸爸媽媽，你們躲在那裡？」年初時父母去世，她倆就由年邁的爺爺一個人帶著，很快爺爺累倒入醫院後，髒得像腐鼠的兩姊妹就由全村的鄰居輪流有一餐沒一餐的領著。

也許大家覺得奇怪，苗圃助學不只是重建校舍、師資培訓和資助學生嗎？怎麼有兒童福利院呢？

苗圃兒童福利院的構想，先於2013年河南一所民辦孤兒寄養所失火，這些寄養所一般因為缺乏資金，衛生和消防條件都很差，除了基本生活，也談不上為孩子提供甚麼。這次事故燒死燒傷了多名兒童，這些慘劇應該可以避免並且不應該重演吧？我記得曾在2010年苗圃年報中看到：「假如這世上還有不幸的人，我們相信，苗圃應把有限的資源，放在無限的心願裡，冀盼在同一藍天下，孩子們有同一樣燦爛的笑臉」。因此在多番討論後，苗圃於2012年將服務擴展到兒童福利，希望無依靠的孩童先有安穩生活，然後有條件讀好書。

Nanzi, aged five, held the hand of Lanzi, one year younger than her, and together they ran happily into their house in Yishan. "Alright! I am not hiding anymore! Not anymore! Papa, mama, where are you?" they yelled. Early this year, their parents passed away. Since then, their grandpa became their guardian. Unfortunately, he was soon hospitalized due to fatigue. Neighbors in the village took turns to feed the girls who were living miserable and rotten lives.

You may be wondering "Shouldn't Sowers Action be rebuilding schools, providing teachers training and sponsoring students? Why would there be Children's Home?"

Sowers Action first came up with the idea of setting up Sowers Children's Home after a fire accident in an orphanage run by the locals in Henan Province in 2013. Due to limited financial resources, these orphanages were often in poor hygiene and undesirable fire safety conditions, providing children with nothing more than basic necessities. The accident killed and injured many children and such kind of tragedy could be avoided and should not be repeated. I still remember that in Sowers Action's Annual Report 2010, I read "Sowers should put the limited resources to help the unfortunate, may all children under the same big sky can have the same big smile." After numerous discussions, Sowers Action extended our service to Children Welfare in 2012, hoping to give homeless children a stable life first, then an opportunity to receive education.



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要辦好一所福利院自然要克服不少困難，大家關心的問，苗圃完全沒有營辦兒童福利院的經驗，懂與政府洽談管理理念嗎？懂設計裝修福利院嗎？懂維修設施嗎？懂聘用和管理職工嗎？懂管理食堂嗎？懂買菜嗎？懂照顧生活起居嗎？懂安排上學嗎？懂帶看病嗎？懂補習功課嗎？懂輔導心理嗎？懂撫平孩子心裡的疙瘩嗎？懂照顧孩子青春期問題嗎？懂輔助孩子將來步入社會嗎？缺這麼多的人力物力，既然不能辦得最好，就不如不辦了。

現階段我們實在沒有能力回答所有問題，問題是存在的，但我們需要的是辦法而不是想法。也許因為孩子，將來有更多的人力和物力被感召，讓問題有完滿答案吧。我們在96年說過：「完美並不是苗圃的特質，生命力才是」。如果這是對的，為了孩子，在雲南水富縣的水富苗圃在2013年7月草創了，最早期有38個孩子，經過今年工作組的多次入山尋訪，至七月中又住進了二十多個包括跨縣的孩子，餘下的三十個餘額看來也很快會填滿。

Running a Children's Home well is not an easy task, if not daunting. You may wonder how Sowers Action liaised with the Government and discuss the idea of running the Children's Home while we have no previous experience. Do we know how to design the Children's Home? Do we know anything about facility maintenance? Do we know how to recruit and manage workers? Do we know how to run the canteen? Do we know how to get food supplies? Do we know how to take care of the children and bring them to school? Do we know how to find doctors when the children are sick? Do we know how to teach them and assist them in their homework? Do we know how to do counseling and comfort children when necessary? Do we know how to deal with teenage problem during their puberty? Do we know how to guide children through and equip them with what they need when they enter the society in the future? If we lack so many things and could not possibly achieve the best result, why don't we just pull things over and focus on what we have been doing instead?

At this stage, we are really not able to answer all the questions. Yes, problems do exist. But what we need are solutions rather than suggestions. Perhaps when more people are being appealed to, making more resources available, there will be a better answer. In 1996, we said, "The characteristic of Sowers Action is not perfection, but vitality." If this was right, the Shuifu Sowers in Shuifu County, Yunan Province was a great start back in July 2013 for the kids. When it was first established, there were 38 children in the Children's Home. With the work group's several visits in the mountain area, more than 20 cross-county kids moved into the Children's Home in mid-July. We believe that the remaining 30 vacancies will be filled in no time.

過去一年我們成功與教育局對接了，所有適齡兒童都已分別入讀中、小學或學前班。而水富苗圃除了是福利院，也是一個可接受內地直接捐款和捐物資的平台，我們希望藉此引入和輸出多種資源，包括組織中港兩地的義工。這些義工，去年中秋舉辦了一個燒烤晚會，聖誕節時有童樂行，暑假時又有三個夏令營，將歡樂滿貫水富苗圃。福利院的孩子閒時會到隔壁老人院當義工，而這個暑期幾名超過18歲的孩子，跟去年一樣被安排到昆明或貴州打工，幾名超過16歲的就安排到中山當義工，協助照顧留守兒童，希望透過這些安排，培養孩子們勤工儉學和加深對社會的認識。而我們也希望將福利院建設為培訓基地，可惜仍有很遠的距離。在醫療方面，我們安排了兩名先心病幼兒到上海接受免費手術，手術非常成功，他倆把命撿回來了。另一個眼疾的女孩到香港免費檢查，原以為可以用手術挽回僅存的一隻眼的部份視力，可惜事與願違。

水富縣政府基於水富苗圃過去一年的經驗，建議我們拆卸廚房現址，改建成另一幢可多容100個孩子的院舍，讓水富苗圃能夠幅射和造福整個昭通市和背靠川西地方。雖然政府對水富苗圃殷切盼望，畢竟我們缺的資源甚多，而未敢應諾。

嵐子和蘭子農曆年後被接到水富苗圃，她們和秋花成了好友。秋花今年八歲，因為眼睛的毛病曾五次被收養又五次被丟棄在街角上，水富苗圃現在就是她們的家。

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苗圃兒童福利院項目召集人  
蔡兆明

In the past year, we successfully co-operated with the Ministry of Education to arrange all children of suitable age to enter pre-primary, primary and secondary classes. Shuifu Sowers is not merely a Children's Home, but also a platform to receive donations from mainland China directly. We hope to facilitate more incoming and outgoing of resources, including volunteers from both mainland China and Hong Kong. Last year, the volunteers filled the Shuifu Sowers with laughters by having a barbecue night on Mid-autumn Festival and "Walk For Children" on Christmas. Three summer camps were also organized during the summer holidays. Children in residence often went to the Elderly Home next door to do voluntary works. Following the practice of last year, a few children over 18 were sent to Kunming or Guizhou to work this year. The Children's Home also arranged children over 16 to volunteer in Zhongshan to help take care of the children there. We hope to engage children in work-study programme and bring them closer to the society through these arrangements. Our another hope was to develop the Children's Home into a training base but we know that we still have a long way to go. Regarding medical aspect, we sent two children with congenital heart disease to Shanghai for free operations. The operations were successful and saved their lives. Another girl with eye disease was sent to Hong Kong for free check, hoping to save the remaining sight of her one eye, but the result this time was an unfortunate one.

Based on the experience in the past year, the Shuifu Government advised us that we could demolish the kitchen and build an extra Children's Home accommodating 100 children so that Shuifu Sowers could benefit the whole Zhaotong City and areas in front of Western Sichuan. However, owing to limited resources, we dare not to promise anything despite the Government's high hope.

Nanzi and Lanzi were sent to Shuifu Sowers after Lunar New year and they became good friends with Qihua. Qihua, 8-year-old, were adopted and abandoned on the street repeatedly for five times because of her eye disease. Shuifu Sowers is now the place they call home.

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Convener of Sowers Children's Home Program  
Choi Shiu Ming