As One Door Closes, Another Opens…

After being open for more than 12 years in Langfang, the current home that has housed so many children in the past has been closed. With changing regulations in China and a diminishing number of children, the decision was made for practical and financial reasons to close this large house. It was no small undertaking. So many years amounted to large quantities of supplies, furniture, and clothes that needed to be organized and donated to various other organizations as well as to poor families who were in need. Volunteers came from many places as Lily and her two loving nannies quickly sifted through the large piles of items separating them out for donation, to keep or throw away. But as the doors of this beloved home closed, Lily decided to bless so many others. Much of the furniture and supplies that were no longer necessary were donated to other private orphanages around the area or given to poor families homes so they had a table to eat on or a bed to sleep in. Trucks were rented and volunteer movers donated their time and manpower into moving these goods to various places. Lily could not and would not send the remaining children back to their respective orphanages, so with the help of her two nannies she was able to turn her own home into a place where she would be able to keep the remaining 4 children until they were adopted. This was no small task since her home was made to be a home and not necessarily child friendly. So many things of her own were stored or removed to make a space for the 4 children and the nannies so they could all live comfortably and have enough room to work with the children. Talk about bringing your work home with you, but for Lily this has never been about work but

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about the love for these children and giving them the right care and support. Right after the children moved into her own home, Lily's washing machine broke down because of the increased usage. Also, her refrigerator which was good enough for her own usage started to leak water because it was being opened and closed more often. It was Lily’s desire to continue to keep the children at her home till all of them were adopted but with dwindling finances and the possible loss of support of an organization in Shanghai, two of the children were sent back to their respective orphanages to await adoption, one was sent to another foster home in Shanghai and Calvin was sent to Shanghai for some minor surgery and praise God was adopted by a family in China. With the kids now gone, Lily’s House in Langfang was completely closed, but the remaining nanny was sent to our new project in Inner Mongolia to help out! Lilys House will continue on with a new mission in Bayan Nur, Inner Mongolia.

Blessing The Poor

In September I had the opportunity to visit a very poor family that Lily had been supporting for many years. The living conditions were extremely poor, and the father could only make a living depending if the local farmers were able to provide him a job. The villagers themselves took pity on him and helped him to build this brick structure, but with no support and no spouse, he was unable to maintain this in a livable condition. Here he raised two children, a daughter who was able to go off to boarding school and a son who was still at home but attending a local school. The father was a raging alcoholic but in the past several years he had lightened up with his drinking, but at times still had outbursts of rage. Lily took compassion with these children and had been supporting this family by helping with the children’s schooling expenses as well as bringing donated goods when able.

With the closure of the physical Lily's House, many items were no longer needed. Lily took on the role of hiring trucks and moving furniture and items to this family that lived about 10 hours by car away from Langfang. She had other volunteers and some of the villagers help her clean up the home and place the furniture and other items into the house giving the children of this home some hope of a decent place to live. Because of this generous donation from Lily’s House there can be hope for this family to restart their lives.
What’s In Store for the Future??

If you have asked me where Bayan Nur, Inner Mongolia was several years ago, you would have gotten a blank stare. Due to changing regulations in China, it has become harder and harder for orphanages to release children to privately funded foster homes. Even around Lily’s House in Langfang, many of the larger private foster homes are losing children back to their local orphanages and the beds are becoming empty. But the medical and mental issues for these children still exist. What can we do? A new need has risen. Orphanages are open to partnering with private organizations to help these children inside their own facilities. What would that mean? The orphanages will provide the children, facility, and other expenses needed to live. What they are requesting is that professional social workers, physical therapist, nannies, special foods and any other speciality items needed for these children be provided by the private organizations. Lily’s House has approached an orphanage in Inner Mongolia (of which some of Lily’s previous children have come from), and they have agreed to partner with Lily’s House in conjunction with Holt International for this new endeavor. They are so excited about this that they have already given us a spot and have already completed reconstruction of the space to accommodate these children. Lily’s House has the opportunity to impact so many more children’s lives and possibly give them an opportunity for adoption as well. There is also an added need to do training for psychological and physical therapy issues. Going to China on several occasions, I have had the pleasure to start some training sessions as well as evaluate these precious children. There is definitely a strong desire for education as well as assistance with their physical and mental needs. The orphanages are hungry for this support and were more than happy to have me come and help. Please continue to pray for this wonderful chance to help more orphans in their time of need. We will keep you apprise of future developments to come...

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Want to be involved?

Lily’s House runs on volunteers so 95% of all proceeds go to help children with their special needs. If you would like to contribute please go to lilyshouse.net and hit the donate button which will redirect you to the Holt International Donation Site. Don’t forget to type in the comments section “For Lilys House”. Of course your prayers are always appreciated.

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Who’s Been Adopted and who is waiting!

Feng Ruier (Calvin) being adopted by a loving family in China

Chang Qiu (Anna) and Shuo Juan (Katherine) waiting for their adoptive families to come!