

## Travel Journal Marlies October-November 2009

To keep everyone updated about all we are doing to make the Mooncake Foundation a success, below you will find a short travel journal by Marlies about the highlights of her last trip to China.

1. After an extensive talk with the president and vice-president of Yulin's Children's hospital, we decided to start a co-operation in which also the local government will be involved. We hope to sign a preliminary agreement between the 3 parties in February-March 2010 and the official kick-off is planned for 1 June 2010 (Children's Day in China). Our goals:
  - Offer parents/families with disabled children the opportunity to come to hospital for surgery
  - Offer parents/families with disabled children the opportunity to get therapy at the (new) children's welfare institute
  - Make parents/families with disabled children aware that it's best to raise their children themselves and that there is no need to give their children up for adoption
  - Possible exchange programmes between foreign pediatricians/surgeons and pediatricians/surgeons in the Yulin Children's Hospital
2. An appointment with Care 4 children in Beijing has led to a preliminary agreement for a co-operation of at least 3 years, during which c4C will come to Yulin at set times to train part of the YSWI staff for placing disabled children in foster families. The agreement will be finalized after consultation of the Central Civil Affairs office by C4C, provided Central Civil Affairs agrees on the 3-years' programme.
  - Mooncake Foundation has –in principle- agreed on paying the costs for the foster families and the children placed in the families. It will be a maximum of 20 children. The costs per child per year will be RMB 1,800; for 20 children that will be RMB 36,000 a year. All other costs for training and facilitation will be equally shared between Care 4 Children and the local Civil Affairs Office in Yulin.
3. After various interesting conversations at City Hall, Yulin Financial Department and Civil Affairs Office we again managed to get a preliminary agreement to equally share the costs for training the YSWI staff between Mooncake Foundation and local government.
4. A much welcomed agreement between the YSWI and Hogeschool Zuyd in the Netherlands for SPH-internship (social pedagogical practice). The internship will start (as far as we can tell now) September-October 2010. This is an enormous improvement for the YSWI as the staff can now watch and learn from the interns. We have also asked Yulin University if they could get us interpreters from the English Department and we have contacted the Military Medical University, associated to the Military Hospital in Xi'an, to ask if they have English speaking tutors for the interns during their internship. Both universities have said they are willing to co-operate. Hopefully in future we might be able to set up exchange programmes for students and/or doctors.