



Guangji Preschool & Kindergarten



an SQR reconstruction project,
deadline - December 2009

History

The Guangji Preschool & Kindergarten was founded in 2000 by Kang Yuling and several other teachers, after the closure of several smaller schools in neighboring villages. The school is now the only preschool and kindergarten serving the children of families in five villages.

Kang was motivated to start her own school after the closure of the existing schools, as she wanted to ensure the continuing education of the youngest members of her community. To do this she rallied her fellow teachers, and then proceeded to donate her family home and farmland to the cause. With the help of her new colleagues, Kang then raised enough money to refurbish existing structures, build a new two-storey structure, and build a small play area alongside her family home.

The school is run as a private kindergarten, charging the students 120 RMB [about 12 GBP] per month. The tuition goes to cover the students' lunches, supplies, and teachers' salaries.

Then at 14:28 on May 12th, 2008,

disaster struck. The Wenchuan Earthquake destroyed Kang's home, rendered the teacher's quarters, office, and kitchen unusable, and damaged the classrooms. Fortunately, Kang and her colleagues were able to get everyone to safety.

5.12 Wenchuan Quake

The earthquake on May 12th, 2008 registered at 8.0 on the Richter scale, and was felt 1,500km away in Beijing. The death toll for the region was a staggering 88,000. The Guangji Preschool & Kindergarten is a mere 250km from the epicentre.

Today

Today the Guangji Preschool and Kindergarten is partially located in a temporary structure situated in a neighbouring field, and partially located in the least damaged of the school buildings.

SQR & the Kindergarten

Sichuan Quake Relief became involved with the Guangji Preschool & Kindergarten in late 2008. The school came to SQR's attention as many of the children had lost their homes in the quake, and were inadequately prepared for the winter ahead.

With the help of donations from the *British Chamber of Commerce Shanghai*, SQR purchased blankets, long underwear, gloves, and other items, to keep the children warm. Since then, SQR has been back with a volunteer group from Japan, *A Wave of Love*, to make paper cranes [cover photo], and dance to the lively sounds of new keyboards.

Also providing assistance with the school are *the Chengdu International Women's Club*, *the American Chamber of Commerce in South West China*, *British Chamber of Commerce South West China*, *the European Chamber of Commerce in China, Chengdu Chapter*, *HongA*, *I Draw Fast Global* and *Robinson-JZFZ Architects Ltd*.

Reconstruction

To ensure the continuing education of the children attending Guangji Preschool & Kindergarten, SQR is committed to assisting Kang and her colleagues raise enough money to build a new facility that will last for generations. This beacon school will set new standards of excellence in the district.

For the specifications of the new structure, please contact us.



Official name: Guangji Di Kang Le

Founded: 2000

Number of Students: 132

Where they are now: temporary structure, and part of former structure

Expert damage estimate: Unsafe

What is needed: Re-construction

Money donated thus far: 170,000 RMB

Estimated requirement: 500,000 to 2 Million RMB in cash, goods and services.

What you can do to help



Cash Donations

To date, SQR with the help of the Chengdu International Women's Club, the American Chamber of Commerce in South West China, the British Chamber of Commerce South West China, the European Chamber of Commerce in China, Chengdu Chapter, and many others, has raised 170,000 RMB towards assisting the school. Of this, 15,806 RMB has been spent on winter clothing for the children. The remaining funds are marked for school reconstruction, decoration, and associated costs.

The Guangji Preschool & Kindergarten project still needs your help to fund the reconstruction effort. SQR is hoping to raise up to 2 Million RMB in cash, goods and services in order to construct a beacon school. As a beacon school, the facilities will be constructed to the highest standards available provincially, teachers will be held to the highest standards, and children will be assured the supplies they need to help them learn the skills they need to progress into primary school at age 6.

Services

There are many things that have yet to be done in order to start building the new facility. We welcome you to donate your, or your company's, services to assist us in these and other tasks:

- full-time management of the project
- demolishing existing structures
- designing the new school
- overseeing the construction phase of the new school
- legal and administrative services

Item Donations

Just as there are many services that we have need of, there are many items that could be procured by donation:

- building materials
- furnishing
- basic playground equipment
- school supplies

Current Participants

- American Chamber of Commerce in South West China
- British Chamber of Commerce Shanghai
- British Chamber of Commerce Southwest China
- Chengdu International Women's Club
- European Union Chamber of Commerce in China, Chengdu Chapter
- HongA
- I Draw Fast Global
- A Wave of Love
- Robinson-JZFZ Architects Ltd.

For more information

For more detailed information about this project, please contact the SQR office.



SICHUAN QUAKE RELIEF

Our mission

Sichuan Quake Relief is a non-profit, humanitarian organisation dedicated to improving the lives of those affected by the May 12th, 2008 Sichuan earthquake.

Objectives

Increase awareness of the reconstruction efforts in the earthquake zone.

Act as an information and logistics hub for fellow NGOs, volunteers, corporations and media.

To coordinate projects to assist those affected by the earthquake.

To act as a platform for the creation of a civil society.

History in brief

Sichuan Quake Relief is a group of people who live and work in Sichuan, foreigners and Chinese, who came together to assist the victims of the earthquake. On the morning of 13th May, 2008 – the day after the Sichuan earthquake – SQR started coordinating emergency relief aid. Relief projects, and development projects are still ongoing. SQR is committed to providing long-term support for those affected by the quake.

Milestones

May 2008: SQR founded

September 2008: Formal registration in the UK and Hong Kong begun

October 2008: opened SQR office

April 2009: Non-Profit status granted in the UK

May 2009: Non-Profit status granted in Hong Kong

Who we are

Peter Goff, Founder and Co-Director

Mark Allen, Co-Director

Walter Brown, Project Manager

Li JieHao, Project Assisant

Li YuanYuan, Administrative Assistant

Simon Perrin, Designer and Web Admin

Kirsten Allen, Volunteer

Lucy Fluck, European Coordinator

Past projects

Emergency relief aid

Duvet drive

Library Project

Chidren's Day events

Infant blanket distribution

Logistics and information hub

T-shirt and cloth bag sales

Current projects

Guangji Preschool & Kindergarten reconstruction

Afterquake CD

Logistics and information hub

Chengdu Sports Aid coordinator

Library Project

Cash, services, and materials donations to date

In excess of 10 Million RMB

Our corporate supporters

American Chamber of Commerce in South West China

The Bookworm Beijing, Chengdu, Suzhou

British Chamber of Commerce Southwest China

British Chamber of Commerce Shanghai

Carrefour

DHL Chengdu

Eton House International School

European Union Chamber of Commerce in China,

Chengdu Chapter

Le Cafe Panam(e)

Nokia Siemens Network, Chengdu office

Proton Products

and many more...

Contact Us

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