

ChangAi holds soccer workshops in the project villages

In January 2010, Brooke Avory, ChangAi's Partnership and Liaison Officer, traveled to the project villages to hold soccer workshops attended by boys and girls age 5-15. Brooke began the training with warm up exercises and a series of games. She then taught them basic skills such as kicking, controlling the ball, passing, dribbling around cones and shooting. The children were split into teams to play mini matches. The children thoroughly enjoyed the training and were very quick to pick up new skills.

Equipment for the two workshops was fully funded by money contributed from Brooke's friends, and the left over money was used to hold a dinner at the school with the teachers helping prepare the meal. The children ate well with the meal containing over eight dishes with fish, beef, pork, chicken and vegetables.

Soccer balls, cones and pumps used for both trainings were divided for distribution to the children of each of the two villages.



Children participating in the soccer workshop.

Project activities up close:

January 2010

- ChangAi team met with local Womens Federations to understand how the 2009/10 project year has progressed and discussed **plans for project Year 3, 2010/11**.
- The team collected detailed information on **potential micro-credit activities** for 2010/11, namely Jisongrong mushrooms and cattle-raising.
- **Household visits** were made to existing beneficiaries and families identified as **potential micro-credit loan recipients** for 2010/11.
- ChangAi's Partnership and Liaison Officer met with Wu Jiahui, a village teacher, to obtain her support for running English language workshops with materials supplied by Dulwich College in Beijing.
- **Soccer workshops** were held for 62 students age 5-15 in two schools supported by ChangAi.

February 2010

- Local senior artists taught the villagers **peacock dance and Gadong**, a combination of Dai nationality folk dance.

Ongoing support from ChangAi:

- **Education grants** assist primary, lower-middle school and university students attend and board at school.
- A **health fund** provides for medical expenses for sick villagers and families.
- **Micro-credit loans and training** assist villagers in pig-raising and crop-growing.

Sponsorship, donations & kind support

ChangAi acknowledges the following people and organizations for their support:

- Alan Thomas and Sally Borthwick
975 RMB
- Professor Zhao Shuqing
3,000 RMB
- Adam Gurney and Leila Wyatt
528 RMB for soccer workshop and meals for 65 children
- Yang Li
Clothes and study materials for ChangAi-sponsored Children Activity Centre





ChangAi Children's Project Newsletter

November 2009 - April 2010

Mission Statement

Our aim is to bring hope and opportunity to China's poorest and most vulnerable children by working with their communities to improve children's health, education, environment and life skills.

Contact ChangAi :

E-mail: admin@chang-ai.org
Website: www.chang-ai.org



Project Overview

Founded in 2007, the ChangAi Children's Project operates in four villages in south-western Yunnan province which are deeply affected by disease, drug use and poverty. The Project works holistically on four levels to:

- Directly support vulnerable children.
- Enhance children's household environment.
- Improve the local community's situation as conducive to child development.
- Develop a model relevant for supporting children in poor villages across China.

From the Project's commencement in March 2008, ChangAi has a five year plan in which to work with local communities to enhance health and education opportunities for children.

How you can help:

How you help is up to you! A few suggestions are to provide:

Your time or expertise
Toys or games
Art supplies
Computer equipment

**Email admin@chang-ai.org for more information.

ChangAi can make little funds go a long way:

510 RMB covers the education and health-related costs of a junior middle school child for six months.

310 RMB covers the same costs for a primary school child.

230 RMB covers the cost of all-day English class for 30 students.

Findings on potential lending activities from January 2010 mission



Growing Jisongrong mushrooms require relatively large investment, 15,000 RMB for bamboo and roof structure, straw and fertilizers. Although requiring round-the-clock care for six months, they can generate good and quick profits, as they can be picked every 10-15 days.



Cattle-rearing requires larger investment than pig-raising, ranging between 10,000-30,000 RMB to cover cow pen, fodder machine and calves. The advantage is that cows are less prone to disease than pigs.