



**ONESKY**

for all children

**WE IMAGINE...**  
**A TIME WHEN THE WORLD'S MOST**  
**VULNERABLE CHILDREN ARE VALUED.**

OneSky believes in the vast potential hidden in our world's most vulnerable children. We create and implement simple, replicable early learning programs that provide nurturing, responsive care, transforming the lives of thousands of at-risk children every day and ensuring that those most in need have a second chance at childhood.





## THE CHILDREN WE SERVE

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Growing up happily with the ability to feel love is a challenge for the world's 935 million orphaned, left-behind and neglected children. OneSky (Half the Sky Foundation), a global NGO based in Beijing, Hong Kong and Berkeley, offers innovative, scalable models designed to unlock the potential of the world's most vulnerable children.

OneSky trains local staff and communities to provide the early interaction and stimulation tailored to each child's own needs and interests that is essential for a healthy start.

The care that OneSky provides is as ancient and basic as a mother's kiss, but its impact is profound. When children learn to receive and give love, neuroscientists tell us that their brain development is enhanced.

Thanks to OneSky's generous supporters, once forgotten children are learning what it means to have a doting adult exulting over every one of their developmental milestones. Like OneSky nanny Xia Gu, who wrote this report about Haiyan when she was seven months old:

*When I first met Haiyan she was very weak. She could raise her head only for 30 seconds when lying on her stomach. I often helped her move her legs and arms so she would become stronger and I sang to her. When I played with her she would get very excited and smile at me. I made sure her food was very nutritious. Now Haiyan can raise her head when lying on her stomach and she can turn over easily. She is very active – she can sit for 10 to 15 minutes with my help or three to four minutes on her own. She can hold the milk bottle to drink. When I talk to her, she smiles at me.*

# MODEL FOR CHILDREN IN ORPHANAGES

Institutionalized infants and toddlers lose one month of linear growth for every three months in institutional care. Without individual attention and stimulation, children who survive this emotional isolation will almost certainly suffer developmental delays.

OneSky's Model for Children in Orphanages teaches child welfare workers how to help these vulnerable children not only survive, but thrive, by providing them with consistent family-like nurturing care. This model is being taken to scale throughout China, including at Seed Centers committed to launching OneSky-inspired programs of their own, and is ready for replication in other countries where government policy has not fully embraced deinstitutionalization.

## PROGRAMS

### Infant Nurture

Women from the local community are trained to become OneSky nannies and provide nurturing, responsive care and stimulation for orphaned babies and toddlers, 0-3.

### Preschool

Experienced early childhood trainers are taught a unique curriculum that blends responsive care and some elements of the Reggio Emilia approach to early childhood education with local kindergarten standards. The program is designed to prepare children, 3-6, to develop a love of learning, succeed in community schools, and attain the positive sense of self so often missing in institutionalized children.

### Loving Families

Married couples who have already raised a family but still have room in their hearts are recruited from the local community to provide permanent loving foster families for children whose physical, emotional or cognitive challenges are likely to preclude their adoption.



# MODEL FOR CHILDREN IN VILLAGES

In rural China, 9 million children of migrant workers, including 2.5 million under 5 years old, are left behind by both parents who must leave their impoverished villages to find work in faraway cities. Millions more endure the periodic and unpredictable loss of their moms and dads who seize the opportunity to work when they can. Left in the care of grandparents or relatives struggling to simply keep them fed, these children lack nurturing, responsive care during their critical early years. They are China's "economic orphans."

The OneSky Model for Children in Villages is a pilot program in 46 villages in central China that offers a scalable model for mitigating the damage to young children left behind in poverty-stricken rural areas by changing caregiver behaviors, thus improving learning readiness and social-emotional development.

## PROGRAMS

### Family Skills

Parenting skills and responsive care training is delivered to primary caregivers through group trainings at the OneSky Family Center and via weekly home visits. The focus is on providing nurturing care in daily life, with an emphasis on attachment and bonding, brain development and stimulation, and on fostering early communication.

### Early Childhood Development Centers

An early learning center is provided for all children in the village, ages 3-6, irrespective of the family's ability to pay. The child-centered curriculum emphasizes using responsive care to improve cognitive, social, emotional development and school readiness.

### Community Engagement

Geared toward strengthening disintegrating rural communities and providing a nurturing home for young children despite parental absence, this program offers trainer-facilitated village gatherings, monthly community projects (community garden, field trips, etc.), and cooperative childcare to give weary grandparents regular respite.



# MODEL FOR CHILDREN OF FACTORY WORKERS

In Vietnam, children of factory workers live in industrial zone tenements, sorely lacking safe places to play and learn. Over 4,000 cases of child abuse, neglect, and in some cases death, are reported each year coming from unlicensed home-based childcare centers in or near industrial parks.

OneSky's Model for Children of Factory Workers is designed to begin the process of changing the prospects for Vietnam's youngest and most vulnerable children. In 2017, in partnership with the Department of Education and Training, OneSky will open an Early Learning Center for young children who live in the Hoa Khanh Industrial Zone in Danang. These children 0-6 need a safe place to thrive while their parents labor in the factories that are bringing prosperity to their country.

## PROGRAMS

### Infant Nurture

OneSky trains local caregivers in child development best practices to provide nurturing, responsive care and stimulation to infants and children (ages 0-3) while their parents are at work in factories.

### Preschool

OneSky trains local teachers how to promote early development by blending responsive care with best practices for early education, using a curriculum adapted to serve the needs of children in Vietnam.

### Daycare Provider Training & Parenting Classes

OneSky provides tailored workshops and training for local home daycare providers so they can deliver quality care for all children and adopt, implement, and replicate best practices. OneSky trainers and mentors also provide parenting skills and classes for caregivers, both on-site at the factories and at the OneSky Early Learning Center.



# ONESKY'S MILESTONES

**1997** Jenny and Richard Bowen adopted their daughter, Maya, a toddler from a welfare institution in southern China, and received a first-hand education in early childhood development and the trauma of institutionalization. Maya suffered from both physical and cognitive developmental delays, but after just one year of individual attention, love and nurture, Maya was transformed.

**1998** Half the Sky Foundation – named for the Chinese adage, “Women hold up half the sky,” was founded to train staff to provide family-like nurturing care for orphaned children. Today it is known as OneSky.

**2000** OneSky’s first pilot programs to evaluate whether infants and preschoolers living in institutions under the care of trained, loving nannies would thrive as they do in families were launched. The results were remarkable: shutdown children with sad, vacant eyes blossomed when they received the care they needed to thrive.

**2003** OneSky celebrated its 5th anniversary by hosting a national conference on nurture and education in China’s welfare institutions in Hefei, Anhui. With support from the Ford Foundation, OneSky published *For the Children*, a teacher and nanny training manual on its signature approach to providing high-quality, nurturing care for institutionalized children.

**2005** OneSky announced the publication of *Mei Mei (Little Sister): Portraits from a Chinese Orphanage*, a spectacularly beautiful book of black & white photographic portraits of children in Chinese orphanages. The haunting photographs by OneSky co-founder Richard Bowen are not easily put aside.

OneSky established its Family Village program (now called Loving Families) to provide permanent, loving, two-parent homes for children whose physical and developmental challenges make them unlikely to be adopted.

**2008** OneSky was deeply honored to receive the 2008 Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship, presented in Oxford, England to Jenny Bowen by Former US President Jimmy Carter.

OneSky provided relief for 98 institutions affected by the snow disaster in early 2008 and for Dujiangyan, Sichuan province when the May earthquake hit Wenchuan. In Dujiangyan, OneSky set up “Big Tops,” giant tents with toys and games where children could be children again and where they could receive emotional support.

Jenny Bowen was an Olympic torch bearer in Wanzhou while children from OneSky’s programs cheered her on.

**2011** The groundbreaking public/NGO/private partnership, the Rainbow Program to train welfare workers all over China, was launched at the Great Hall of the People on Children’s Day. The Rainbow Program is changing the face of orphan care all over China.

**2012** To ensure that its long dreamed of goal to shift financial and operational responsibility for all that it built in China over to the Chinese, OneSky helped establish its Chinese sister organization, Chunhui Children, which was registered as a charity in Beijing.

**2014** OneSky Founder & CEO Jenny Bowen’s memoir and history of Half the Sky Foundation, *Wish You Happy Forever: What China’s Orphans Taught Me About Moving Mountains*, was published by HarperCollins.

**2015** OneSky launched its scalable Model for Children in Villages designed to ensure that the 23 million children under 7 left behind in impoverished rural villages while their parents work in faraway cities receive nurturing, responsive care.

**2016** To reflect its broadened mission of creating and implementing transformative programs for at-risk children all over the world, Half the Sky changed its name to OneSky... OneSky for all children.

**2017** OneSky will launch its replicable Model for Children of Factory workers to begin the process of changing the prospects for Vietnam’s smallest and most vulnerable children. OneSky’s first Early Learning Center will provide care for young children in the Hoa Khanh Industrial Zones in Danang while their parents labor in nearby factories.

# ONESKY'S PARTNERS

All of our work is made possible through partnership investments by government, corporations, foundations and individuals.

In China, our government partners include the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the China Development Research Foundation (State Council), the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education and the All-China Federation of Women.

In addition to government partners, OneSky works with local NGOs to build local capacity and sustainability. In China, our NGO partner is Chunhui Children, a Beijing registered private foundation.





# QUICK FACTS ABOUT ONESKY

**Founded in 1998**

**142,000+ children's lives transformed**

**27,000+ caregivers trained**

**FY2013 \$9,663,951 | FY2014 \$8,700,856 | FY2015 \$9,642,017**

**Charitable Registration**

**United States, 1999**

**Hong Kong, 2006**

**Canada, 2004, 2009**

**China, 2008, Re-registration Approved 2017**

**Chunhui Children, 2012**

**Australia, 2009**

**UK, 2009**

**The Netherlands, 2009**

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