



Changing the lives of orphans in China

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PRESS RELEASE

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Love without Boundaries Ready for Round Two of Chase Community Facebook Challenge

The humanitarian organization releases details of its “Big Idea” proposal to Facebook voters to win funding to assist medically fragile orphans in China.

For LWB’s Big Idea proposal and video go to:

<http://apps.facebook.com/chasecommunitygiving/charities/263934>

Love Without Boundaries (LWB), a nonprofit humanitarian organization that assists orphaned and impoverished children in China, has announced the details of its “Big Idea” – the organization’s \$1-million dollar grant proposal for Round Two of the Chase Community Facebook Challenge.

The proposal builds upon LWB’s success in developing provincial healing homes in China to provide life saving care to fragile orphans affected by cleft lip and palate.

“We are excited to share with our supporters and the entire Facebook community stories of the children we help and how LWB will use the monetary award in ways that are consistent with our mission and programs,” says LWB Associate Executive Director Karen Maunu.

Last fall, Facebook teamed up with JP Morgan Chase to distribute more than \$5 million across its network of nonprofit organizations. In December, LWB was chosen as one of the 100 winning nonprofits in Round One of the contest.

As a finalist, LWB received \$25,000 for its programs and advanced to Round Two. Beginning January 15, Facebook users will have the opportunity to cast up to five votes for the charities of their choice. Winners will be announced on February 1.

LWB was the first foundation in China to set up healing centers for orphans with cleft and currently operates two homes, staffed with specially trained nannies. LWB provides cleft lip surgery to the children in its care as soon as they reach the required weight, and then advocate for each child to find a permanent home through adoption.

“Asia has the highest incidence of babies being born with cleft lip in the world.,” says LWB Executive Director Amy Eldridge. “Due to social stigma and limited financial resources, thousands of Chinese children each year with cleft are abandoned and end up as orphans. These children have difficulty



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<http://apps.facebook.com/chasecommunitygiving/charities/263934>



eating and require a lot of extra effort to feed as well as specially designed bottles — things that they cannot get in an institutional setting.”

“We have seen hundreds of cleft babies struggle in an orphanage setting, often with fatal results,” she adds. “Many of the babies who enter our healing homes are in critical condition, often weighing just eight or nine pounds at eight months of age.”

The organization’s vision involves eventually establishing Cleft Healing Homes in every province in China. “Winning one million dollars would allow us to open additional regional centers provide nutrition and medical care to these vulnerable infants,” explains Eldridge. “LWB has local staff and hospital partnerships already in place throughout China, allowing us to begin implementation of this project immediately.”

In addition, LWB plans to work towards decreasing the stigma surrounding this special need in rural villages through community outreach.

“The real winners, of course, will be the orphaned and impoverished children in China we assist through our programs,” she says. “Every orphan deserves a second chance at life and a family to love them.”

For more information about Love without Boundaries, visit www.lovewithoutboundaries.com

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Facebook fan page: <http://www.facebook.com/LWBFanPage>