

Fundraising Update

Goal for 7/1/10 - 12/31/10

\$20,000

Funds Raised So Far

\$5,900

Funds Needed to Reach Goal

\$14,100

Matching Funds

All donations made from now through December 31, 2010 will be matched up to \$5,000!

How You Can Help

Get Involved:

- Learn more by visiting www.patskids.org
- Sponsor A Child - on your own or with a group! Sponsorship is a great way to honor a loved one for the holidays!
- Hold a fundraiser! Contact info@patskids.org for more information
- Participate in the AIDS walk and choose PATS as your recipient organization
- Organize a Thanksgiving donation with your family
- Ask for and give PATS donations as gifts this holiday season
- Sell handicrafts online or at a craft show and donate a percentage of the proceeds to PATS
- Invite a PATS volunteer to speak at your next church or club meeting
- Become a volunteer



Issue 4: October 2010

In This Issue:

Why I Give	P 1
PATS Update	P 1
Volunteer Journal	P 2
Sponsor a Child	P 2
PATS Contact Info	P 2

Why I Give: A New Board Member's View

By Jialan Wang

I've been a volunteer for PATS since 2008, and this July I had the pleasure of deepening my commitment by joining the Board of Directors. I'd like to share with you my story of how I got involved and why I continue to give my time, energy, and donations to this extraordinary organization.

I met PATS Director Eliza Petrow in April 2008 when she presented at a campus conference while I was a graduate student at MIT. I was already passionate about addressing health issues in the developing world, but I had yet to find a nonprofit that married compassion for those in need with a rigorous, scientific approach. After seeing Eliza's presentation on the PATS community health worker program, I had found what I was looking for. I immediately emailed her and told her that I

would try to raise \$500 for PATS. By the end of May, I had raised \$1,300, and I've been a true believer in PATS ever since.

I support PATS foremost because it *works*. As an economist, I want my charitable gifts to deliver measurable results and impact, not just a warm feeling. But secondly, I support PATS because working with Eliza and all of the other volunteers has brought tremendous joy and meaning to my life. They challenge and inspire me every day to devote more of myself to social justice.

To celebrate my new position on the Board and to encourage all PATS supporters to join me in stepping up, I am announcing a matching gift challenge. Between now and December 31, 2010, I will personally match all gifts up to \$5,000. If the goal of \$5,000 is reached, I will donate an additional \$1,000.

PATS Update

This has been a busy past few months for PATS! Director Eliza Petrow traveled to Anhui, China in June/July with volunteer Rosemary Wilson, whose law firm, Sullivan and Worcester, worked to register PATS as an NGO. Rosemary collected supplies for hygiene kits and was able to assemble and distribute 100 kits during her visit! PATS volunteer Kristin Johnson also went to Anhui as a Sara's Wish recipient and spent one month developing an electronic database to better track medical information for each of our kids. The team has also developed a picture-based manual for semiliterate caretakers and HIV-positive children. We are excited that UNICEF will pay to print this manual and the Chinese CDC will use it country-wide so children beyond the PATS community will benefit from this work!

While in China, we welcomed 8 new children from Anhui and one new child from Henan into the PATS program, bringing the total to 45 children. We are excited that we were able to welcome these new children, but also know that continued growth will require increased fundraising and volunteer capabilities to keep the program operating smoothly. We are fortunate to have welcomed several new volunteers in the greater Boston area this month. These volunteers will be meeting September 29th at MIT, where we also hope to welcome further recruits! We have no doubt that PATS will continue to grow as we identify new children in need. Thank you for your support, which makes all of this possible!

With sincere appreciation,
The PATS Team

A Visit to the Wen Xiang Ge Group Home

Volunteer Rosemary Wilson kept a journal of her experiences during this summer's annual program visit. This excerpt describes her visit to Wen Xiang Ge Group Home where several PATS children live together and receive care.

We were greeted with a musical performance. The children lined up in rows, stock still, with hands to their sides, and sang their hearts out. Pan Pan, an excellent young health worker, led the songs, which were based on traditional Chinese poems about beauty, truth, and other philosophical topics. After the performance, we handed out personal hygiene kits and it seemed like Christmas! The children's faces beamed as each proudly held up his own personal kit. The smallest boy mimicked brushing his teeth and then put his toothbrush in his shiny green "house"!

We were shown down the hall where neat piles of school exercise books were piled on tables. Each child's work was also very neat; even tiny, five-year-old Zhen Zhen, with her yellow dress and sticking up pigtailed, had written her letters and numbers perfectly in her book. Zhen Zhen's HIV-positive birth parents abandoned her in a park when she was about 2, leaving a note asking someone to take care of her. She was taken in by a family, but when they learned she was HIV-positive they took her to Anhui and left her there. During our visit, she earnestly told PATS advisor Mr. Wang that she knew her best chance to survive was living at Wen Xiang Ge Home. This

Sponsor a Child Spotlight: Xue Qiang

When PATS community health workers visited Xue Qiang his home situation was unstable; his stepmother had left the family, his older brother had dropped out of school, and the government had appropriated the family's land. His father was losing hope.

Xue Qiang's father revealed to PATS staff that he believed his son's HIV-positive status meant he would die soon. For this reason he would not send the boy to school or discipline him. PATS workers explained that HIV-positive individuals are now able to live long and productive lives. The father asked many questions about HIV and lifespan and was shocked to hear stories of HIV-positive individuals who are married and have families and jobs. The father was told that Xue Qiang's CD4 count is high and that if he adheres to his treatment he can remain healthy. After a lengthy conversation, he agreed to allow his son to begin attending school, a major shift in his perception of his son's future.



group home model is currently being evaluated to compare its efficacy to that of other models for care. Staff members were working on a poster to present at the upcoming AIDS conference in Vienna. Charts showed CD4 counts and viral loads of these children compared to those in care in private homes, as well as the difference in overhead costs.

We then visited the treatment room, which had charts on the wall with boxes checked for every time the children took their meds. This is also where the children have checkups and are measured and weighed. These services are similar to those PATS provides for the children who come into the CDC clinics, who have their pillboxes inspected to see if all the pills have been taken. Adherence is then noted and the boxes are refilled for the next month. At the end of the hall, we visited the boys and girls bedrooms of bunk beds. Some kids shared a bed, which is very common...

...look for more excerpts from Rosemary's travelogue in the next PATS newsletter

He is now discussing with the PATS staff the possibility of Xue Qiang attending a semi-residential school, that teaches good hygiene practices and provides medical care in addition to providing standard academic activities.



Xue Qiang's health worker visits are made possible by the generous support of four sponsors. PATS would like to express our deep gratitude to Tricia, Janet, Ojen, Jim and all of our generous Sponsor a Child benefactors. We also invite others to join us in our endeavor to change a child's future. Please visit us at www.patskids.org and click on "How You Can Help" to learn more about sponsoring a child.

Donation Information

If you would like to make a donation, please mail a check to:

PATS
PO Box 381740
Cambridge, MA 02238-1740

All checks should be made out to PATS and will qualify as a tax-deductible donation. All donations are welcome!

Thank you!

Sponsor A Child

To sponsor a child like Xue Qiang and to learn more about all the PATS kids visit www.patskids.org.

Sponsors will be paired with a specific PATS child and will receive personalized updates and photos twice a year.

With your commitment to sponsorship of a child for one year, PATS can ensure:

- Regular health checks by community health workers
- Adherence to drug treatment regimes
- Access and transportation to physicians if problems arise
- Nutritional supplements

Sponsorship Levels

Needs - \$440

Covers basic needs to give a solid foundation

Growth - \$880

Covers the entire cost of sponsorship

To enroll, email us at info@patskids.org

Thank you for your generous support of PATS!