



Organization Profile
2014

In 2014 Bethel:

Continues to give Visually Impaired orphans all the fun and fulfillment kids deserve

Plans to open an Early Intervention Center for VI children with families for special education

Will further grow our parent support platform

Will start to lay the groundworks for a second satellite site in Jiangsu



Our vision

Children with Visual Impairments living Life to Fullest

Bethel is...

Bethel is home. Home to 85 visually impaired orphans. Bethel is a safe and stimulating environment in which VI orphans of all ages and abilities can grow, laugh and experience a full, rich life.

Bethel empowers the visually impaired Chinese orphan community by providing foster care, education, therapy, and livelihood opportunities to VI orphans and by training everyone with the same vision. In addition, Bethel strengthens existing Chinese institutions by capacity building caregivers through workshops, e-learning, consultancy and training materials that focus on raising the quality of care for VI orphans.

Our values

Values are what really make Bethel Bethel. They boil our to-do lists down to 4 checkboxes and simplify our decision-making.

- Kids come first
- Quality over quantity
- Focus on fun
- Partners are a part of success

2002 Guillaume & Delphine research the work of NGOs in China and try to find a people group that is not being reached

2003 First Bethel house is opened in Lang Fang, Hebei province, and houses 3 blind orphans from Tianjin orphanage

2004 Second home is opened, caring for 12 children - Board of Directors is established

2005 Opening of the third home, caring for 24 children - Start of Bethel school.

2006 Opening of the fourth home, caring for 31 children (60 staff) - Expansion of Bethel school.

2007 Move to new facility in Dou Dian – Set up of farm – Registration of Bethel China Ltd. in HK

2008 Construction of seven foster homes – Operations size: 80 staff

2009 In-house training program for Bethel staff – Main building become a “real” school

2010 Construction of the swimming pool – Project 555: start training for staff from others orphanages at Bethel

2011 Opening of the Beijing Bethel Shop – 11 children start public school at the Beijing school for Blind – Open 2 classes for blind children in Henan Province

2012 Expanded the Love is Blind program with a 4th Care Center providing specialized care and education for multi-handicapped, blind orphans. (110 staff)

2013 Founding of parent platform – First life skills DVD series produced.

Bethel 'Love is Blind'

Bethel Sites

Bethel
Outreach

Doudian
Campus

Beijing
City Life

Zhengzhou
Orphanage

Lighthouse
Changping

Training &
Awareness

Bethel LIB (short for Love is Blind) is the banner under which Bethel runs all its foster care, education and therapy programs. Bethel Sites consists of 4 projects: the Doudian Campus, located just outside of Beijing, the Zhengzhou orphanage project, the Lighthouse project in Changping and the Beijing City Life project. As of January 2014, all 4 care sites combined offer services for up to 85 children at a time.



We take a holistic approach to foster care which goes much further than a house and a bed. At Bethel, children live in small groups of 6 to 10 children. Each group has their own home with their own set of activities and their own pictures on the fridge. By doing so we stimulate a family atmosphere in which children can feel both unique and part of a group at the same time.



Our school offers classes in Braille, conversational English, Chinese, mathematics, science, orientation and mobility, daily living skills, physical education, social studies, computer communication, hippo therapy, and more. There are 6 classes for children of all ages and abilities. An English immersion preschool class prepares children who will be adopted abroad.



We make an Individual Education Plan (IEP) for each child at the start of every school year. Children come to Bethel at different ages, and require different areas of focus, including an emphasis on language skills, motor skills or emotional support. We run monthly trainings for our staff in speech, occupational and physical therapy and the kids have the opportunity to enjoy aquatherapy and hippotherapy (therapy using horses)

The Doudian Campus

Our primary foster care services are spread out over 4 care sites, the biggest one of which is the Doudian campus. The 17 acres of land on which the campus is situated is designed to stimulate all their senses. Great importance is placed on providing a variety of exciting activities for all children, including sports, arts and crafts, field trips, music and entertainment, all of which are specially designed for the blind and visually impaired.

The Doudian School for the visually impaired was set up in September 2004. It started humbly in one room with 10 students and one teacher. With no access to adaptive technology or resources for the blind in the Chinese language, the teachers had to create their own teaching materials. In the beginning, the children would count grains of rice so that their fingertips would easily get acquainted to the small texture used in braille. The standard for our school is for it to stay as competitive and technologically advanced as any of the top VI schools.

The campus mainly houses young children (babies and preschoolers), preparing them for a more advanced education in the Beijing City Life project.



The model for a mindset
Inspiring people by making our
values tangible and work accessible

Beijing City Life

The most important challenge to answer is “what will happen to these students once they grow up and are out of school?” The remote location of the Doudian Campus makes it difficult for older students to practice and live out the independence skills they have learned. The Beijing City Life Project gives them the opportunity to live in an environment that challenges and equips them for future independence.

Together with Bethel caregivers they live in an apartment in Beijing. During the week they attend the Beijing School for the Blind together with other VI children from the city.

Contact with “the outside world” is paramount if we want to have a successful integration of Bethel’s students into society. Life in the big city gives our children a real sense of pride, self confidence and above all; joy.



Life in the City

Finding your way, your home and your pride in Big Beijing

“Bethel is a very special place. It is full of so much life and happiness. We can tell how very dearly our daughter was loved during her time there, and what special and personalized attention she was given. We will forever be thankful to Bethel and it will always have a very important place in our family’s hearts.”

- Shannon Hinkley, adoptive parent -



The Zhengzhou orphanage

In looking for ways for Bethel to expand its coverage to impact more children with visual impairment, Bethel formed a partnership with an orphanage in Zhengzhou.

By partnering with existing welfare centers Bethel is able to become a part of the cycle and innovate from the inside out. The cost of taking over existing facilities and training existing staff up to Bethel's standard is much lower than building a center from the ground-up. Replication of our foster care model throughout China is thereby much easier and can be done at much lower costs.

Love is Blind in Zhengzhou is located within the Zhengzhou social welfare center. Through this partnership, the Zhengzhou SWI provides Bethel with two classrooms and two apartments, electricity, food and insurance for our staff. Bethel adds an extra level of care by hiring more teachers and nannies to provide therapy and education, as well as adding the little details such as snacks, toys, pyjamas and outings

Our staff provides specialized care, therapy, medical checks and education for the children, as well as food and milk at lunchtime. Some of the children have other medical needs. In December 2012, Bethel's Zhengzhou project celebrated one year since its opening.



Being part of the Cycle
Bringing new insights into existing contexts.



“Seeing Bethel’s work at the Zhengzhou orphanage firsthand reinforced for us why supporting outreach work is so critical. The transformation that has taken place there is truly remarkable and can be seen from so many angles, from the shifted paradigms of the orphanage staff to the bright and hopeful faces of the visually impaired children. We know that Bethel has created a model that will bear lasting returns on the philanthropic investments of the Legatum Foundation.”

- Legatum Foundation -

The Changping Lighthouse

In 2012, Bethel launched 'The Lighthouse' Project in Changping. The project was specifically designed for the long-term care of Bethel children with secondary or handicaps like autism, cerebral palsy or paralysis.

Bethel opened the home in November 2012, and 11 children now live there and receive more focused, specialized care. The goal is to provide a high level of therapy and one-on-one education, tailored to each child's needs, and designed according to their abilities. Classes include physical therapy (with some aqua and hippo therapy in the warmer months), Orientation and Mobility, music, art, exercise, and self-help skills.

Caregivers will continue to provide 24-hour care in a family based setting, and help each child to develop and learn individually. The routine is very structured so that the children know what to expect each day. Children have already made significant improvements as greater attention has been paid to their specific, personal abilities.



"Our project offers a family setting outside of our daily life skills sessions, our music and arts classes and structured lessons held by our special education teachers. Every class has been designed with our children in mind to ensure we can cater to their way of learning, age and ability."

"We're committed to helping our children reach their full potential. We feel honored to be apart of their accomplishments and take great joy in celebrate their every personal achievement. At the lighthouse project our children shine bright."

- Ami Lindo - Special Education professional

Beaming Bright

The Lighthouse shines a light on our children's strengths, and provides a safe haven where they can grow and flourish.

Teaching and training

Through “Love is Blind” we can care directly for orphans with a visual impairment. Our resources however are not without limit. Bethel Outreach enables us to reach children and their caregivers all over the country and give them the training, medical care and moral support they need.

With the implementation of ‘The Love is Blind’ Project as a successful model for localized care of blind orphans, Bethel needed a platform to spread its methods to a national level.

From 2011, orphanages representing thousands of children have received training in foster care, daily living skills, orientation and mobility. Orphanages are trained in a wide range of topics related to blindness, mobility and general care.

Topics include:

- Blind baby care
- Mobility training
- How to teach Braille
- Physical therapy

In 2012 we expanded our service to parents and other primary caregivers. We set up an online parents community and an e-learning website full of educational videos and manuals. Parenting a blind child can be an overwhelming challenge. In many cases people simply can’t imagine a blind child dressing herself or putting on his shoes. Our online video tutorials help in just such cases, showing parents how to teach their child basic self care skills that boost their independence.

Reaching out to parents has proven to be a great success that addresses a very desperate need. In 2014 we will expand our parent training to even more cities, setting up more parent groups, helping more visually impaired children have a full a rich life.

Restoring vision
Bringing vision to parents that can no longer see a way



“Since coming to Bethel, I feel it is not only my child who has been learning, but our whole family has learned relevant skills through the Bethel teachers. With these skills, we know that we can help our children as they progress with their education.”

-Qi Qi’s mother-

Partnerships and priorities

Bethel is build on relationships. Personal links between us and our children, between them and their sponsors, their fans, our donors and most importantly of all links between our vision and yours.

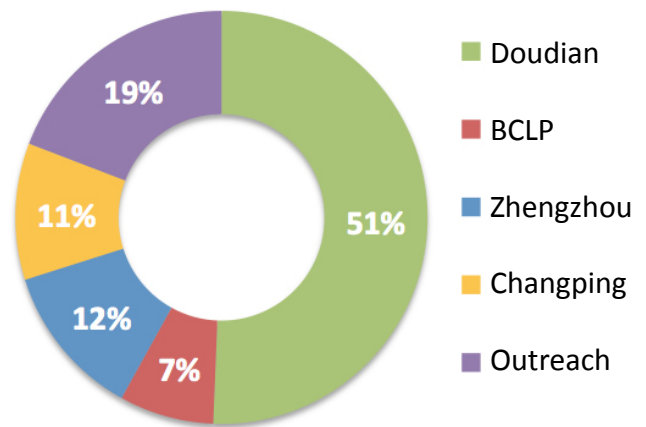
If you share our vision, our team can help you become a part of Bethel's success. There are numerous creative ways through which you can share, donate, or advocate and we'd love to help you with that.

Our main need is to raise funds to cover running costs. What makes Bethel unique are not the classrooms, the farm or the houses, but it is our dedicated and trained staff who are committed to see the kids flourish and grow. They love our kids and we love them.

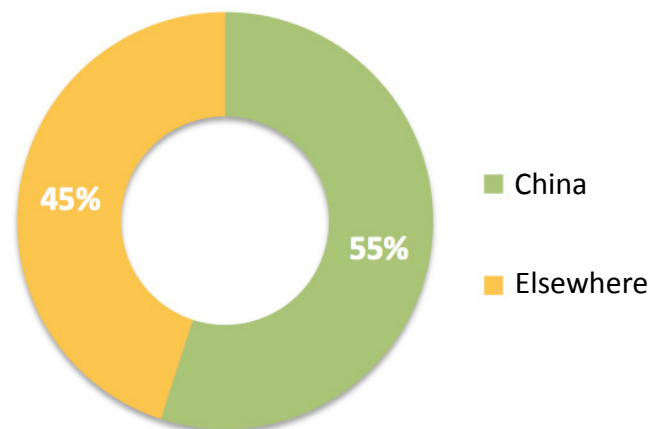
A child that lives on one of our sites cost about \$1350/month. This includes all direct expenses in foster care, medical care, education, specialized education and professional training. 55% of Bethel income comes from within China and 45% from abroad.

Overhead costs in 2013 were 9.5%.

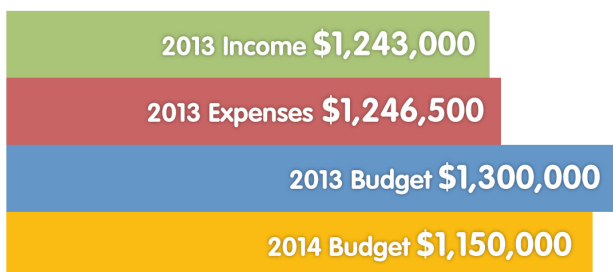
2013 expenses share per project



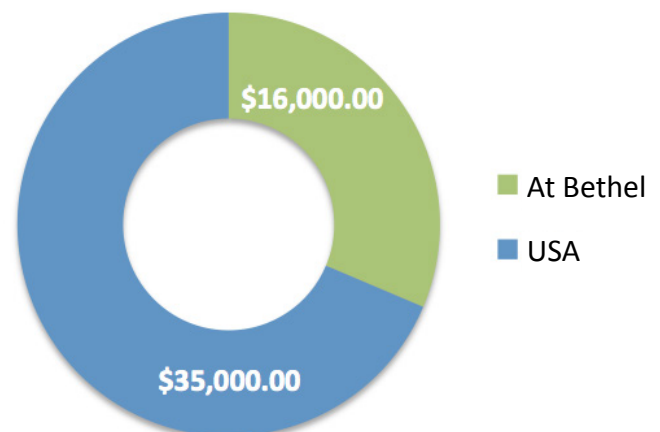
Where donations come from



2013 Performance and 2014 Budget



Average cost of raising a special needs child per year





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