



FIVE News



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December 2015

The Five Project for International Autism and Disability Support, Inc.

美国五项目：国际孤独症和其他障碍支持机构

2015—A Very Busy Year for FIVE!

Dear friends,
 2015 has been extremely busy with requests for training and other consultation, and including providing teacher training in 5 different cities. It is with great pleasure that we share FIVE's work over the past year, which includes growing, deepening collaboration with educators and organizations in China. From early this year, we would like to thank the Nanjing Pugongying Mutual Support Center, founded and run by self-advocates with disabilities, who generously hosted a gathering for FIVE's family support group in March. We are thrilled to have met this group, and to receive their support and recognition, and we value our ongoing relationship. Other thanks go to our growing team of expert trainers and volunteers, who will be mentioned throughout this newsletter. FIVE's work is completed in collaboration with local Chinese teachers and educational programs, with a goal of sustainable capacity building within China. This year's highlights:

**Conference presentations in Guangzhou and Beijing.



Above: FIVE Support Group was hosted at the Pugongying Mutual Support Center run by and for people with disabilities in Nanjing.

**Onsite staff training at Guangzhou and Xi'an Huiling Community Services for People with Intellectual Disabilities, addressing our increased focus on adults with disabilities including autism

**Onsite teacher training at autism NGOs in Hangzhou, Nanjing and Xi'an.

**Increasing requests for consultation from Chinese and international organizations

**Thanks to everyone who has made this work possible!

We hope that you will consider supporting FIVE, so more teachers and families can receive training and professional resources that they are urgently requesting. Donate online through paypal (link is available at www.thefiveproject.org) or send a donation to The Five Project for International Autism and Disability Support, Inc., 33 Fitch Terrace, Randolph, MA 02368 USA. FIVE is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible.

"You helped me a few years ago, and now my child is 16 and I am reaching out to you again for advice."—received in May, 2015 by a parent who found FIVE via our website and has limited support

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Onsite Training: Teachers of Young Children with Autism

This fall, FIVE provided onsite, hands-on training at three organizations that serve children 14 and under in China. Each training was collaboratively supported by the organizations, The Five Project, and the Hussman Institute for Autism. Trainers also volunteered their time, for which we are grateful. Training was provided collaboratively by Patricia Wright, Linnea McAfoose, and Helen McCabe, with excellent translation assistance in Nanjing by volunteer Esther Lam. At Hangzhou Qimingxin Children's Rehabilitation Center, we focused on taking data for more effective instruction and visuals for behavioral support, as well as using communication boards to promote communication in children with little or no language. At Nanjing Pukou District Disabled Persons Rehabilitation Center and Xi'an Zhihuidao Children's Ability Training Center, the focus continued on visuals for communication and support, as well as on effective instructional strategies for new teachers. Each of these three organizations expressed a strong desire for FIVE's team to return and continue to work with their teachers. We know that children with autism need more effective instruction to promote more positive outcomes, and we are committed to returning as well as to providing ongoing online assistance.

Left: Esther Lam translates for Patricia Wright in Nanjing.

Below: Linnea McAfoose teaches Hangzhou teachers how to create and use communication boards.



Awareness through International Meetings during 2015

While FIVE's focus is on intensive capacity building work with and for local autism educational organizations in China, we welcome invitations to participate in large conferences and meetings that allow us to be a part of raising broad awareness about autism and related issues. FIVE's Executive Director, Helen McCabe, presented at two conferences in Guangzhou (March) and Beijing (April), and returned to Beijing in September to present at one conference and, at a training meeting, to serve as translator for TEACCH former director, Gary Mesibov. In March and April, Helen spoke about communica-

tion, behavior and the important connections between the two. In the fall, she spoke to a standing room only audience about the urgent need to increase the use of visual supports for individuals with autism in China. At the training about TEACCH, she provided interpretation for two 8-hour days. These events have introduced hundreds of families and teachers to FIVE, and requests for help continue to grow.



Above: FIVE's Helen McCabe translated for Gary Mesibov at his 2-day training in Beijing, hosted by Peking University #6 Hospital, and Beijing Association for the Rehabilitation of Children with Autism.

Training and Partnership with Huiling Community Services (Adults)

Huiling Community Services for People with Developmental Disabilities has been a pioneer in community based adult residential and day programs in China. Over the past few years, the percentage of their students with autism has increased, and they sought FIVE's assistance. Huiling is a grassroots NGO determined to provide effective services and high quality of life for its students, and we are so pleased to have begun a partnership through an initial training in October. Sponsored by FIVE and the Hussman Institute for Autism, and with support from Huiling, we invited

Paula Pompa-Craven to share expertise in working with adults in community settings. We are grateful to Paula for volunteering her time. Visiting 4 sites in 8 days was challenging, but allowed us to gain a sense of the range of options provided by Huiling for adults with autism and other disabilities. In Xi'an and Guangzhou, we also provided day long lecture training open to Huiling staff from multiple cities. Huiling is eager for FIVE to return for more intensive training, and we are currently working on plans for this.

Below: Paula Pompa-Craven & Helen McCabe with Huiling staff from 5 cities in the north and west of China.



Ongoing Consultation and Upcoming Training

Working intensively with four disability organizations in China this year has deepened our belief that onsite training is only the first step in a relationship and ongoing consultation for capacity building. Each organization requested that

we remain available to answer ongoing questions, and are eager for FIVE training team to return. FIVE is currently working on its 2016 training plan, which will focus on follow-up training where we have already provided initial training.

Still, requests continue to pour in from new organizations, including consultation to international disability organizations. We always welcome volunteers with fluency in Chinese, or expertise in autism and special education. Our training needs and requests are growing, and so is our volunteer training team!



Below: FIVE at Xi'an training

Left: Training team in Nanjing, including volunteer translator, autism and communication specialists, and teacher who first was trained by FIVE in 2010!



Thanks to those who donated in the past year!

FIVE gratefully acknowledges donations received in 2015.

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