

## **Sponsorship FAQs**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **1. What is ICC's Child Sponsorship Programme?**

The programme provides an opportunity for you to build a connection to a young person as your monthly contribution helps them grow and develop through participation in ICC's unique system of support and services. If the child you sponsor is in ICC's care your sponsorship will help provide a safe and stable home for them with 24-hour holistic care that covers medical treatment, special education, therapy and life skills or vocational training. If the child you sponsor is living with their family, your sponsorship ensures that the child has access to the programs, therapy and education opportunities they require, while the family receives support, comfort and an opportunity to thrive.

#### **2. Who are the Beneficiaries of the Sponsorship programme?**

The programme is designed to meet the needs of children with disabilities wherever they are. Some of the children in the sponsorship program live with their families and are aided by our multidisciplinary Cross Care teams who visit the families to assess their needs and work together with them to provide essential support and services. Other sponsors are matched with a child in ICC's direct care: a child who receives holistic care in a loving environment in our Changsha care centre. For all the children in our Sponsorship program, you can expect to build a relationship with your sponsored child (unless the sponsorship has to end under special circumstances), witnessing their growth and development into adulthood as they reach their full potential.

#### **3. Does my sponsorship go directly to my sponsored child?**

Your sponsorship donation goes directly toward supporting the programs that benefit the children and young adults in the Sponsorship programme. This includes services (such as medical, therapy and special education) for the community that your sponsored child lives in. This means that you are providing crucial services to children living in our care centres while also impacting children in impoverished families.

#### **4. Will my sponsored child have more than one sponsor?**

To cover the costs of providing crucial services to the children in the programme, the child you sponsor will have multiple sponsors. These costs can include medical care, therapy and special education.



## 5. What updates will I receive as a sponsor?

As a new sponsor of a child in ICC's care, you will receive a Sponsorship Welcome Pack that includes a personal profile and a photo of your sponsored child, along with information about their environment. Each year, you will receive three updates about your sponsored child, learning about his/her daily lives and development progress through the year. Each update provides individual stories of the activities your child has been involved in and how they are doing in their personal development, along with a more general update from our project areas.

## 6. Is there a minimum sponsorship period?

No, there isn't a set term because the sponsorship period varies according to the needs of each child. However, under normal circumstances, a stable sponsorship of at least a year or more will be beneficial to both sponsors and sponsored children in reaping the fruits of sponsorship.

## 7. Will my sponsored child exit the programme?

Although ICC strives to provide lifelong care to children in our direct care, it is possible that a sponsorship has to end for various reasons (e.g. a child being adopted). Chinese government regulations mandate that adults and children cannot live in the same setting. Therefore, it is possible that when a sponsored child in an ICC care centre reaches the age of 18, they may be transferred out of our care. For those sponsoring a child living with their family, it is likely that at some point the family will have achieved the goals they initially set with our Cross Care professionals when they joined the program, and will no longer need the support of the program. In other cases, the family might move away from the area or other factors might lead them to leave the program. In all cases where a sponsorship ends, we will inform you and, with your consent, arrange another child in need to continue the sponsorship. If you need to discontinue your sponsorship, please contact our staff at your local ICC office. We will try our best to arrange another sponsor as soon as possible, but we sincerely hope you will consider resuming your sponsorship when possible as your support is very important.

## 8. Who is my ICC contact person?

ICC's Sponsorship Department is based in Hong Kong but we encourage you to contact your local ICC Office for ease of communication and follow up.

## **9. Can I visit my sponsored child?**

At this time, it is not possible for overseas visitors to access our care centres or arrange direct visits with families. You will be notified when this situation changes.

## **10. Can I share information or photographs of my sponsored child or young adult through social media?**

We love to have our sponsors sharing their joy of sponsorship. However, to ensure the safety and protect the privacy of your sponsored child or young adult, please DO NOT disclose their personal details (e.g. family name, identification number, project location and address) on social media.

