Duke China Care is a service organization at Duke University. Our goal is to help Chinese orphans through fundraising in their care. Cultural and mentorship activities are organized for adopted Chinese children in the local area to foster pride in, and understanding of, their birth heritage.
Playgroups

The Duke China Care Club’s Playgroup program serves as medium for both undergraduate volunteers to give time towards enriching a child’s life and for the participating children to have a regular, welcoming, and safe environment in which to make friends and have fun.

Playgroups meet roughly every other Sunday for one-to-two hours at either a location on Duke’s campus, or somewhere in the Triangle area. Events this year sought to elucidate the history, meaning, and current reality of many celebrations/festivals such as the 2008 Beijing Olympics and Chinese New Year.
Meet and Greet/Shaved Ice

*Sunday, September 9, 2:00-3:30 PM*  
*Friedl 107*

Duke China Care Club’s first event of the new school year always draws in a large attendance. Shaved ice was a way to start off the year and a nice cool-down from the hot weather. This playgroup began with several icebreaker activities that allowed the children to interact with each other and with the undergraduate volunteers, so as to make everyone comfortable with each other. The event concluded with volunteers and children enjoying shaved ice served by the officers.

Moon Festival

*Sunday, September 22, 2:00-3:30 PM*  
*Friedl 107*

The Mid-Autumn Festival, or Moon Festival, in China is one of the three traditional holidays. The Mid-Autumn Festival is always scheduled for the night in the fall when the full moon is the roundest. One staple of this holiday is the mooncake, a delicious pastry that is round to symbolize the moon and closeness of family. Our China Care family participated in this tradition by baking moon cakes and enjoying each other's company.
Water Color Calligraphy

Sunday, October 6,
2:00-3:30 PM
Friedl 107

We used the basics of Chinese calligraphy to write common Chinese characters. Watercolors were used in lieu of traditional ink to add a splash of color into our creations.

Tangyuan

Sunday, November 3,
2:00-3:30 PM
Friedl 107

Tangyuan are a traditional Chinese pastry made with sweet bean paste wrapped in a glutinous wrapping and boiled until soft. Tangyuan are typically eaten during the Lantern Festival, and the round shape of the delicacy is representative of family togetherness. We were happy to make and share tangyuans among our Chinacare family.
Penpals

*Sunday, January 26, 2:00-3:30 PM*
*Friedl 107*

DukeEngage annually visits the city of Zhuhai, where members of the DukeEngage team volunteer at local schools to tutor students in English. As a outreach to this program, Duke China Care participated in a penpal program with these students in Zhuhai middle school. Upon receiving our first round of responses this fall, we were happy to keep in touch with our new penpal friends.

Stamp-making

*Sunday, March 2, 2:00-3:30 PM*
*Friedl 107*

In historic China, printing stamps were used in place of hand-written signatures. To mimic this process, we carved our own names into potato wedges to create our own unique stamps.
Mentorship

At Duke China Care, we aim to grow the children’s understanding of their Chinese heritage, especially in more meaningful ways as they get older. To accommodate our teens and pre-teens who are developing deeper and more personal interests in Chinese culture, our mentorship program pairs them with Duke student mentors based on shared interests.

This year, our program continued to grow with the addition of several new members to China Care and the progression of some of the children from playgroups to mentorship. The meetings this year emphasized cultural awareness and understanding through festivals and Chinese crafts, but also incorporated opportunities for service and fundraising through the 5K and for relationship development with our traditional games, dumpling-making, and picnic get-togethers.
Dragon Boat Races

*Sunday, September 15, 2:00-3:30 PM*
*Friedl 107*

Dragon boats have been crafted in China as a symbol of national pride and festivity. Traditionally, dragon boats have been made for the annual Duanwu Festival, where the boats are race in front of large audiences. To simulate this experience, we made small boats out of cardboard, paper rolls, and duct tape for racing. It was an exciting day that brought out the competitive spirit in many of our volunteers and children.

Kite Flying

*Sunday, September 29, 2:00-3:30 PM*
*Friedl 107*

Kites were claimed to have been invented in China during the early 5th century. The purpose of kites has historically included measuring distances, testing the wind, lifting objects, and signaling. We made our own kites and flew them around the Duke campus to celebrate a beautiful day and the beginning of autumn.
Scavenger Hunt

Sunday, October 10, 2:00-3:30 PM
Friedl 107

An elaborate scavenger hunt was prepared that sent the children searching throughout the West Duke Building and parts of East Campus to find mysterious clues. Many of the staff were impressed by how quickly the children were able to solve the riddles that they, themselves, had trouble interpreting.

Dumplings

Sunday, February 2, 2:00-3:30 PM
West Duke 105

Dumplings are a traditional Chinese dish that is both delicious and easy to prepare. The volunteers and children learned the proper techniques to fold dumplings, and eventually progressed to making their own.
Martial Arts/Chinese Yo-Yo

*Sunday, March 23,*
*2:00-3:30 PM*
*Friedl 107*

This was a fun-filled day of outdoor activities. First, one of the members of the Duke Taekwondo came to teach us the basic techniques of self-defense. Next, another student led a tutorial on how to operate the Chinese yo-yo, which culminated in an exciting performance for all children and parents to watch.

National Chinese Almond Cookie Day

*Sunday, April 6,*
*2:00-3:30 PM*
*West Duke 105*

We baked homemade almond cookies to celebrate National Chinese Almond Cookie Day. The cookies were washed down by homemade bubble tea and proved to be a tasty treat for all.
7th Annual Banquet: Circles of Love

Duke China Care (DCC) hosted its 7th Annual Charity Banquet entitled Circles of Love. The banquet, held at the Freeman Center on Duke Campus, was highlighted by delicious food catered by Fangmeier’s, beautiful cultural performances by student groups, and a silent auction. The keynote speaker was Dr. Mei-Mei Ellerman, who is a professor at the Brandeis University Women’s Studies Research Center. She spoke about her experiences as an adoptee and her search for her biological roots in China.

DCC was able to raise over $2,700 from the banquet this year, which was used to help fund the surgery of a young boy in China named JianHua. JianHua was born with a congenital imperforate anus, requiring surgery to correct this condition. Recent updates have indicated that all reparative surgeries were successful, and JianHua spent two and a half months recuperating at the China Care Home before returning to his home institution.
End-of-Year Picnic

Sunday, April 13,
2:00-3:30 PM
Duke Gardens

We celebrated another successful year of Duke China Care with our annual picnic. Organized outdoor activities included freeze tag, three-legged races, and frisbee. A big thanks to everyone who made this year memorable!
2013-2014 Officers:

- President: Linda Cao
- Vice President: Wendy Xiao
- Treasurer: Haisi Liu
- Fundraising Coordinators: Jenny Xue, Catherine Zhang
- Playgroup Coordinator: Shannon Lin, Leanna Zhan
- Mentorship Coordinator: Suellen Li, Lucy Ma
- Information Officer: Justin Yu
- Junior Board: Catherine Chen, Eunice Huang, Nancy Su, Gloria Zhang