



Dear Friends:

The worst earthquake in the past three decades measuring 7.8-7.9 on the Richter scale hit Sichuan Province in south-west China on Monday afternoon, May 12. Forty-four counties and districts in Sichuan were severely hit, with about half of the 20 million people living there directly affected. The epicenter was Wenchuan County, and several other counties nearby also suffered unprecedented devastations. About 80 percent of the buildings in one county-city collapsed, and many school buildings were destroyed in several counties. In one place, an entire school collapsed, burying 900-1,000 students and teachers alive. Chinese official news reported that the confirmed death toll has reached 19,509 by May 15, and it could soar to 50,000 or even more because rain and broken roads delayed rescue efforts in certain areas. It is really a tragedy that many mid-aged parents in these areas lost their only child and many kids lost their parents.



Property damage is beyond imagination. As house insurance is rare in China, many people will have to pick up bits and pieces of what are to remain in their lives and many will start virtually from the scratch. People in China have started collecting donations to support these devastated families who lost their loved ones or their belongings or both. While the Chinese government is struggling to rescue and provide for some basic needs at this moment, the good will and assistance will go a long way as people pick up their lives again.

The Chinese students and scholars associations at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia and at Oklahoma Christian University in Edmond, OK and the local Chinese communities here have just started a campaign to raise money to build a safe school for children in the Wenchuan area where the quake hit hardest (many children here are now orphans). We are calling for monetary donations. Let's show our love by building a school for the children.

Our target is to raise **US\$50,000** or more through the effort of each of **YOU!** If everyone contributes \$25.00, it will take 2,000 people to reach our target. We have started in various states in the United States and around the world to collect funds for such an effort. In each state there is going to be a group of coordinators (You can volunteer to be one) to manage the collection of the monetary donations. We understand many of you are considering donating individually, but unfortunately there would be cost for banks to charge fees for each individual contribution either by cashing the checks or processing your online donations. In addition, through individual contribution it is less likely for us to see where our money is going. We are pooling the fund for a concrete purpose in a hope to cut such intermediary costs and ensure that every penny collected can be put to good use.



At the end of this, we'll pool all the donations and send the money to a trustworthy charity in China to make the school plan possible! Only monetary donations are accepted. Material donations are not accepted at this moment. Every penny of your donations matters.

How to help:

- Please make your check to "Save the Children/Earthquakes Relief," write the routing-account number "**051900366-779194547**" in Memo.
- Checks can be mailed to the following address directly: **JP Morgan Chase Bank, 1000 Fifth Avenue, Huntington, WV25701**. You can also send your check to your nearby Chase bank in the United States or other countries across the globe, but just remember to write your check to "**Save the Children/Earthquakes Relief.**" If you make your check to "Save the Children/Earthquakes Relief," Chase bank, no matter where it is located in the world, will automatically deposit your check to our account.

Contact Information:

For further information, contact any of the following coordinators. All the fund will be managed by the local group of coordinators. And fund balance are published on our website daily (<http://earthquakechildren.wetpaint.com/page/Contributions>)

West Virginia: Contact persons are Ms. Yanzhi Wu, Ms. Hengdan Ge, and Ms. Shuhua Fan.

Oklahoma: Contact persons are Ms. Fontaine Xi, Ms. Jocelyn Wang, Ms. Jennifer Xiao, and Mr. Berlin Fang,

Email: savethechildren08@yahoo.com.

Please visit <http://earthquakechildren.wetpaint.com> for more information about the steps to make your donations. Using this site we'll also be publicizing the contributions. Please help spread the news! Thank you very much for your attention and donations!!

**Save the Children
China Earthquake Relief Fund**

May 15, 2008

