## Eastern Family Eastern Social Welfare Society, Inc.

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# You will always be in our hearts

Celebrating the retirement of Dr. Kim



There was a celebration for the retirement of Dr. Kim at a conference hall in the Alumni Center at Yeonsei University. Dr. Kim Duk Hwang has been like a father to many children.

Among the 300 people who attended the ceremony were heads of international cooperative organizations and social welfare interested, as well as domestic and overseas adoptees and their families. They all congratulated Dr. Kim on his 37 years of passionate dedication to children who have been in the care of our society.

A representative of international organizations, Dr. Jerry Dillon from Dillon International and a representative of the Eastern Social Welfare Society, the head of domestic adoption department, Wee In Sook, delivered a special plaque. In addition, Dr. Madonna King showed her gratitude with an appreciative speech.

Dr. Kim delivered his thanks by saying he felt rewarded the most when he saw all grown up adoptees visited Korea as a proud member of their society. I want to thank all adoptive parents for bringing up our children as wonderful people. The Eastern Social Welfare Society is currently taking care of a thousand children. I am very grateful to all social workers and collaborators who have been guiding our children. I thank God. Dr. Kim proudly stated.

After Dr. Kim's speech, everyone at the celebration gave him a standing ovation. Moreover, the hand bell team from the Eastern Rehabilitation center for children and the choir consisting of the ESWS workers performed for Dr. Kim s retirement.

We would like to show our appreciation for everyone who came to the celebration. & Editor





**#8**(The first half of 2010) 01 You will always be in our hearts 02 Great memory in Homeland Inside this issue 04 A postscript of Dillon Korea Camp The special time with single mothers 07 Joo Yeong is our blessed child 08 I am happy **10 ESWS NEWS** 12 DONOR Chairman of the Board Kim, Do Jong President Kim, Jin Sook, Ph.D. Chief Editor Kim, Hye Kyung Editor Shin, Ji Eun Special thanks to Park Sung Joo

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www.eastern.or.kr/english

The participants (six adoptees from USA and two adoptees from Aus) of 2009 Korean Language & Cultural Program have had wonderful time and cherished great memory in their Homeland, Korea.

Eastern Social Welfare Society's Post Adoption Service Center, which hosted this program, has been awarding overseas adoptees scholarships for learning Korean language and culture in Korea since 1995.

This year, ESWS's Post Adoption Service Center arranged not only Korean language course but also various cultural programs such as temple stay at Woljeongsa, watching JUMP performance, and west coast tour.

Participants visited Eastern Pyeongtaek Welfare Town and Seodaemun Community Welfare Center and volunteered. They had a great birthday party with unwed mothers in Esther's Home and taught English to children. Also they volunteered in Eastern babies' Home during their free time.

Also on July 31st, there was a completion ceremony for 2009 Korean Language & Cultural Program. As the participants completed the three weeks Korean language course at Ewha University and one week Cultural program with Eastern, Dr. Kim Jin Sook, president of ESWS presented them with certificates.

Eastern hope that all participants have good memories of Korea. We wish you all the best!  $\bigcirc$  Editor



#### The impressions of participants of 2009 Korean Language & Cultural Program



#### **Chase Heberling (USA)**

The trip this summer was a lot of fun. Studying at Ewha woman's university was a great experience. I learned a lot from this intensive program. I am glad that this program was offered. The people that I met on this adventure were really cool. The social workers helped out a lot. They were there too, making sure everything was the best it could be. I am really happy that I was able to be part of this trip.

#### Chris Boven (USA)

I thoroughly enjoyed myself while here in Korea. This program, offered by ESWS, has not only been enlightening, but an enormous amount of fun. Thanks, Eastern!!

#### Marc Burrell (USA)

I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Korea and participating in this program. I learned so much at Ewha's intensive language course. The week following was an insightful cultural experience. I can't wait to come back again.

#### Kim Smith (AUS)

I enjoyed the program, the people at ESWS, the food and the many activities we were given the opportunity to participate in. The month has been extremely educational. I appreciate the welcoming nature of ESWS + Korea people in general. I look forward to coming back!!

#### Elyse Shurtz (USA)

This program has helped me become more in touch with my heritage. Learning the Korean language was hard, but well worth it. I have a greater appreciation of my homeland & its people.

#### Todd Moy (AUS)

I found this program very beneficial for my learning of the Korean language, Korean social interaction and a better understanding of Korean culture. I highly recommend this program for anyone who wants to gain more in their life. 재미있었어요!!(It was fun!!)

#### Ryan Berneger (USA)

I had a good time learning Korean and about Korean culture.

## Sweet heart from adoptees

8 participants (Becky, Chase, Chris, Elyse, Mark, Kim, Ryan, and Todd) of 2009 Korean Language & Cultural Program did great things through Eastern. They expressed their feelings about our program and Korea through letters and made donations for babies.

We deeply appreciate their sweet heart and concern. See the letter below:

#### Dear All,

This is a letter from all the adoptees that you have so generously supported and looked after over the last month.

There is no doubt that this trip to our motherland has been an unforgettable and eye-opening experience that we have all enjoyed immensely.

First, Eastern Social Welfare Society is an organization that deserves great recognition for its organizational and individual commitment to so many aspects of welfare. As some of us have mentioned previously, prior to this month, we were under the impression that Eastern was essentially only an adoption agency. However, it s clear that the scope of Eastern's services is much larger, including caring for many disadvantaged people in several areas of Seoul and beyond. Through Eastern, we have been given the opportunity to better understand the values and mission of the organization, but also to have a clearer grasp of Korea s social, political and historic past, present and future. Over the course of this month, all of us have undoubtedly obtained vast amounts of knowledge, unforgettable experiences, and meaningful relationships. We also acknowledge the considerable investment, both in time and money that you have put into us. We are sincerely thankful. This trip will be forever remembered by all of us and for that it is truly priceless. For this, we thank you.

In one way or another, all of us will continue to keep an interest Korea. Some will continue their study of the Korean language and culture while others have only just begun. Some will, at the very least, go home knowing more about their heritage with a stronger appreciation for the immense strides this country has made. Still others have been profoundly affected by their visit and will someday return to Korea. Our thanks will never be commensurate to the gift you have given us all. This is an outstanding program that we hope will continue to give other adoptees like us similar experiences for years to come.

Furthermore, a key component of what makes Eastern such an excellent organization is its dedicated and supportive employees. It s true when we say that each and every staff member that we have encountered has shown a genuine desire to accommodate us as much as possible. For some of you, your time at Eastern has only just begun, while others will be moving on. In any case, we wish you the best. Just know that the work you do everyday does nothing less than change lives. And in a world where it seems like hope is scarce, we should never, and will never, forget organizations like Eastern.

#### Sincerely,

#### Becky, Chase, Chris, Elyse, Mark, Kim, Ryan, and Todd

Enclosed is a small donation. While the amount is utterly dwarfed by what you have done for us, we thought it would be appropriate for us to do something. For some of us, I m sure that this is just the first of many future donations to come.  $\bigotimes$ 



# The camp that cured my wound A postscript of Dillon Korea Camp

Jang Jung A | 23, College Student



Eastern Social Welfare Society is very special to me. ESWS provided me with a unique opportunity whilst I was on my way to the United States on July 22nd, I was asked to escort a baby to his new home.

I was overwhelmed; I kept thinking that all babies have to go through this difficult process to be with their new families. It made me think about my son, Jeong Bin, and I felt sad wondering how hard it might have been for him when he left with his new parents. I can still remember the baby s face, their eyes full of tears. I couldn t sit down on the plane because every time I did he cried; however, I am grateful for every second of the opportunity that I was given.

I could understand how Jeong Bin s adoptive parents felt when they adopted him. When I got to New York after a long, hard flight, I found it hard to hold back my tears when I handed this little baby to his new parents. It reminded me of the day when I handed my own son to his adoptive parents. I was able to hold back my tears since I cried and prayed for that baby on a plane. I didn t want my crying to affect the baby. When the baby s adoptive parents held him in their hands their eyes got watery from the joy. I knew then that he would be loved very much.

After New York we went to Tulsa Oklahoma via Chicago. At the airport to greet us were the department manager Um Duk Kyung and MaryAnn. I will never forget what I experienced when visiting the Dillon office, having dinner with grown-up adoptees, home staying at an adoptive family house, a workshop with adoptive parents and the Korea camp.

When I visited the Dillon office I was informed of the procedure of an adoption. I learnt that an adoption takes a long time and it is very thorough. It put me at ease when I found out that people need more than money to adopt. In respect to having a child s name listed in the family register, I knew that it took 6 months but

now I have seen it with my own eyes. It was very special experience to see a final and conclusive judgment on an adoption. Seeing the judgment made me think about my son Jeong Bin and his adoptive parents.

When I had a dinner with adult adoptees I was so thankful that each one of them grew up to be a wonderful person, I felt grateful to their adoptive parents too. The moment that touched my heart the most was when these adult adoptees told me that they don t blame their birth parents. During dinner with them I imagined what my son s own future will be like. All of the adult adoptees seemed very free and happy. They couldn t stop smiling. I wondered why they looked happier than I who grew up with birth parents in Korea.

When I was invited to an adoptive family s house I was happy to see what it is like for an adoptive family. The children s rooms were decorated based on their ideas. They communicated so much and made sure that we were comfortable in their lovely home. I was thankful for their warm welcome and I would like to continue this relationship with them.

The workshops with adoptive parents were the most memorable. We had one in Tulsa and the other in Dallas. Two workshops helped me to voice what I have been holding inside for so long. Everyone started crying when we shared our stories, it wasn t easy for me but I wanted to tell them my story. I wanted to say that I didn t abandon my child; I had to make a decision because I love him deeply. I cannot forget the faces that I saw that day; they are loving parents who have created lovely homes for their children. Children have been brought up to be bright and positive within these families.

I was very envious when I heard about the domestic adoption procedure; a birth mother can choose adoptive parents for her child. She also gets to see her child grow up and even meet him or her. I prayed for our society to be more open about an adoption.

I want to tell all unmarried mothers just like me that they

should not give up on their life after they send their child to another home. They can think about the future when they might get to see their child again. For that day, work harder than anyone else.



I want to thank the Eastern Social Welfare Society and the department manager Um Duk Kyung for such a great experience. I am also very grateful to the caretakers and teachers at Esther House; I am going to work hard to be a good social worker like so many people at the ESWS.  $\otimes$ 

# Brave birth mothers and their big steps toward the loved ones

Um Duk Kyung(Dillon International) | Director of Korea Program & Korea Birthland Tour

This summer, Dillon International Korea Camp invited two single mothers from Korea who sent their children to the United States. We had wonderful time listening to them talk. Working for Korean adoptees and their families for over 10 years, I have wanted to give a chance to adoptees and adoptive families to hear biological mothers side of stories. Some adoptees and their parents get chances to have motherland tour and visit ESWS center for single mothers and children and talk to them. However, it is limited to small number of families.

Dillon International Korea Camp teaches adoptees and their siblings, ranging from four to twelve, Korean culture. During this camp, adoptive parents also take part and learn about Korean culture and participate in adoption-related educational programs. Korea Camp decided that this would be the perfect opportunity to invite single mothers from Korea since many adoptive families come to the camp.

Dillon International Korea program department had started to organize this special event since January. We

wanted to share this with adoptive families in Texas. Therefore, we scheduled two different workshops in Oklahoma and Texas respectively.

Two single mothers, who were recommended by the Eastern Social Welfare Society, lived in Esther s home in Pyeongtaek. One of them keeps in touch with adoptive family of her baby through the adoption agency. Recently, the number of requests to hear about a baby after an adoption has increased. We thought it would be nice to let adoptive parents know about this. In addition, we programmed two workshops with listening to different stories form single mothers, adult adoptees, adoptive families, and the adoption concerned.

The single mothers had a great experience escorting a baby to awaiting adoptive parents. When they saw happy, welcoming adoptive parents, two mothers said they were relieved thinking their babies were welcomed by loving parents as well. From a day after single mothers arrived in Tulsa, they participated in the camp and met adoptees and adoptive families. They also saw parents love and passion for their children after seeing how happy and healthy adoptees are.

According to two single mothers, they had the chance to get answers to their questions by talking with adult adoptees. The mothers were able to wipe out negative opinions on adoption that the media expressed. They also got to know that adoptees do not blame their biological parents for adoptions.

Moreover, adult adoptees said that they felt like the mothers were their own; they were able to talk about their childhood honestly with

two mothers. Both mothers and adoptees wished there were more time after a three hour meeting.

During this trip, single mothers also had a chance to stay with an adoptive family and see adoptive parents and adoptees more closely. One of mothers said that this was her favorite part of whole trip and she was assured that she made the right choice.

It must be very hard for single mothers to talk about their heartbreaking stories in front of 100 people. They might feel ashamed. Single mothers may think that adoptive parents do not like them since they gave up their children instead of bringing them up.

Adoptive parents at the workshop listened very carefully to single mothers. We could hear people weeping. Adoptive parents could feel single mothers agony indirectly and showed respect for the mothers sacrifice and determination.

Adoptive parents probably thought about their children s biological parents. After the workshop, they were able to explain more about a biological mother s side to their child. One adoptive parent said We adopted three children from Korea. We want you to know that we love all of our precious kids. We are able to see through them how wonderful their birth parents are. We are certain that our children know how much birth parents love them.



Another adoptive parent kept thanking single mothers and said We are grateful to you for your courage and the strength that you have had from the first day of pregnancy. We can feel that your love and bravery for our babies are big. As adoptive parents, we won t fully understand the agony that you went through because you love your children. Thank you so much for being here today. We would do our best to bring up our children to make you proud of them. We have a high regard for you.

Through these workshops, single mothers had a chance to heal their broken hearts talking about their stories. Touching adoptive parents and adoptees to tears by their words, they might felt how

important they are in adoptive families lives. Moreover, they finally got a moment to think the adoption was a good decision for their children after feeling sorry and guilty about it.

When single mothers visited Dillon International, they had a chance to talk with social workers and saw the entire process of an adoption. They also went to a court to see adoptive parents becoming parents of their adoptive child legally. In front of the judge, parents got legal rights as parents of an adoptee, and family members blessed them. During the procedure, single mothers showed tears. However, from this trip they saw joyful tears of adoptive parents. Moreover, they got to know that their decision gave a new life for children and joy and happiness to adoptive parents.

During one week with single mothers, I saw the sorrow, tear and anguish in their heart of hearts. However, single mothers have the opportunity to heal themselves through meeting with adoptees and adoptive parents. Also adoptive parents might have a better understanding of the birth mother s experience.

On behalf of Dillon International, I deeply appreciate two single mothers, Easter Social Welfare Society, and adoptive parents and adoptees. It was the great opportunity, and we applaud single mothers on their courage.  $\bigotimes$ 

## Joo Yeong's very special journey The story of the girl with Osteogenesis Imperfect

Last May 22nd 2009, one little girl and her family visited Eastern Social Welfare Society . This lovely girl's name is Meghan Joo Yeong Garrett (Kwon Joo Yeong), who was adopted into the Garrett family 5 years ago. She and her family visited South Korea to meet her foster parents and ESWS's staffs.

Joo Yeong was born with Osteogenesis Imperfecta, a congenital disease which comes from collagen poverty. While still in the womb, her bones started to break and kill her body slowly.

Since her birth in 2003, Joo Yeong had been in the care of a foster family in South Korea and getting medical cure for fragile bones. The slightest touch can break her bones, so she must wear protection. Unless foster family and our staff take care of Joo Yeong, she might be in trouble as well as in danger.

On June 2004, Joo Yeong was adopted into the Garrett family residing in North Carolina in the United States. ¡ During the time we considered Korean international adoption, we understood Joo Yeong s situation and asked Dillon Southwest, the cooperative organization of the ESWS, to give her to our family so we could share her pain and sorrow;— Mr. and Mrs. Garrett said.

Love in the Garrett's

Thanks to the people surrounding Joo Yeong, she got a precious family: the Garretts. With the family s profound love and care, the older she grows, the brighter she becomes. When people see Joo Yeong, they cannot help but fall in love with her beautiful smile which makes them happy. People wonder how she grows stronger, wiser and happier.

Unfortunately, to balance her body, Joo Yeong had to undergo two operations. No one can imagine how many fractures she suffers. However, no matter how painful it is, Joo Yeong always has a big smile.

With the Garrett's endless affection and care, Joo Yeong also became a thoughtful and warm-hearted person, taking care of others more than herself, despite her own difficulties. While talking about her daughter;s story, Joo yeong s mother, Kelly Garrett told us about Joo Yeong s kindness and empathy. In two weeks after her spinal surgery, Joo Yeong broke her leg by accident. Kelly couldn't stop crying for her daughter s painful suffering. However, Joo Yeong smiled rather than crying of pain, and comforted her by saying ; Mommy, I don t want to make you cry. I am Okay. Please, stop crying."

Mr. and Mrs. Garrett said, "Without Joo Yeong, we would have never learned how to be so strong or treat other people with such care. She is our beloved child and lets us know what the happiness of our live is.;-

When Joo Yeong saw her Korean foster mother and brother, she happily ran to their arms; she showed them everything she remembered and knew about South Korea by singing Korean songs and performing Taekwondo. We can imagine how much the family adores her.

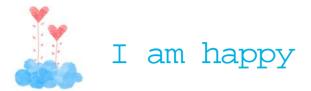
Her Korean foster mother, Choi, Sun Hee had been looking forward to the day she could meet Joo Yeong, so she looked very happy with that fact she could finally see her face. Her foster mother said, As I remember, Joo Yeong was the loveliest child in the world. When she left for a new family, I felt sad at the moment, but thinking of the fact that she finally has a family and gets plenty of affection from them, I felt like I got my wish.

Joo Yeong s foster father, Scottie Garrett, expressed gratefulness to the Korean foster parents and said, "Without sincere care in Korea, Joo Yeong could not have become a bright person with a beautiful smile."

Mr. and Mrs. Garrett said, "We, the Garretts, became so much more than just each of us because Joo Yeong is here to unite us as a family. She makes us stick together and completes our lives. We hope that other people have a chance to be satisfied with their lives and live in hope through the story with Joo Yeong, our blessed child.

Editor

8 Eastern Family



Lee Su Jeong (Domestic adoptee)

This is an article from a domestic adoptee that reunited with her biological family. She and Eastern want to share her story with everyone.

Who do you resemble?

This was the most unbearable question for me when I was little. Whenever someone asked me I whispered Grandmother. Most people would think of either their mother or father.

I am a 25-year-old woman and an adoptee. My adoptive parents have two sons and they wanted a daughter. With a possibility of getting another son and their religious belief, they decided to adopt me. At the time I was two.

I grew up in a big family; there were my grandparents, parents, two older brothers and me. Seven of us lived in a house together but I always felt like I was alone. I was 13 years old when I found out that I was adopted, it was the same year that my adoptive father passed away. At first, I didn't believe it, I denied it thinking to myself, this isn't real, it cannot be true. The reason why I didn't want to admit that I was an adoptee was that I didn't have any difficulties or notice looks people give me because I was an adoptee. However then I realized that everyone already knew before I did.

I was born in Bu-san and lived there until the 4th grade. I moved to my parents' hometown before my adoptive father passed away. Since it was a very small town, everyone was so close. At my new school there was a girl in my class with a similar name. One day when I got into a small argument with her she said You are adopted, aren't you? Everyone knows that.

I was adopted because my parents wanted me, but I was definitely not the child who had all the love of all my family members. My adoptive father who I was very closed, passed away early. I shared a room with my grandmother but she yelled at me and said hurtful things for the littlest mistakes that I made. I had two older brothers who were also not very supportive of me. In particular my second brother used to beat me for no reason and I had a bruise on my face all the time. Even with the noticeable physical damage I had, I could not tell my parents about what had happened because I knew that their only response would be It would have been your fault. A lot of times I just went to the washroom or outside to cry alone. I started questioning why I was being treated this way and this question soon led me to hate those who gave up and left me alone.

Now I think to myself that I have became a great individual even though I have endured these tough times. I was not the smartest kid but I tried so hard and got into a public university and finished my education. I am talented in arts and music and I was awarded for these a few times at university. Surprisingly I was well known for my good appearances at my school and a lot of guys were chasing after me. Can you guess why I am so proudly telling you about myself? I wanted revenge, revenge for the pain, loneliness and the questions I had about the ones whom I had no idea about. I said to myself that I would become so successful because I thought that was the only way to take revenge on those who threw me away. I wanted them to regret discarding me when they saw me grow up to become such a nice fine lady.

Now, when people ask me who I look like in my family, my answer is as follows. I am the prettiest one in my family; I don't look like my parents.

However even after I grew up and became the person I dreamed of, I was not able to meet my birth parents. Sometimes I wondered who gave me this talent and whom I looked like and so on. In fact my longing for my birth parents grew bigger than the hate inside me as time went by. On my birthday I wondered if my birth mother got a chance to eat seaweed soup. I even started thinking that my birth parents did not have any other choice than letting me go and that I had to forgive them. I just wanted to have one chance to see them even from a distance, and then I knew I could forgive everything and feel thankful for my life.

Surprisingly God heard my wish and I was able to meet my birth father. With the help of Eastern Social Welfare Society I found him. Two weeks after they found him I was able to meet him in person. I was the one to request the meeting and thus I was really worried that he would not want Everything happens for a reason in this world and therefore you were born for a reason. I am just happy and thankful for the things I have around me.



to meet me because he had his own family. However, he was happy to know that I wanted to meet him and he accepted the offer.

Finally it was the moment that I dreamed of. He started crying as soon as he saw me and asked me several times if I resent them for what had happened in the past. I answered by saying, I understand, you must have had no other choice. Even though I was really sad looking at my father shedding tears, I did not cry because I knew it would make him feel even worse.

After calming himself he explained to me every single thing, from why he had to leave me to my name, birthday and my family members. I was surprised to know that I had an older brother who was 9 years older than me. Unfortunately, he did not know where my mother was. Knowing that I had a brother was a great gift for me because I never thought of anyone else in my birth family than my birth parents. My brother was out of the country, so I could not meet him but we still keep in contact through the Internet. He was so glad to find me that he invited me to the place he was staying but I chose to postpone the meeting after my adoptive parents suggested that I first meet him in Korea. After the short reunion with my birth father we had to go back to our own lives and I was really sad to leave him. On the other hand I was greatly relieved by the fact that I had two new supporters in my life that look like me and share the same blood line.

My life with my adoptive family now is not like the one I had before. We have become good friends after all. In fact they were happier to support me when I told them about finding my birth parents. I also get along so well with the new adoptive father, my two older brothers and my young brother who is 17 years younger than me. As you now know I also have two new supporters on this side of the family who always fill my life with happiness.

25 years may seem short time to some but it was a long time for me. It is really difficult to clearly express the issues and feelings I have had over these years in this short letter, especially when I am not a good writer. However I truly wish that all of you can learn one lesson from this letter.

If you are adoptive parents, please treat all children equally and warmly and if you are doing so please do not worry too much about their difficulties and problems.

For the adoptees reading this I would like to say that it is your own life. Even though you were discarded by someone, I hope you are not discarding your own life. Yes, you have different parents and the environment is changed, but most importantly you have not changed.

Just close your eyes for 10 seconds and think about your adoptive parents. The difficulties and harsh times they have gone through because of you, even though they did not have to do so. If not for them where do you think you would be now?

You should always dream of a future that is better than the present, but you should also know that you are lucky to avoid the past that could have been much worse than yours. Only after you grow up strong you can thank the adoptive parents and resent the ones who discarded you. What you need is not a knife to seek revenge but dreams to grow strong. Dream with others and then you will gradually become ready to express both gratitude and resentment.

Please do not think that you should not even have been born. Everything happens for a reason in this world. Therefore, you were born for a reason. You are in fact an angel for the family who wanted you.

Please shed no tears and bear no grudge. I was also angry and sad about experiencing difficulties that I had nothing to do with, but in the end it was only an excuse to escape from the reality.

Even now there are a lot of new young lives separated from their birth parents' hands waiting to be loved by others. I wish we can all pray for them and live a caring and thoughtful life. Lastly, please repeat to yourself:

"I am just happy and thankful for the things I have around me."  $\bigotimes$ 



#### Main Office in Seou

2009 Homeland Tour



ESWS Post-adoption Service Center was having 2009 Homeland Tour Group.

ESWS cooperate with counterpart agencies for Homeland tour, and in this summer 9 homeland tour group will visit Korea. The participants are going to have several programs for finding their roots (searching adoption record, meeting foster mother etc). Also they will visit Eastern Pyeongtaek Welfare Town, shelters for single mothers and babies and tourist spot.

Summer season Homeland tour groups are like seen below.

Korea Heritage Tours, Dillon International, Children's Home Society and Family Services  $I \cdot II$ , Adoption for All Children, Korea Homeland Tours, Korea Ties, Sejong Camp, KIDS

During autumn season, ESWS is going to have other homeland tour group from Australia and United states.

All the Eastern staff wish for the best to all the families.

#### 'Incehon Seumnuri's Home' Opened

On September 2nd, ESWS and invited guests celebrated Incehon Seumnuri s Home for unwed mothers and children. Incehon Seumnuri s Home was established to give unwed mothers a place to have safe delivery, nurse, and get ready to be independent. There were approximately 80 people including ESWS staff and guests.

At the ceremony, the president of the ESWS, Kim Jin Sook, gave a welcoming speech. Then the director of General department, Jeon Ye Hwan, delieverd the progress report. Last, the chief of Bu-pyeong district, Park Yoon Bae, made a congratulatory speech.

Incehon Seumnuri s Home is located at Sipjeong Doing, Bu-pyeong District, Incheon. It contains a postdelivery room, Heces room, Agape room, and a classroom, etc.

Moreover, Incehon Seumnuri s Home not only provides accommodations and meals, but also provides medical counseling, checkups, therapies, and education. Incehon Seumnuri s Home has a convenient, friendly environment for disabled. It has all the signs in braille and special bathroom for disabled.

Meanwhile, ESWS' counterpart agency AAC(Adoption for All Children) supported Incehon Seumnuri s Home until it opened.

We appreciate you all who attended the opening ceremony for Incheon Seumnuri s Home .



#### **Charity Bazaar**

ESWS held charity Bazaar at the Event Hall, Hyundai Department Store, Sinchon Branch on May 1st. For ESWS Bazaar not only adoptive parents in US and AUS donated baby goods (clothes, toys, shoes, etc) but also ESWS spokesperson Lee A Hyun and Sponsorship Company donated various items. Especially spokesperson Lee A Hyun participated in bazaar and sold her items.



Eastern Welfare Center in Anyang

#### **Testimonial Event for Volunteers**

To express gratitude, Eastern Welfare Center in Anyang held Testimonial Event for volunteers on December 12th 2008. In this event, almost 100 volunteers took part in and some volunteers got letters of appreciation on behalf of all volunteers. Afterwards, they watched the video that featured their volunteer activities for 1 year. Eastern Welfare Center in Anyang served lunch and enjoyed with all together.

#### Eastern Welfare Town in Pyeongtaek

#### Dong Bang Vocational Training Center

### Purchase Ferment Machine Sponsored by CHSFS



Vocational training center purchased ferment machine for baking better products sponsored by CHSFS (Children's Home Society and Family Services). With ferment machine, ESWS baking center can make fresh and sanitary products. Also workers at vocational training center inspire with the will to work.and performed their talents.

#### **Esther s Home**

Educational Programs for Unwed Mother



Esther s Home had educational programs about the ways to take caring babies, roles of mother, keeping own identity with, professor Jang, president of Good Family counseling center. Unwed mother, who are young and take caring babies, formed self-help meeting and assured help each other.

#### Pyeongtaek Counseling Office

#### **Education of Pre-adoptive Families**



On June 25th, the office opened an educational session for pre-adoptive families. Counseling office introduced about adoption process and other adoption family cases. Also participants

### Special Donation

#### Y

#### Love from The Friends of Treva Treva Beckius who volunteered in

Eastern Babies; fl Home for a long time, had donated funds for babies before she left Korea. Treva and her friends collected contributions at her farewell party.

Treva had volunteered from October 2005 to June 2009 for our babies and she organized foreign volunteers. Treva and her friends will be in our memory. had time to talk each other.

#### Dong Bang School

#### The First Election



Dong Bang School had of student s association election on March 30th. It was the first time since the opening of a school. Students and parents of students voluntarily participated and gave their opinions for election. Park Gun, Kim Da Hee and Kim Ye Ji were elected to the first student s association of Dong Bang School.

#### Jacob s Home

#### Health Inspection for Children



Medical team from Seoul Children Hospital gave medical examination as pediatrics, dental and blood-gathering for children in the Jacob s Home. Medical team visit Jacob s Home every year and check our children s health condition. We appreciate their concern and love for our children.

#### Dong Bang Rehabilitation Center

#### **Rehabilitation Center Expo**



The residents of the Eastern Rehabilitation Center held expo The World that We Are Opening Together in memory of Disabled day on April 20th. Neighbors, volunteers, sponsors, families and EPWT staffs came to expo for seeing and cheering them. The residents played various performances like coming up to participants expectation.

Seodaemun Community Welfare Center

#### Be Elected for Excellence Job Creation Projects

Silver cafeteria and senior mentoring programs of Seodaemun Community Welfare Center were elected for 2008 excellence job creation projects for the elderly by Ministry of Health, Welfare and Family Affairs of Korean government.

#### **Y Y**

#### Precious gifts from Colorado

Gifts for the Eastern babies came from Colorado

High School 'More than Me' class at 2009 Korean Heritage Camp in Colorado collected these gifts. Also they gift-wrapped almost 300 baby items (Baby bodysuits, clothes, diapers, socks, toys) by themselves.

These would be used for babies in Eastern Babies; fl Home, Foster Home and Jacob's Home.

Thanks for all your concern and love for Eastern!!

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#### Sincere Donation of Adoptees

Logan and Jade who were adopted into Cole family donated for Eastern babies. They raised the funds with handmade New-year card sale.

Cole family visited Korea as member of AAC Motherland tour group and they met Logan's biological family and foster family.

### DONORS

ESWS thanks all the sponsors and donors for their heartful love for ESWS children.

[April 2009 to September 2009]

### Over \$5,000

M/MSteven & KristenMcFarren William S. Hein

#### Over \$1,000

Community Aid Network Dillon South West Logan & Jade Cole M/M Mark & AmyZaremski Rose Dance Group

#### From \$10 to \$999

D-SW Foster Parents Social Gatehring FirstTripHomevisitors (GOAL) GNS INC. GNS INC. GNS INC. Jason Pfeifer M/M Adam & Ann-CharlotteStent M/M Bernard & KylieJoyce M/M David & Cheryl Dieter M/M David & Shelly Havran M/M David & NarelleChadbourne M/M Frank & Beate Berent M/M Gary & Holly Pelland M/M James & Toni Oliver M/M James & RebeccaCraney M/M Jason & KristinHammer M/M Jason & KatharineMarchik M/M John & Vanessa Buhr M/M Keith & JacquelineKochevar M/M Kelly & Reiko Aramaki M/M Leslie & Christina Tan M/M Mark & KatherineLipic M/M Michael & CarolineMaffoni M/M Michael & JudithBender M/M Nathaniel & MeichellWorthing M/M Peter & Elizabeth Jolly M/M Philip & Helen Johnson M/M Richard & Ellen Schott M/M Robert Morre & NarelleWasley M/M Robert & Kristi McElroy M/M Robert & KimberlyBerg M/M Roberto & AlisonTirona M/M Shawn & ElizabethRaiter M/M Stephen & DebbieKeighton M/M Theodore Rees & BethAnnAllison M/M William & Isabel Culter M/MAlexander & SusanRoeser M/MAlfred & ChristineShasteen M/MAndrew & KirstenRiolo M/M Andrew & Amy Filo M/MAnthony & KellyPezzica M/MAnthony & StaceyLowan M/MAubrey & MarySerewicz M/MBenjamin & JessicaEliason M/MBlake&SusanHarvey M/M Brent & Christine Wernsing M/MBrian & CatherineDesberg M/MBruce & Rebecca Mathews M/M Bruce & Jean Cole M/M Bryan & Amanda Bishop M/M Bryan & Krista Goehl M/MCarlos & MeganSenftleben M/MChad & JenniferSimmons M/MCharles & RuthRichmond M/MChris & CrestaFeatherby M/MChristine & MikeNeedham M/MChristopher & JilianPotter M/MChristopher & JillChase M/M Dale & Joni Sasaki M/M Daniel & Carla Sauer

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