



**WHO  
 WE ARE**

**Concordia Welfare & Education Foundation** is a non-profit rural development organization founded by Lutheran Christians. We work with churches, schools, and local non-profits in rural communities in Asia to improve people's lives and to share the love of Christ.

Together with our partners, we are equipping the local advocates and organizations in Asia who will make a lasting impact in their own communities.

Our vision is a world of thriving communities, serving and inspiring hope in others.

**WHAT  
 WE DO**



**ACCESS TO EDUCATION**

CWEF's need-based scholarships allow young people with difficult family circumstances to stay in school so they can graduate from high school or university, which positions them for bright futures. In addition, CWEF student development programs help prepare scholarship students for life after school, with a focus on their spiritual, social, and emotional growth.



**CLEAN WATER & HEALTH EDUCATION**

When people who have been lacking reliable and convenient access to clean water receive this life-giving resource, it removes barriers and results in huge positive impacts in people's health and livelihoods. CWEF also works with local churches, schools and community advocates to facilitate HEAL, a program that trains local advocates in essential health practices, which they pass on to their neighbors and family members. This combination of improved resources and habits results in a stronger and healthier community.



**LEFT-BEHIND & MIGRANT CHILDREN**

Many children and families in Asia are impacted by migration, including students in under-served urban schools for migrants and the millions of young children and their elderly grandparents who are left behind in rural villages when the children's parents leave home to find work in a distant city. CWEF works with local organizations and community advocates who are serving these children and their families. We will intentionally strengthen and equip these local leaders for long-lasting and impactful service in their own communities.



**SERVICE LEARNING**

CWEF partners with churches, schools, corporate teams, and other groups who wish to reach out in service and to learn from the people in rural China and Cambodia who benefit from our ongoing work on the ground. Teams may serve and learn in a variety of ways, such as working with children in local churches or schools, teaching subjects like English, art and music, assisting with home visit interviews for the purpose of monitoring, evaluation, and telling stories of impact, and assisting with basic health and hygiene training.





# OUR IMPACT

**75,000+**

people served by Scholarships and education programs

**55,000+**

people served by Clean Water and Health Programs

## SHINING STAR STORY

As they finished middle school around 8 years ago, Summer, Amy and Marsha didn't know if they could continue on to high school. Like many students from low-income families across China, they had strong academic potential but lacked the finances needed to pay tuition for the final three years of school.

After home visits by CWF staff, all three were awarded scholarships, assuring them they would have a chance to finish high school and even go on to university. Summer clearly remembers that crucial moment in her life:

"I had low self-esteem, and I was afraid to ask my mom for school fees since she worked so hard to support three kids. My family was poor at the time, and I thought my brothers' education was a priority over mine. The CWF staff told me that I was chosen by God to receive this support. I was so relieved. I felt valuable. It opened my mind to see that people wanted to help me."

Summer, Amy and Marsha went on to university in the southern city of Guangzhou. Later, all three were selected to serve in paid internships with CWF. As they served together, the CWF team mentored them and encouraged their professional, emotional and spiritual growth.

During their internship, Summer, Amy and Marsha developed a large volunteer group of their fellow CWF High School Scholarship program

graduates. This group continued to grow, and in 2017 was registered as a domestic non-profit organization under the name "Shining Star." A team of nearly 100 volunteers are now reaching out in love and service to 'left-behind' children in rural areas. Summer, who graduated with a degree in social work, was chosen as Shining Star's founding director. She explains:

"The name of our organization was chosen by teachers and students from Concordia International School Shanghai, during a service trip in 2016. I remember that Jesus said, 'I am the Light of the world.' We got our light from God, so now our life is bright like a shining star to brighten the lives of others in darkness."

**“ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters... Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”**

— 1 John 3:16-18



### GIVE

- Join The Community as a monthly supporter
- Join us as a strategic Partner organization



### SERVE

- Coordinate a team from your church, school or other group
- Volunteer or intern with us, either on location or remotely



### PRAY

- Pray for our team and for the people in China and Cambodia connected to CWF's work



### LEARN

- Subscribe to receive regular updates
- Follow CWF on social media

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**CWEF**  
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