

The Yao Ming FOUNDATION



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The Yao Ming Foundation was established in June of 2008 by international NBA Star Yao Ming in response to the devastating 8.0 earthquake in Sichuan Province, China on May 12, 2008. An 8.0 earthquake is the equivalent to energy released from 790 nuclear bombs. More than 8,000 schoolrooms and 185 schools were destroyed during the earthquake.

“It is very hard for me to put into words how difficult it is to see this kind of destruction. My thoughts and actions are now focused on helping to rebuild the schools that were destroyed in this tragedy and to rebuild them in the proper way. I am deeply appreciative that you have decided to join me in this effort. Hopefully you and I can also encourage others around the world to do as we are doing, to make life better for those who need our help.” – Yao Ming

REBUILDING

The Yao Ming Foundation has so far committed to rebuilding five schools in the earthquake region. The new earthquake resistant schools will provide top level education for more than 1000 students, many of whom will also board at the schools.

The Yao Ming Foundation is partnering with The China Youth Development Fund (CYDF) to distribute the funds and provide day-to-day oversight for the rebuilding projects. CYDF is a non-governmental non-profit organization in China that provides assistance to disadvantaged children and has helped to fund the construction of more than 9,000 primary schools in poverty-stricken regions. None of the schools built by CYDF were destroyed during the earthquake. Schools receive matching contributions from the local government to help ensure community support.

Concurrently, The Yao Ming Foundation will continue to support schools within China. Many of the schools in China, particularly those in rural areas, are in need of substantial renovations, have little to no heat, and are not earthquake resistant.

The Yao Ming Foundation also plans to support non-profit organizations working to rebuild areas in Galveston, Houston, and other areas in Texas affected by Hurricane Ike, the third most destructive hurricane in US history.

Long-term goals for The Yao Ming Foundation include supporting youth-oriented programs in China and the United States.

For more information about
The Yao Ming Foundation, please contact
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