Dear Mr. Hu,

I am sorry to write you a letter so late. These past days I was busy with training and competition. Today all the competition were over and our army held a Middle Autumn Festival party. So now I have some spare time to reflect and to write you a letter. I have been here for a year but I never feel that this college life is what I expected. Meanwhile, my first year college life makes me realize how much responsibility I have to shoulder and how far and how tough my future will be.

Without others’ help, who knew where I’d be? I remember everyone who has helped me. Even though I have not met some of them at all, I will do my best to prove that I will not disappoint them and I will pass on this love to others.

This summer, I made a bold decision: to volunteer to teach in the poor countryside. After one month’s preparation, I organized a team and we went to an elementary school in the countryside of Kaili city in Guizhou province on August 2nd. We taught there for 20 days. I was a child from a mountainous area as well. Because of others’ help, I am able to go out of the mountainous area and come to big cities. I want to use my knowledge and my experience to help the kids form an idea of the world outside the mountainous area. So during my teaching there, my team prepared lots of interesting courses which helped them most. The Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau has an elevation of 2390 meters with thin air and it lacks of oxygen. **One eight-year-old girl in this elementary school has to walk 3 hours every day to come to school**. Her act gave us enormous encouragement. There we lead the same lifestyle as these students did. We brought our own quilts and other daily necessities. Although the living environment was horrible: electricity was not provided all day; there was no other artificial lighting and no water supply; and there were lots of mosquitos, we did our best to fight with disease and danger. We never gave up our promise to the kids.

When I left Guizhou province by train, I thought of every moment I spent there and I recalled all the smiling faces of my students in that elementary school. I made my second important decision of 2013. **I decided to help one first grade student in that elementary school.** Now I have gradually obtained my goal. I have sent one third of my stipend, earnings from my part-time job and 1000rmb awarded by Bohdi Education Foundation to the principal of the elementary school I taught in the summer. I asked him to give this money to that first grade student. Three days ago I got a thank-you letter from that student (I never told him my mailing address in the army. I only told the principal my school address and my major. So he sent it to my school). I felt very gratified and excited! I decide to continue to help others.

How time flies! I am a sophomore now. There are two more years to go! I feel the future is both so close and so far. On one side, I feel I don’t have enough time. My freshman year was so short. Fortunately, I never become addicted to video games so I never waste my time; on the other side, my sophomore year is going to start soon and I will start my new life at a new starting point.

Thinking of all these years, **I feel one association has contributed most to my happy and healthy life. That is Zhongmei Aixin Association (our partner in China, founded by Mr. Hu and me) . This big family makes me realize how important it is to offer each other support and teaches me how to thank those who have helped you. Others do not have responsibility to help you**. If they offer you help, you have to do your best and you should not fail to live up to their expectation. I believe I will try hard to create my own world to repay Zhongmei Aixin Association which has helped me for so many years.

Mr. Hu, I am sorry that when I finish writing this letter, Middle Autumn Festival has already gone. However, I still wish you good health and a happy family!

A Fighter Forever: Weiyong Cheng