WKU Students from China raising awareness about impact of Coronavirus

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For the past month, a group of Chinese students at WKU have felt helpless as their families back home have dealt with the sweeping impact of the coronavirus.

Amy Bingham talks to them about their fears and what they want to do to help in this week’s View from the Hill.

It’s been a stressful month for Lu, Zishuo and Sim who are extremely worried about their loved one’s exposure to the coronavirus.

 “They are good because they all stay at home but some of my relative, my cousins, they are working for the government so even though they are not police, they are not doctors, they have to go out every day and check if other citizens are ok.”

 “My father works for government. He’s fighting on front line, virus. He’s a person who leads the group like how to fight the virus, how to do the medicare.”

Sim, who is from Malaysia, has a brother studying in Japan who is taking precautions. But many of his friends who were studying in China were sent home.

 “All of my friends right now they can’t even go back to China because of the virus coming out so they stay in Malaysia and they hope to go back to China and finish their studies as fast as possible.”

The students are involved with the Chinese Student Scholar Association here on campus. They’re hopeful now that the spread of the virus is on the decline in China but still want to do what they can to help.

 “What we can do is find money or find medical supplies to help them. I know we are just a student union and we cannot do very much. But I think we can do whatever we can to help them.”

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

The students’ initial focus was on supplies—masks, goggles and protective clothing—but they have found those to be in short supply in the U.S. as well as China. Now, working with the Red Cross, they have a mechanism for monetary donations: <https://donation.ifrc.org/?campaign=9fac8aab-0e48-ea11-80e3-0050560100a8>