



Friends of Vietnam Orphanages Inc.
Liên Hiệp Những người bạn của trẻ em mồ côi Việt Nam

REPORT TO DONORS FOR 2019 FINANCIAL YEAR

CONTENTS

Our donors

Project summary

Project details

Some project stories

OUR DONORS

Overview

Since 2011, I have taken leave from work to take a road trip through Vietnam to carry out assistance projects for our tiny registered charity *Friends of Vietnam Orphanages Inc.* I pay for my own holiday. The guarantee to donors is that **every** donated dollar goes to direct assistance in Vietnam. I follow the “barefoot charity model”: a yearly road trip; one man; one motorbike. But to make this work there are interpreters and project partners. They are mostly the traditional breadwinners of Vietnam – the women. They are also mostly nuns, both Christian and Buddhist.

Monthly contributors

Thank you to family and friends who make monthly contributions: **Clive, Vytas, Michael & Adrienne, Geoff & Rachelle, Hayden & Yên.**

Donors

Thank you to our Friends who gave donations. They are **Dennis, Karna, Thúy, Kyle, Parika Saini, Mal Gahan, Julie & Jan;** our Vietnamese-Australian friends **Thủy** and **Kim Huỳnh;** Christmas cakes fundraiser **Greta;** Aranda Men’s Group members **Jock, Paul, Bill, Morris.** Neighbours in our street including **Hamish** and **Ginny** helped with fundraising street parties.

Board & Advisers

Our board, **Julie, Dennis, Geoff** and **Clive,** provide encouragement and support. I also regularly consult our Australian-Vietnamese cultural advisers **Loan & Tiệp.** They are very patient in explaining Vietnamese method and custom to Westerners.

Local Interpreters

Thank you to our volunteer interpreters and “fixers” in Vietnam, including **Châu, Lâm, Nam** and **Hiep.** Interpreters help to negotiate each project, fix any problems and ensure completion.



Our interpreter and local project manager, pictured here visiting her eldest brother, after planning our projects and interpreting for us to help the poor across Vietnam.

Local Project Partners

With experienced interpreters, we can plan achievable projects. But we rely on local project partners to carry out the work in their local community. Project partners are local monastic, volunteer or social groups who are willing to spend their valuable time. This can require detailed local knowledge, visits and negotiations with people in their homes. We get a “multiplier effect” from time contributed by many project partners. Our project partners (dropping titles such as “Sister” for simplicity) this year were:

- Sự phụ Quảng Trí (in charge), Bưu Trì Pagoda orphanage, Cần Thơ.
- Yên (in charge) and Quế (assisting), Thiên Ân orphanage, Cần Thơ.
- Buddhist volunteer group, Sài Gòn Cancer Hospital canteen.

- Bích Hường (host) and Kim Anh (in charge), Sisters of Charity (Mother Teresa of Calcutta's order), orphanage and single mothers shelter, Mai Ấm Tình Mẹ, Bình Dương.
- Hường (in charge) shelter for homeless women, Tam Hiep Dominican order, Suối Tiên village in Đồng Nai.
- Thao, serving M' Nong people in Dak Mil, Dak Nông, near Buôn Mê Thuột.
- Loan (in charge), Hường and Thơ (serving E-đê people) and Hậu (pig wrangler), of the St Paul De Chartres nuns, Vi Nhân school for disabled children, Buôn Mê Thuột.
- Mùi (in charge), Linh An orphanage and single mothers shelter, Lâm Hà, Lâm Đồng Province, near Đà Lạt. Tu Hội Nhập Thể Tận Hiến Truyền Giáo order.
- Vương (in charge), Nha Trang Holy Cross Convent Sơn Tân, Cam Lâm, Khánh Hòa, serving lepers and Raklay people.
- Lâm and helpers, Nha Trang, managing our medicines supply project to the southern coast.
- Hue Lasan uni student social club, serving Vân Kiều people in Bản Khe Ngòi, Đăkrông, near Khe Sanh, Quảng Trị.
- Nhân (in charge), Bac Ai Vinh (Vinh Sisters of Charity order), serving Phong Nha villages.
- Nam, Hiệp and Đồng, group of men in Hà Tĩnh.
- Hà Tĩnh uni student social club, serving food at Thạch Hà hospital.
- Turin Sisters of Charity, Mái Ấm Thiên Ân single mothers shelter and orphanage, Hà Tĩnh.
- Legion of Mary (Legio Marie) women's group, Thạch Long & Thạch Sơn village, Hà Tĩnh.
- Lành (in charge), 19.5 Shelter for Severely Disabled, Vinh Sisters of Charity, Xã Đòai.
- Bắc (deputy), Vinh Holy Cross order, Trang Nửa orphanage, near Xã Đòai, Nghệ An.
- Nguyễn, Vinh Holy Cross order, and Phượng Hồ in Quỳnh Lập leper colony Nghệ An.
- Kính (deputy), Phát Diệm Holy Cross order, serving the poor around Phát Diệm.

To summarise, the help from monthly contributors, donors, board members, advisers, local interpreters and local project partners enables me to take Australian friendship to Vietnam, to carry out both small and large local projects, at orphanages and villages.

On behalf of Friends of Vietnam Orphanages Inc, I wish to express thanks to all, for generous donations to the fund, practical help, moral support and good counsel.



**Peter Kabaila
Public Officer**

PROJECT SUMMARY

Every dollar you donated went to direct assistance in Vietnam.

During the 2019 financial year we carried out a wide range of projects. This included encouraging children to attend school, medicines for a group of orphanages, and provisions to disadvantaged families.

The free range livestock and tree planting projects were outstandingly successful. These raised household income for disadvantaged families in poorer, mainly indigenous communities.

100% of every dollar donated went to direct assistance in Vietnam, because we have \$0 admin cost. This financial year we spent \$22,730 AUD on projects summarised below. Funds were personally administered by us and our local helper network.

| \$ AUS | VND | |
|---------------|------------|--|
| \$728 | 11.8M | Educational and nutritional project for 66 children, Bưu Trì Pagoda Orphanage, Cần Thơ. |
| \$586 | 9.5M | Nutrition and free-range chicken raising for 40 children, Thiên Ân Orphanage, Cần Thơ. |
| \$494 | 8M | Support Buddhist volunteer group canteen at Sài Gòn Cancer Hospital. |
| \$623 | 10.1M | Support orphanage and single mothers shelter, Mai Ấm Tình Mẹ, Bình Dương. |
| \$198 | 3.2M | Blood sugar testing kit, homeless women's shelter, Đồng Nai. |
| \$926 | 15M | Two hot/cold water filter machines, homeless women's shelter, Đồng Nai. |
| \$679 | 11M | Support orphanage and single mothers shelter, Lam Dong Province. |
| \$679 | 11M | Support Vi Nhân School for Disabled Children, Buôn Mê Thuột. Scanner/photocopier and school materials for poor students. |
| \$1,358 | 22M | Support pig raising for 11 households, E-đê indigenous village, Dak Lak Province. |
| \$309 | 5M | Visit households with 25 food parcels, E-đê indigenous village, Dak Lak Province. |
| \$247 | 4M | Safety for 50 scavengers, Buôn Mê Thuột City rubbish tip. |
| \$444 | 7.2M | Visit 8 households with food parcels, chickens and pigs, M'Nong indigenous village, Dak Nong Province. |
| \$469 | 7.6M | Expand capacity to raise chickens. Mai Am Thien Tam orphanage, Nha Trang. |

| | | |
|-----------|-------|---|
| \$210 | 3.4M | Visit 15 households with food parcels, Raklay indigenous village, Khan Hoa Province. |
| \$741 | 12M | Support chicken raising for 10 households, Raklay indigenous village, Khan Hoa Province. |
| \$111 | 1.8M | Visit 8 lepers with food parcels. Khan Hoa Province. |
| \$185 | 3M | Support chicken raising for lepers, Khan Hoa Province. |
| (\$2,220) | (36M) | Medicine packages for 12 orphanages and schools in Nha Trang region. |
| \$185 | 3M | La Salle disabled workshop and accommodation, Nha Trang. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Lộc Thọ Pagoda orphanage, Nha Trang. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Hương Dương orphanage, Nha Trang. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Chùa Phật Bửu, Ninh Hòa. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Thanh Sơn Pagoda orphanage, Cam Lâm. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Nhân Ái, Cam Ranh. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Đại An Orphanage, Cam Ranh. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Mái Ấm Hy Vọng, Cam Lâm south. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | An Đào orphanage, Ninh Hòa. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Ninh Hòa School for Disabled. Medicine package. |
| \$185 | 3M | Medicine supply for village of 37 leper households (Trai Cui), Khan Hoa Province. |
| \$185 | 3M | Medicine supply for Raklay indigenous village, Khan Hoa Province. |
| \$284 | 4.6M | Visit 23 households with food parcels, Van Kieu indigenous village, Quảng Trị. |
| \$556 | 9M | Support tree planting by 23 households, Van Kieu indigenous village, Quảng Trị Province. |
| \$926 | 15M | Visit 7 households with food parcels and support chicken raising for 10 households, villages near Phong Nha. Provide medicines. |
| \$593 | 9.6M | Visit 16 households with food parcels, villages near Ha Tinh City. |
| \$247 | 4M | Support youth volunteer group canteen at Thach Ha hospital. |
| \$667 | 10.8M | Support chicken raising by 10 poor households near Ha Tinh city. |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---|
| \$778 | 12.6M | Bicycles, school materials & fees for disadvantaged kids of 5 families. |
| \$926 | 15M | Support childbirth/surgery recovery room, Mái Ấm Thiên Ân single mothers shelter, near Ha Tinh city. |
| \$185 | 3M | Visit and assist 8 poor households in two villages near Ha Tinh city. |
| \$1,142 | 18.5M | Support 19.5 Shelter for Severely Disabled, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta Children's Orphanage, Xã Đoài. |
| \$278 | 4.5M | School materials for Thái indigenous children, Nghe An. |
| \$617 | 10M | Hiếu. Visit and buy 6 month old cow to raise household income, Nghe An. |
| \$1,235 | 20M | Encourage chicken raising for 20 households, Quỳnh Lập Leper Colony. |
| \$309 | 5M | Visit households with 20 food parcels near Phát Diệm town. |
| \$617 | 10M | Support chicken raising for 15 households near Phát Diệm. |
| \$123 | 2M | Two mother/baby care packages for single mothers shelter, run by St Paul De Chartres sisters, Phát Diệm. |
| \$247 | 4M | School materials for class of 20 disabled children, Phát Diệm. |
| \$1,800 | 30M | Cover funding gap for surgery to enable a fisherman to walk, raise his children and return to work. Dong Ha village, Ha Tinh. |
| TOTALS | | |
| \$22,730 | 369.2M | Bank conversion rate including bank transfer and ATM withdrawal fees was \$100 AUD = 1.62M |
| AUD | | |

PROJECT DETAILS

\$728 - 11.8M Educational and nutritional project for 66 children, Bửu Trì Pagoda Orphanage, Cần Thơ



Head nun (Sư phụ Quảng Trí) with our project.

- 6 English language charts 0.2M.
- 7 high school calculators 2M.
- 40 exercise books 0.24M.
- 200 pens 0.48M.
- 200 Exercise book covering 0.2M.
- 20 Technical drawing sets 0.2M.
- 2 boxes chalk 0.1M
- 400 chicken eggs 0.64M.
- 15kg chicken meat 3.45M.
- 1 box x 12 litre bottles oil 0.25M.
- 10 bottles x 1 litre shampoo 1.2M.
- 250kg rice 2.5M.
- 30 Lifebuoy soap bars 0.3M.
- 30 toothbrushes 0.13M.
- 30 toothpaste tubes 0.33M.
- 1 bag x 10kg washing powder 0.14M.
- 10kg garlic 0.17M.
- 10kg seasoning powder 0.5M.
- 4kg pepper 0.4M.
- 10 boxes x 30 packets noodles 0.94M.
- 2 boxes x 12 litres fish sauce. 0.43M.
- 2 box x 10 litres soy sauce 0.3M.

\$586 - 9.5M Nutrition and school materials for 40 children, Thiên Ân Orphanage, Cần Thơ.



The orphanage is undergoing forced relocation onto a smaller land parcel, so there is less home grown food now.

- 6 English language charts 0.2M.
- 40 exercise books 0.24M.
- 200 pens 0.48M.
- 200 Exercise book covering 0.2M.
- 200 chicken eggs 0.32M.
- 15kg chicken meat 3.45M.
- 4 boxes milo x 48 mini carton 1.2M
- 1 box x 12 litre bottles oil 0.25M.
- 10 bottles x 1 litre shampoo 1.2M.
- 30 Lifebuoy soap bars 0.3M.
- 250kg rice 2.5M.
- 30 toothbrushes 0.13M.
- 30 toothpaste tubes 0.33M.
- 1 bag x 10kg washing powder 0.14M.
- 10kg garlic 0.17M.
- 10kg seasoning powder 0.5M.
- 4kg pepper 0.4M.
- 10 boxes x 30 packets noodles 0.94M.
- 2 boxes x 12 litres fish sauce. 0.43M.
- 2 box x 10 litres soy sauce 0.3M.

\$494 - 8M Support Buddhist volunteer group canteen at Sài Gòn Cancer Hospital.



This volunteer group prepares and delivers food to give to cancer patients and hands out take-away food (including our noodle packets) to visiting relatives.

150kg rice, 12 x 1kg bags Knorr seasoning, 1,500 noodle packets (50 boxes x 30 packets), 102 x 1 litre bottles cooking oil, 50 kg sugar.

\$623 - 10.1M Support orphanage and single mothers shelter, Mai Âm Tình Mẹ, Bình Dương.



Shampoo, hair dryers, baby clothes storage and food.
2 hair dryers @ 0.56M each
5 boxes x 48 mini-cartons Milo 1.6M
5 boxes x 48 mini-cartons milk 1.3M
Laughing Cow cheese 1 box = 30 cartons x 10 pieces 0.5M
9 x 1litre shampoo 0.6M
60 bars Lifebuoy soap 0.24M
2 x 1 litre shower gel 0.09M
5 boxes yogurt 0.58M
500 quail eggs 0.45M
Knorr seasoning 8 x 1kg bags 0.45M
Storage cabinet for baby clothes 3M

\$198 - 3.2M Blood sugar testing kit, homeless women's shelter, Đồng Nai.



Blood sugar testing kit at Suối Tiên, Dong Nai.



Meal under the awning we supported in a previous year.

\$926 - 15M Two hot/cold water filter machines, homeless women's shelter, Đồng Nai.



Water filter machine at Suối Tiên, Dong Nai.



Inside, the machine has filters that need to be changed every few months.

\$679 - 11M Support for orphanage and single mothers shelter, Lam Dong Province.



We provided these 32 children a set of winter clothing for each child, schooling materials, medicines, mosquito net for each bed, electric kettle, blender. Village near Lam Ha.

Clothing for the children 4M:
26 sets of winter clothing, shirt and long pants.
26 pairs socks, 6 girl's hats.

Schooling materials 4.6M:
18 school bags 3M.
200 pencils, 240 pens, 13 scissors.
20 rulers.
30 erasers.
10 pencil sharpeners.
100 sets coloured paper.

Medicines etc 1.5M:
Worm tablets.
Saline.
Children's paracetamol liquid.
30 x 6m mosquito nets (donated by market seller).
Hospital gauze.
Multi-vitamin drink.
Menthol.
5 x 1 litre bottles shampoo 0.5M.

Technology 1M: Electric kettle and blender.



\$679 - 11M Support Vi Nhân School for Disabled Children, Buôn Mê Thuật. Scanner/photocopier and school materials for poor students.



Scanner/photocopier 6M. School materials for poor students 5M.



\$1,358 - 22M Support pig raising for 11 households, E-dê indigenous village, Dak Lak Province.



11 pairs of mountain piglets. Targeted at 11 disadvantaged households.



Our project partner Sister Hàu, of the St Paul De Chartres nuns, is the convent pig handler. She checks the gender and distributes each piglet.



\$309 - 5M Food parcels for 25 households, E-đê indigenous village, Dak Lak Province.



Our project partner Sister Hường of the St Paul De Chartres nuns, distributes the food provisions.

Each of the 25 food parcels was:
10kg rice x 25
1 litre oil
1 litre fish sauce
10 packets noodles
1 kg Knorr chicken powder
Fresh vegetables



\$247 - 4M Protective clothing for 50 scavengers, Buôn Mê Thuật City rubbish tip.



With the budget of 4M, our project partner Sister Thơ of the St Paul De Chartres nuns, delivered:

50 pairs plastic boots.
50 pairs rubber gloves.
50 pairs heavy work gloves.
30 men's hats.
30 cloth face masks for men.
20 cloth face masks with women's cap.
Packets of sweet snacks.
Petrol for our convoy (3 motorbikes).



\$444 - 7.2M Visit 8 households with food parcels, chickens and pigs, M'Nong indigenous village, Dak Nong Province.



Thao stands next to our three motorbikes, two carrying food, the third carrying livestock.

Our project partner Thao organised to assist 8 disadvantaged households. 1 pair piglets, 150 chickens, 2 x 25kg bags rice, 2 boxes x 30 pkts noodles, 2 litres oil, 2 litres fish sauce, 25 kg chicken feed, 6 boxes sweet cakes. M'Nong village in Dak Mil district.



\$469 - 7.6M Expand capacity to raise chickens. Mai Am Thien Tam orphanage, Nha Trang.



Concrete floor 30 sq m, raised above flood level: labour 1.6M, truck load sand 1M, truck load crushed rock 1.2M, 10 x 50kg cement 0.82M. One hundred six-week old chickens 3M.

\$210 - 3.4M Visit 15 households with food parcels, Raklay indigenous village, Khánh Hòa Province.



Our project partner, the local Holy Cross nuns, delivered and distributed the food.

Visit 15 disadvantaged households, each with: 10kg rice, 1 box x 30 noodle pkts, 1 litre oil, 1 litre fish sauce 0.22M each. Sơn Tân village, Cam Lâm, Khánh Hòa Province.



\$741- 12M Support chicken raising for 10 households, Raklay indigenous village, Khánh Hòa Province.



Our project partner, the local Holy Cross nuns, delivered and distributed the chickens for 10 households, each with: 30 x six-week old chickens, 15kg feed, chicken cage 1.2M. Sơn Tân village, Cam Lâm, Khánh Hòa Province.



\$111 - 1.8M Visit lepers with 8 food parcels. Khánh Hòa Province.



Our project partner, the local Holy Cross nuns, visited 8 disadvantaged households in the village of 37 leper households (Trai Cui), Cam Tan village, Cam Lam, and delivered to each household: 10kg rice, 1 box x 30 noodle pkts, 1 litre oil, 1 litre fish sauce. Cam Tân village, Cam Lâm, Khánh Hòa Province.

\$185 - 3M Support chicken raising for lepers, Khánh Hòa Province.



100 x six-week old chickens. Holy Cross Convent to raise for the leper village. Village of 37 leper households (Trai Cui), Cam Tân village, Cam Lâm, Khánh Hòa Province.

(\$2,220) - (36M) Medicine packages for 12 orphanages and schools in Nha Trang region.



Each medicine package was assembled and hand delivered by Lam (below), our volunteer interpreter.



3M each, total 36M. Each package has medicines for worm treatment, allergies, diarrhoea, adult cough syrup, paracetamol adult dose, paracetamol child dose, anti-inflammatory, multivitamins, child cough, temperature reduction bandages, mosquito repellent.

| | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| 1, fugacar (worm treatment) | 20 ^h | × 21.000 |
| 2, Loratadin (Anti-allergyl) | 3 ^h | × 60.000 |
| 3, Loperamid (Diarrheal) | 5 ^h | × 45.000 |
| 4, Cefixim (cough adults) | 3 ^h | × 130.000 |
| 5, paracetamol 500mg | 2 ^{ch} | × 125.000 |
| 6, paracetamol 325mg | 4 ^{ch} | × 45.000 |
| 7, Si-L Kron (Anti-inflammatory & anti-allergyl) | 15 ^{tab} | × 19.000 |
| 8, Boralex (Multi-vitamins) | 20 ^{tab} | × 29.000 |
| 9, Ho ong vãng (cough childrens) | 5 ^h | × 45.000 |
| 10, Dãn hạ sốt (Antipyretic stickers) | 3 ^h | × 43.000 |
| 11, Sogell (Anti-mosquito cream) | 7 ^{ch} | × 21.000 |
| | | <u>3.011.000</u> |

\$185 - 3M La Salle disabled workshop and accommodation, Nha Trang. Medicine package.



Disabled sewing workshop

\$185 - 3M Lộc Thọ Pagoda orphanage, Nha Trang. Medicine package.



\$185 - 3M Hương Dương orphanage, Nha Trang. Medicine package.



A previous project was for each girl to choose a soft toy "best friend".

\$185 - 3M Chùa Phật Bửu, Ninh Hòa. Medicine package.



\$185 - 3M Thanh Sơn Pagoda orphanage, Cam Lâm. Medicine package.



\$185 - 3M Nhân Ái, Cam Ranh. Medicine package.



Sister gives a spiel for potential sponsors

\$185 - 3M Đại An Orphanage, Cam Ranh. Medicine package.



We have supported farming projects at Dai An.

\$185 - 3M Mái Ấm Hy Vọng downes syndrome day centre, Cam Lâm. Medicine package.



Previously we provided a football play table.

\$185 - 3M An Đào orphanage, Ninh Hòa. Medicine package.



Temple/orphanage extension being built.

\$185 - 3M Ninh Hòa Government School for Disabled. Medicine package.



Previously we gave a clothing set to each child.

\$185 - 3M Medicine supply, village of 37 leper households (Trai Cui), Khánh Hòa Province.



Medicines for our project partner the Holy Cross convent, Cam Tân village, Cam Lâm, to administer to the poor.



Elderly lepers gather at the convent.

\$185 - 3M Medicine supply for Raklay indigenous village, Khan Hoa Province.



Medicines for our project partner the Holy Cross convent, Cam Tân village, Cam Lâm, to administer to the poor.



\$284 - 4.6M Visit 23 households with food parcels, Van Kieu indigenous village, Quảng Trị.



Girls in the youth group carrying food along the 4km foot track to the village.

Our project partner, the Lasan youth group in Hue, delivered a 0.2M food parcel to each of 23 families in Bản Khe Ngài village, Đăkrông.



\$556 - 9M Support tree planting by 23 households, Van Kieu indigenous village, Quảng Trị Province.



Youth group crossing the river to carry trees to the village.

Our project partner, the Lasan youth group in Hue, delivered 500 cay tram trees to each of the 23 families in Bản Khe Ngòi village, Đăkrông. We paid for trees and truck transport.



\$926 - 15M Visit 7 households with food parcels and support chicken raising for 10 households, villages near Phong Nha. Provide medicines.



Our project partner Sister Nhan of Vinh Sisters of Charity in Phong Nha helped visit 7 households with food parcels of rice 10kg, noodles 1 box x 30 pkts, 1 litre oil, 1 litre fish sauce, to assess their situation. Then they bought and distributed 30 month-old chickens and 12 kg chicken food per household for 10 households. We also funded 3M of basic medicines for the nuns to administer to the poor.



This 29 year old paralysed daughter's father has a bad leg, but still managed to earn some money as a wood worker and coffin maker.



Young couple with two disabled boys.

\$593 - 9.6M Visit 16 households with food parcels, villages near Ha Tinh City.



Our Ha Tinh project partner is a group of young men, Nam, Hiep and Dong. They researched and helped me visit 16 disadvantaged households in villages around Ha Tinh city with food parcels. Each parcel had 1 bag 20kg rice, 2 litres oil, 1 litre fish sauce, 2 kg bag of Knorr chicken powder seasoning, 1 box of noodles x 30 packets, 1 packet of sweet cakes, 1 litre shampoo (0.6M/ family).



\$247 - 4M Support youth volunteer group canteen at Thach Ha hospital.



Our Ha Tinh project partner, Nam and his friends, arranged support of this volunteer youth group who prepare food for hospital patients twice a month. We funded cost of materials to cook the soup (1M). Also meal packets for 50 patients. Each 0.06M meal packet was 10 rice beef soup packets, 6 mini-cartons of soy milk and 1 packet of rice cakes.

\$667 - 10.8M Support chicken raising for 10 poor households near Ha Tinh city.



Our Ha Tinh project partner, Nam and his friends, arranged to help 10 selected disadvantaged households with 30 month-old chickens, 25kg of chicken feed and medicines used by local chicken farmers.



\$778 - 12.6M Bicycles, school materials & fees for disadvantaged kids of 5 families near Ha Tinh city.



Võ Thị Thiên Trang in Year 7 is eleven years old. We provided her with a bicycle 1.4M and school fee 1M. In previous years we helped her with school fees.



Bao An casting out fishing nets



Bảo Khang towing his mother to shore.

\$926 - 15M Support childbirth/surgery recovery room, Mái Ấm Thiên Ân single mothers shelter, near Ha Tinh city.



Room heater 1M, hot water shower 3M, treatment bed for women after surgery 3M, training books for young mothers 3M and five mother and baby care packages with baby clothes, maternity wear etc (1M each).



Infant at the shelter.



Hot water shower unit.



Room heater

\$185 - 3M Visit and assist 8 poor households in two villages near Ha Tinh city.



Our project partner was the Legion of Mary, a women's social group. They arranged to visit 8 households in Thạch Long and Thạch Sơn villages, near Ha Tinh city, provide food parcels for 6 families, clothes storage for one family and nappies for one elderly woman.

Each 0.32M family food parcel was:
1 bag 10 kg rice, 1 box x 30 packet noodles, 2 litres fish sauce, 1 litre soy sauce, 2 litres cooking oil, 0.5kg Knorr seasoning.
+ 4 bags of 10 nappies for Vàng, an elderly woman. + Clothing storage cabinet 0.6M.

\$1,142 - 18.5M Support 19.5 Shelter for Severely Disabled, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta Children's Orphanage, Xã Đoài.



Sisters and some residents pose with our project of donated supplies.

Washing powder 6 bags x 10kg. Sweet cakes 24 packets. Sweetened condensed milk 48 cans. Toothpaste 1 box. Dishwashing liquid 3 x 5litre bottles. Shower gel 23 x 1.5 litre bottles. Milk 8 boxes x 32 mini-cartons. Nappies 10 bags x 100. Laundry conditioner 8 x 2 litre bottles. Floor cleaning disinfectant 20 bottles x 2 litres. Rice 500kg (11 bags).



A boy smiles at visitors.

\$278 - 4.5M School materials for Thái indigenous children, Nghe An.



Our project partner Hiệp organized a group to travel in his car to a village to provide food and other aid. Our contribution to this larger project was school materials purchased by our interop: 300 note books for children at junior (primary) school = 1.5M. 300 note books for children at senior school = 1.2M. 300 pencils = 0.9M. 300 pens = 0.9 M.

\$617 - 10M Hiếu. Visit and buy 6 month old cow to raise household income, Nghe An.



When Hiếu was just a 3 month old baby, her mother was attacked by acid. Hiếu has lived with facial disfigurement and social exclusion all her life. She has undergone numerous surgeries. I have seen Hieu get job training, leave the orphanage to develop her independence, struggle through jobs in sewing workshops. Then marry Dũng to have a beautiful baby. Motherhood has now given Hiếu a firm place in the world. The purchase of a 6 month old calf was a good way of Hiếu preserving good relations with her mother-in-law with whom she lives. It also helps Hiếu raise her income.

Hiếu. Chickens to raise, Nghe An.



As part of the chicken raising project below, Hiếu was treated as equivalent to two households (because she does not get a government disability allowance as the lepers do). She received 50 chickens and two 25kg bags of chicken feed.

\$1,235 - 20M Encourage chicken raising for 24 households, Quỳnh Lập Leper Colony.



Organised by our local interper in consultation with Phượng Hồ and a group of women at this colony. Chicken raising targets 24 households most likely to succeed, each with 30 chickens and a 25kg bag of chicken feed.



\$309 - 5M Visit households with 20 food parcels near Phát Diệm.



Our project partner Sister Kình of the Phát Diệm Holy Cross order arranged visits to the poor with 20 food parcels. 15 homeless women (living in a group house) and 5 other households containing a disabled person at. Each food parcel 0.25M: 10 kg rice, box of noodles, 1 litre oil, 1 litre fish sauce. Includes repaying 2M borrowed from Sister Kinh last year.

\$617 - 10M Support chicken raising for 15 households near Phát Diệm.



Our project partner Sister Kình of the Phát Diệm Holy Cross order targeted 15 disadvantaged households. To raise household income we provided each family with 30 week-old chicks and a 25kg bag of feed.

\$123 - 2M Two mother/baby care packages for single mothers shelter, run by St Paul De Chartres sisters, Phát Diệm.



Two mother/baby care packages: 2 winter sleeping suits, 20 tops, 4 winter jackets, 2 pillows, 10 beanies, 50 pairs socks, 20 bibs, 20 towels, 20 cloth nappies, 20 plastic nappy change mats, 2 bags of cotton wipes, 2 maternity sleepwear dresses, 2 lipsticks, 2 foundation boxes, 2 eyebrow pencils, 2 nail clippers, 2 one litre shampoo bottles with conditioner.

\$247 - 4M School materials for class of 20 disabled children, Phát Diệm.



Our project partner Sister Kinh of the Phát Diệm Holy Cross order purchased school materials for the Holy Cross Convent kindergarten in Phát Diệm.

\$1800 - 30M Surgery to enable a fisherman to walk and work.



Surgery to provide femoral head (hip) replacement for Nguyễn Văn Diệm , a fisherman in his 40s. This will enable him to walk and continue to help raise his three children, as well as do some light work to help support his family.



A PROJECT STORY:

\$1,235 - 20M CHICKEN RAISING FOR 24 HOUSEHOLDS, QUYNH LAP LEPER COLONY.

For this project to encourage leper households to raise their own income, our team worked with the nun who lives among the lepers to provide chickens and chicken food.

Our team comprised our interp and her sister-in-law, both from a Christian village, and three young businessmen from Communist Party families. It was a long and fascinating day for all of them. They drove from their home villages to the leper colony. There the young men met a nun for the first time and helped her distribute 730 chickens and 25 bags of chicken food.

After the project they met with a dissident priest who had invited them for lunch. He showed them the new village school he was building. In the evening the men were invited to the Christian village for a meal and drinks at the interp's brother's house. These people from different tribes (Communist and Christian) normally would not associate with each other. So it was an unusual meeting of minds for both sides, hopefully sowing the seed of friendship and better understanding.

Twenty four lots of chickens and chicken food were distributed. Twenty two families most likely to succeed each received 30 chickens and a 25kg bag of chicken food with some medicine for chickens.

Sister Nguyễn, the nun living with the lepers was treated as an additional household. Hiếu, the woman with facial acid burns that we have been assisting, got 50 chickens and 2 bags of food and two lots of medicine. This is because she does not receive government pensions, as the lepers do. This totalled 18.5M. This left 1.5M from our budget which we gave to Sister Nguyễn to buy food utensils for the elderly lepers in the hospice.

Our select list of 24 families most likely to succeed was:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Kính + Quyết | 9. Hiền + Tuất | 17. Tường + Tư |
| 2. Lương + Nga | 10. Yên + Nghị | 18. Bích + Giỏi |
| 3. Mai + Khoa | 11. Xuân + Giao | 19. Hoa + Chiên |
| 4. Phượng + Lữ | 12. Hưng + Lan | 20. Thanh + Khoa |
| 5. Liệu + Đình | 13. Xuân + Tài | 21. Danh Thử |
| 6. Hường + Thọ | 14. Hiền + Bình | 22. Lý + Li |
| 7. Dì Loan | 15. Hiền + Sơn | 23. Sister Nguyễn |
| 8. Tới + Kỹ | 16. Huỳnh Yến | 24. Hiếu |

In this list, Sister Nguyễn changed some families which she thought were more suitable.

A PROJECT STORY:

\$1800 - 30M SURGERY TO ENABLE A FISHERMAN TO WALK AND WORK.

Background

Diêm was born in 1977 in a fishing village in Ha Tinh to a family of 4 boys and 2 girls. The family were poor at that time and didn't have enough to eat. So he stopped school in second grade at age 7 and began work fishing. He cannot read or write and has fished all his life. First he worked for his father, a fisherman. When he was old enough to work on his own, at age 13, he left home to work on ocean fishing boats and later as a diver.

His wife's family also are fisherman. She also stopped school at an early age. When she was old enough to work on her own, around age 13, she rowed the boat by herself to take fish from boats to the village market. She is illiterate and deals with a phobia for loud engine sounds.

Injury

Diem's lifetime of hard physical work, launching boats off the sand by pushing with legs, combined with smoking, drinking etc, had caused Diem severe pain in his legs, causing him to stop work. One leg was noticeably shorter than the other so he was forced to use crutches to get around.

Children

Diem has sons in years 7 and 11 and a daughter in year 7. They attend the local school.

Village treatment

First Diem lifted a box of fish and injured his back. In the village, Diem tried to self treat for three years using traditional Chinese herbal medicines. His pain increased, so the family paid for government health insurance which is part-funded by the Formosa company.

Thach Ha district hospital treatment.

In the district hospital he was given electric acupuncture for back pain but this did not relieve the pain. He was there for 2 weeks. He was also put on a stretching rack to pull his back straight and pull out his short leg. This greatly increased his pain. He was x-rayed in the back and knees and nothing was found. So he was sent to the provincial hospital for an x-ray.

Provincial hospital Ha Tinh

A hip x-ray showed that the femoral joint of the short leg was worn out. The last time a woman was treated for surgery in the district hospital, she had died on the operating table and was roughly sewn up and sent back to the village for burial. So the villagers, including a doctor from the district, advised surgery at Hanoi hospital.

Village assistance to the household

The village custom is when anyone has a wedding, severe illness or funeral, every household in the village visits and gives a little bit of money to provide support. Depending on kinship, friendship and financial capacity, each gives between 20,000 and 100,000 vnd (\$1 to \$5).

How the surgery was funded

Surgery quoted cost was 100M (a bit over \$6,000, not including extra costs at Hanoi such as meals, travel and post operative recovery).

- Health insurance covered 40M.
- Wife sold her gold chain 10M.
- Mother had no more gold to sell as she had previously sold her gold chains to pay people in the village when her son stole a bicycle from a villager; then sold a chain to help one illiterate daughter build a house; then sold the last chain to help the eldest son to study to be a teacher.

- Wife's sister whose family have money contributed 10M.
- Three brothers put together 10M.
- That left a funding gap of 30M (\$1,800) for us to cover.

Our charity objective

The idea was to enable this man to raise his children. For him and his wife to be able to do some light work. For the children to continue at school. The fund treasurer was consulted and agreed to us providing the funding gap amount of 30M.

Hanoi hospital treatment.

Diem had a successful femoral head replacement (usually called hip replacement) and was told to stop smoking and drinking. He decided to stop drinking first.

Recovery

By April 2019 Diem was walking and in significantly less pain. His wife went to work helping the youngest brother-in-law who fishes in the river. River fishing is a 2-person job. This work starts about 3am and finishes around 8am then also 4pm to 9pm, depending on tides. During recovery Diem stayed at home to mind the children for a few months then returned to work.



Diem before surgery.



Pre-surgery X-ray shows the worn femur (left) protruding from the hip joint.



Diem and his wife's fishing boat.

A PROJECT STORY:

\$617 - 10M. VISIT HIEU AND BUY 6 MONTH OLD COW AND CHICKENS, NGHE AN

When Hiếu was just a 3 month old baby, her mother was attacked by acid. Hiếu has lived with facial disfigurement and social exclusion all her life. She has undergone numerous surgeries. I have seen Hieu get job training, leave the orphanage to develop her independence, struggle through jobs in sewing workshops. Then marry Dũng to have a beautiful baby. Motherhood has now given Hiếu a firm place in the world. The purchase of a 6 month old calf was a good way of Hiếu preserving good relations with her mother-in-law with whom she lives. It also helps Hiếu raise her income.

We also included Hiếu in a chicken raising project at the Quynh Lap leper colony. This is close to where Hiếu lives, so she was able to ride over to pick up chickens and chicken feed. For this project she was allocated chickens and chicken feed equivalent to two households, because she does not get government support as the lepers do. She received 50 chickens and two 25kg bags of chicken feed.

Raising young chickens requires a little knowledge and experience, which many Vietnamese farmers have. Hiếu had just returned from one of the reconstructive surgeries, probably carried out by an overseas medical charity. This surgery tried to repair some previous surgery by forming nostrils, to help her breathe through the nose.



With the new calf, after a reconstructive surgery in Saigon.



Receiving chickens to take home.