FoVO

Friends of Vietnam Orphanages Inc.

Helping disadvantaged communities in Vietnam

Report to Donors

2013 Financial Year

REGISTERED CHARITY · acnc.gov.au/charityregister



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

5 Wangara St Aranda ACT 2614 Australia
Tel (02) 6251 2356 , Mobile 0403 727 805
www.hporphanage.asn.au

Số 5 Đường Wangara ACT 2614 Úc
Điện thoại: 02) 6251 2356 Di động: 0403 727 805
www.hporphanage.asn.au

ABN 23 398 458 179
Registered Association No. A05147
Endorsed by ATO as a charitable institution
donations@hporphanage.asn.au

ABN 23 398 458 179
Đăng kí tổ chức số No. A05147
Xác nhận bởi ATO như là một tổ chức từ thiện
donations@hporphanage.asn.au

Introduction

The 2013 financial year was a year of considerable change for Friends of Vietnam Orphanages Inc.

The association had been **established in 2011 as Friends of Hướng Phương Orphanage Inc**, initially concentrating its assistance on Hướng Phương Orphanage for children with disabilities in Central Vietnam.

In December **2012 the association changed its name to Friends of Vietnam Orphanages Inc** and broadened its objects so that it could assist other orphanages and village communities throughout Vietnam. The new objective was:
"Work in partnership with orphanages and village communities in Vietnam, to achieve a better quality of life for all, with a focus on children with disabilities."

FoVO continued its work with Hướng Phương, but the broader objective allowed the small charity to work with other orphanages, disadvantaged families and village communities. This change was already reflected in the January 2013 field visit, which included visits to other orphanages and communities to make first contact, identify needs and develop projects.

FoVO's committee at this time was Peter Kabaila, Hưng Nguyen, Minh Tiep Tran, Nam Long Quach, Loan Tran and Clive West. Most committee members were of Vietnamese background, giving the Australian association close personal, language and cultural connections with Vietnam.

FoVO also put a more formal governance framework in place as its work expanded. The ACT Model Rules were nominated as the association's governance document. FoVO adopted an Ethical Standards Policy based on an ACFID template, and a Child Protection Code of Conduct based on an AusAID template.

There were also changes to charity regulation in Australia. FoVO began reporting to the newly established Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). It remained a very small volunteer organisation, with no paid employees.

Project administration was also becoming more formal. Bilingual project applications, funding agreements and receipts were introduced for some projects. Itemised costs, receipts and photographs were increasingly used to record how donated funds had been spent and to report back to donors.

FoVO continued to operate on the principle that every dollar donated went to projects in Vietnam. Travel and administration costs were met separately and were not deducted from donations.

During the year FoVO funded education, orphanage equipment, medical assistance and practical assistance to disadvantaged families and communities. Projects included tertiary scholarships, orphanage equipment, a child's heart operation, village kindergarten and clinic equipment, and winter clothing for disabled children.

In all, FoVO provided $18,350 for projects recorded during this period.

We thank our donors, committee members, volunteers, interpreters and Vietnamese friends who made this work possible.

Peter Kabaila
Public Officer
Friends of Vietnam Orphanages Inc (FoVO)



With residents and house mother at the Huong Phuong orphanage

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

Project Summary

How Your $18,350 Was Spent

NO.	PROJECT	AUD	MILLION VND
1	Tertiary and training scholarships	**$5,500**	118.0
2	Orphanage — washing machine and kitchen equipment	**$1,000**	21.5
3	Motorbikes for orphanage and community work	**$1,000**	21.5
4	Hoàng Văn Danh — private tuition and computer course	**$500**	10.7
5	Orphanage — eight stainless-steel beds	**$1,200**	25.7
6	Orphanage — electricity supply and voltage stabiliser	**$1,800**	38.6
7	Thuy — direct assistance following burns	**$600**	12.9
8	Family in hardship identified by Cao Tien	**$600**	12.9
9	Child's heart operation	**$2,800**	60.1
10	Village kindergarten and clinic equipment	**$3,000**	64.4
11	Vinh orphanage — winter clothing for disabled children	**$350**	7.5
	TOTAL	**$18,350**	**393.7**

VND converted at the Reserve Bank of Australia average rate for the financial year, approximately 2.15 million VND = AUD $100.

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

1. Tertiary and Training Scholarships

Education assistance — $5,500

Description

FoVO provided scholarships for students associated with Hướng Phương Convent in Quảng Bình.

The program included tertiary study, theology studies (funded by others) and internships. It was intended to help students gain qualifications, other training, and practical skills which could later be used in their work and communities.

Project expenditure

- 19 tertiary scholarships at $250 — $4,750
- 3 theology scholarships at $150 — $450
- 3 internships at $100 — $300

Total — $5,500
The scholarship funding formed part of a larger $11,000 agreement covering education and practical assistance associated with Hướng Phương.

Observation

This was a much larger and more formal scholarship program than FoVO's earlier education assistance.

Individual students and courses were identified and a written funding agreement was used. Receipts and other records were requested to show how the money had been spent.

Reflection

The scholarships were an early attempt by FoVO to support a substantial group of students through a formal funding arrangement.

The project also tested whether written agreements and detailed reporting could provide sufficient oversight when substantial funds were being managed by another organisation.



Tran Thi Lai Medical nurse internship, Huong Phuong medical centre



Ngô Thị Hương Cao Đẳng GD đặc biệt Nha Trang. Disability Care certificate, Nha Trang.



Nguyễn Thị Duyên General Physician intermediate certificate, Da Nang.



Đặng Thị Ánh Tuyết Special education, Saigon.



Hoàng Văn Danh Residency Computer Course.



Nguyễn Thị Nhung Trung Cấp Y Sài Gòn. Nursing certificate level, Saigon.



Dr Phạm Thị Hải Yến Medical doctor internship, Huong Phuong medical centre



Nguyễn Thị Thường Cao Đẳng GD đặc biệt Nha Trang. Disability Care certificate, Nha Trang.



Nguyễn Thị Hương Giang Trung Cấp Y Sài Gòn. Nursing certificate with possible pharmacy graduate diploma, Saigon.



Nguyễn Thị Hiệp ĐH Anh văn Huế. Language teaching (English), Hue.



Nguyễn Thị Thủy Trung cấp xét nghiệm máu Sài Gòn. Blood test certificate with extension to degree.



Trần Thị Diệu Huyền ĐH Anh văn Huế. Language teaching (English), Hue.



Cao Thị Sánh Nurse.



Hồ Thị Ánh Đào Trung Cấp Y Da Nang.
Nursing certificate, Da Nang.



Đinh Thị Đương Trung Cấp Y Sài Gòn.
Pharmacy certificate level Saigon.



Phạm Thị Đào Trung Cấp Y Da Nang.
Medicine (General physician), Da Nang,



Nguyễn Thị Hà Trung Cấp Y Da Nang. Nursing certificate, Da Nang. 0 1688 516 598



Phạm Thị Chung Trung Cấp Y Vinh. Medical course, probably to nursing certificate level in Vinh,



Nguyễn Thị Tuyết Trung Cấp Y Sài Gòn. Medical courses, pharmacy certificate level, Saigon.



Mai Thị Luyện Trung cấp sư phạm mầm non Pre-school intermediate teaching education, Da Nang.



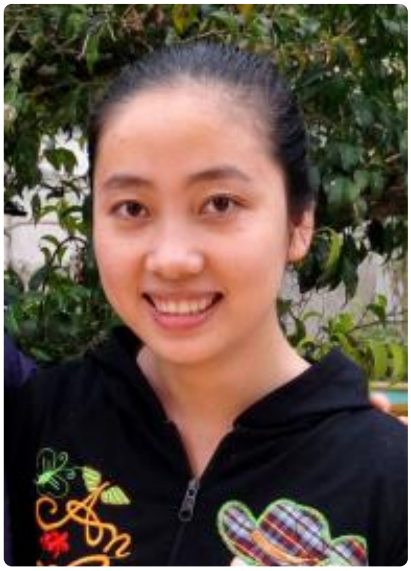
Nguyễn Thị Nga Trung Cấp Y Da Nang.
Nursing certificate, Da Nang.



Nguyễn Thị Nhung Trung cấp sư phạm mầm non Pre-school teaching intermediate education, Da Nang.



Nguyễn Thị T Hải Trung Cấp Y Sài Gòn.
Pharmacy certificate, Saigon.



Viên Thị Phương Nga Trung cấp y sı đa khoa General Physician intermediate certificate, Da Nang.

Visit to students at Hue



Leigh Kabaila and work colleague Adrian Mong visit students at Hue for a celebratory meal



Washing up in the communal kitchen



Students standing in front of Phu Cam (cathedral)



Sinh to (smoothies) at Guitar Cafe, Hue

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

2. Hướng Phương Orphanage, Quảng Bình

Washing machine and kitchen equipment — $1,000

Description

FoVO provided practical equipment for Hướng Phương Orphanage in Quảng Bình.

A washing machine was purchased to assist with washing sheets and other bedding. FoVO also funded a table, kitchenware and storage bins for the orphanage kitchen.

A blender was donated separately by Cathy Moffit and Marlene Mulcahy.

Project expenditure

- Washing machine — $700
- Kitchen table, kitchenware and storage bins — $300

Total — $1,000

Observation

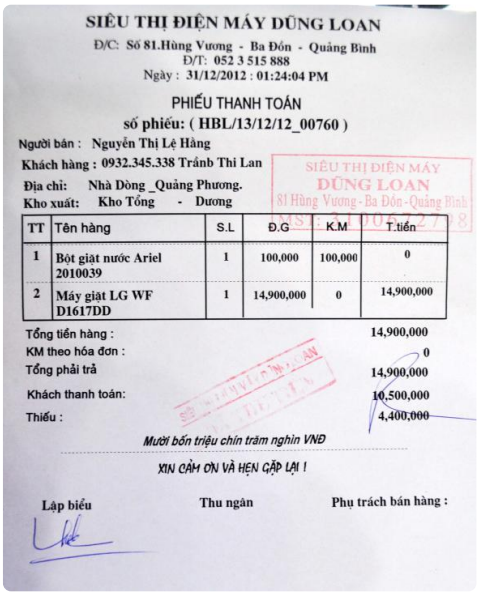
The project concentrated on ordinary equipment needed to run a residential children's home.

The washing machine reduced the work involved in regularly washing bedding, while the kitchen equipment provided practical improvements to food preparation and storage.

Reflection

These were simple purchases with an immediate use. The equipment could be bought and put to work without creating a new program for FoVO to manage.





SIÊU THỊ ĐIỆN MÁY DŨNG LOAN
Đ/C: Số 81.Hùng Vương - Ba Đồn - Quảng Bình
Đ/T: 052 3 515 888
Ngày : 31/12/2012 : 01:24:04 PM

PHIẾU THANH TOÁN
số phiếu: (HBL/13/12/12_00760)

Người bán : Nguyễn Thị Lệ Hằng
Khách hàng : 0932.345.338 Tránb Thi Lan
Địa chỉ: Nhà Dòng _Quảng Phương.
Kho xuất: Kho Tổng - Dương

TT	Tên hàng	S.L	Đ.G	K.M	T.tiền
1	Bột giặt nước Ariel 2010039	1	100,000	100,000	0
2	Máy giặt LG WF D1617DD	1	14,900,000	0	14,900,000

Tổng tiền hàng : 14,900,000
KM theo hóa đơn : 0
Tổng phải trả 14,900,000
Khách thanh toán: 10,500,000
Thiếu : 4,400,000

Mười bốn triệu chín trăm nghìn VNĐ

XIN CẢM ƠN VÀ HẸN GẶP LẠI !

Lập biểu Thu ngân Phụ trách bán hàng :

Sisters Hien and Nga select the washing machine at a shop in Ba don.

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

3. Hướng Phương Orphanage and Community Work

Motorbikes — $1,000

Description

FoVO funded the purchase of two motorbikes and repairs to a third motorbike for use in orphanage and community work.

The expenditure included petrol and insurance. The motorbikes were registered in the name of an orphanage staff member and delivered to Huế.

Project expenditure

Purchase of two motorbikes and repair of a third, including petrol and insurance — $1,000

Observation

Motorbikes were basic working transport. They allowed people involved in the orphanage and community work to travel between locations and carry out their everyday activities.

Reflection

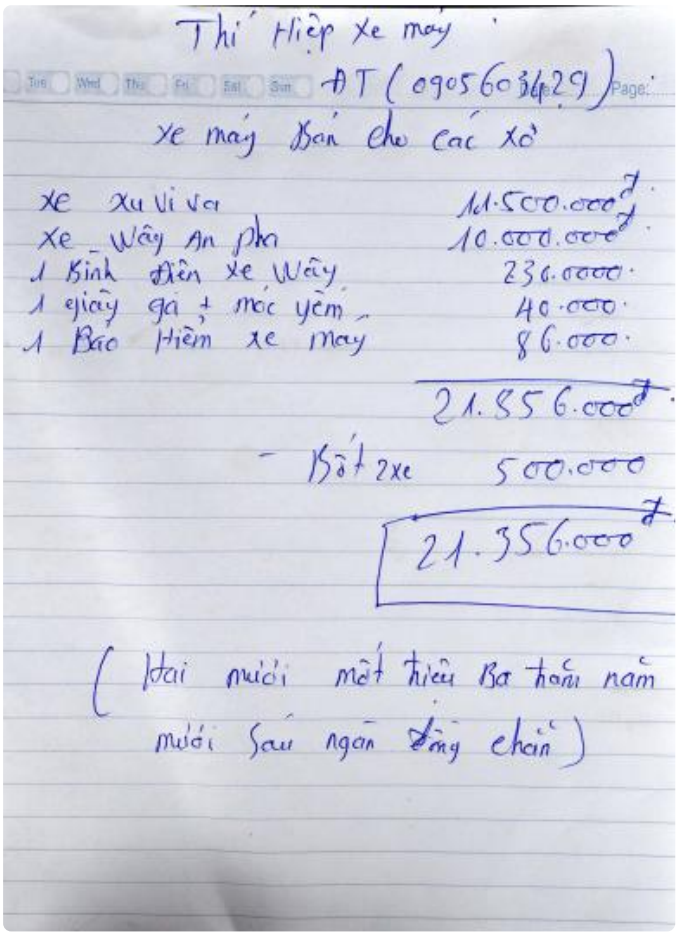
This was practical assistance rather than a new service. Relatively inexpensive transport could improve mobility of people.



Purchasing bikes at Ba don.



Sister Hanh, hugged by sister Vinh, demonstrates riding goggles.



Thi Hiệp xe máy

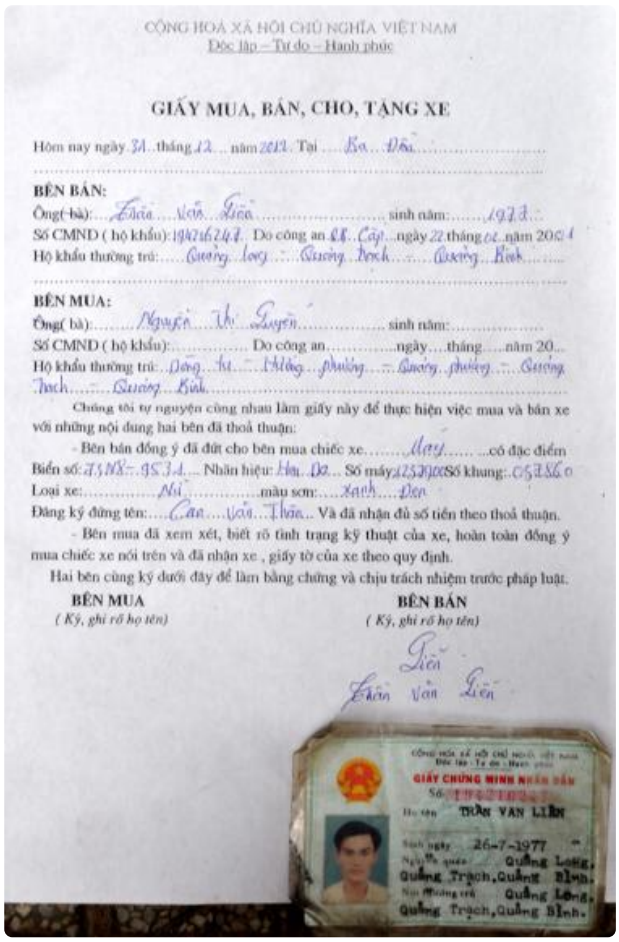
AT (0905603429) Page:

Xe máy Bán cho các xò

Xe Xu Vi Va	11.500.000đ
Xe Wây An phà	10.000.000đ
1 Bình điện xe Wây	230.000
1 giấy gà + móc yếm	40.000
1 Bảo Hiểm xe máy	86.000
	21.856.000đ
- Bớt 2xe	500.000
	21.356.000đ

(Hai mươi mốt triệu Ba trăm năm mươi Sáu ngàn đồng chẵn)

Shop list of costs



CỘNG HOÀ XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM
Độc lập – Tự do – Hạnh phúc

GIẤY MUA, BÁN, CHO, TẶNG XE

Hôm nay ngày 31 tháng 12 năm 2012. Tại Ba Đồn

BÊN BÁN:
Ông(bà): Trần Văn Liên sinh năm: 1977
Số CMND (hộ khẩu): 194216247 Do công an Bình Cấp ngày 22 tháng 02 năm 2011
Hộ khẩu thường trú: Quảng Long - Quảng Trạch - Quảng Bình

BÊN MUA:
Ông(bà): Nguyễn Thị Quyên sinh năm:
Số CMND (hộ khẩu): Do công an ngày tháng năm 20
Hộ khẩu thường trú: Đồng Hà - Đông Phường - Quảng Phường - Quảng Trạch - Quảng Bình

Chúng tôi tự nguyện cùng nhau làm giấy này để thực hiện việc mua và bán xe với những nội dung hai bên đã thoả thuận:

- Bên bán đồng ý đã đứt cho bên mua chiếc xe Máy có đặc điểm
Biển số: 75N5-9534 Nhãn hiệu: Honda Số máy: 1253700 Số khung: 057856
Loại xe: Nữ màu sơn: Xanh Đen
Đăng ký đứng tên: Cao Văn Thừa Và đã nhận đủ số tiền theo thoả thuận.
- Bên mua đã xem xét, biết rõ tình trạng kỹ thuật của xe, hoàn toàn đồng ý mua chiếc xe nói trên và đã nhận xe , giấy tờ của xe theo quy định.

Hai bên cùng ký dưới đây để làm bằng chứng và chịu trách nhiệm trước pháp luật.

BÊN MUA	BÊN BÁN
(Ký, ghi rõ họ tên)	(Ký, ghi rõ họ tên)
	Liên
	Trần Văn Liên

GIẤY CHỨNG MINH NHÂN DÂN
Họ tên: TRẦN VAN LIÊN
26-7-1977
Quảng Long, Quảng Trạch, Quảng Bình.
Quảng Long, Quảng Trạch, Quảng Bình.

Sale/transfer document.



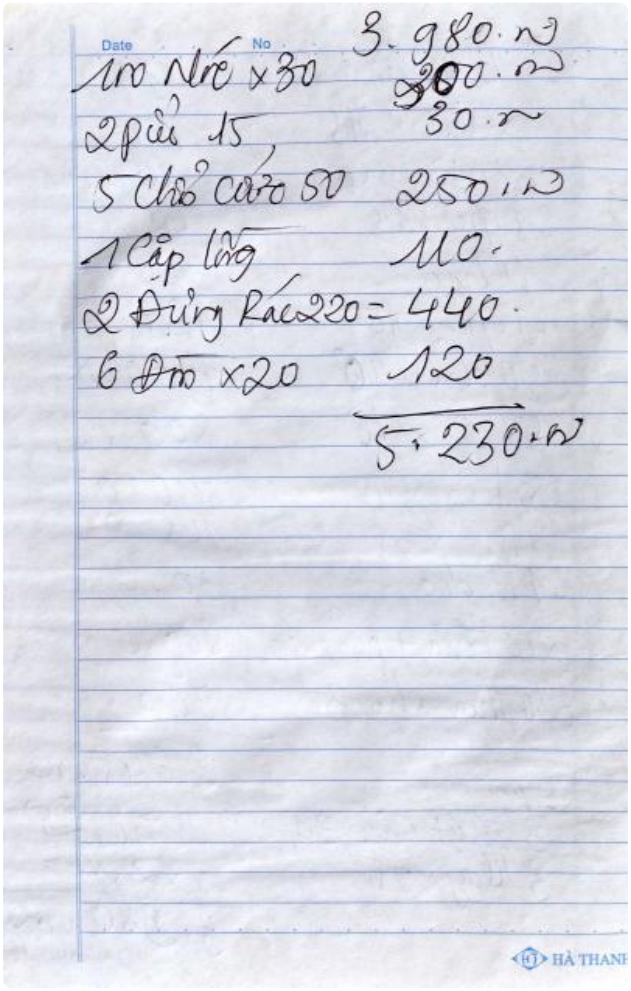
Standing with the purchased items for the orphanage kitchen.

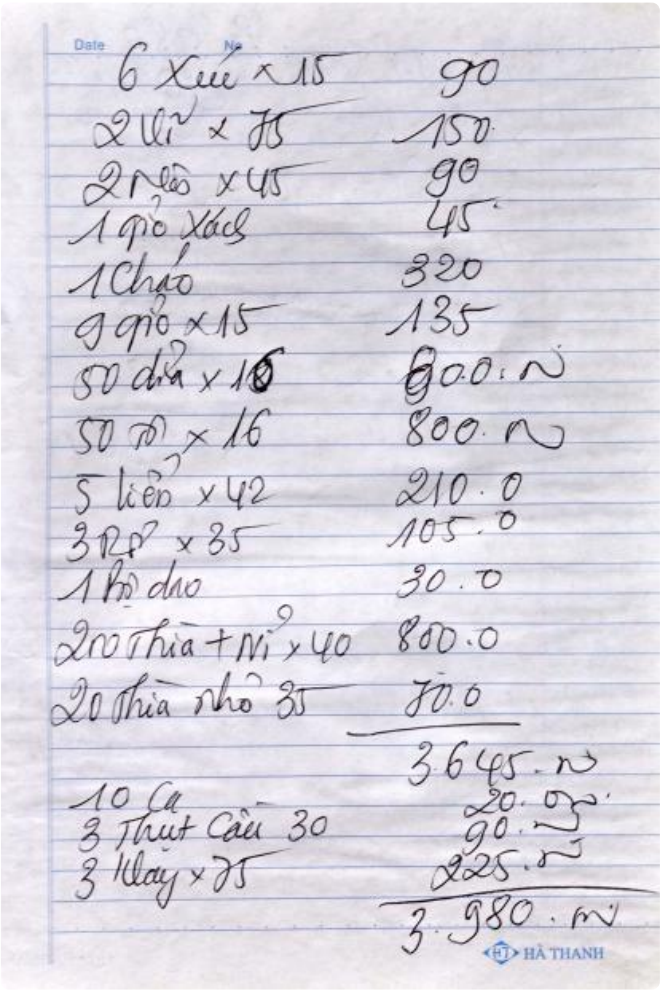




Sisters Hien and Nga, who work at the orphanage, at the market.

Sisters Huong and Hien receive a blender on behalf of the orphanage, from Cathy Moffitt and Marlene Mulcahy in Canberra.





Market seller's sale list for some of the items

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

4. Hoàng Văn Danh

Private tuition and computer course — $500

Description

FoVO provided $500 for Hoàng Văn Danh to undertake private tuition and a residential computer course.

Danh was living at Hướng Phương Orphanage. The assistance was intended to provide additional education and practical computer skills.

Project expenditure

Private tuition and residential computer course for four months — $500

Observation

Rather than providing only general assistance through the orphanage, this project was directed towards education and training for one young person.

The course offered Danh an opportunity to develop practical skills which might later assist him to find work and become more independent.

Reflection

This was a small experiment in individual vocational assistance.

The immediate aim was straightforward: to give Danh an opportunity to develop skills which could improve his future employment prospects.



Hoàng Văn Danh with gift sent by Hoan Ha (via Peter)

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

5. Hướng Phương Orphanage, Quảng Bình

Eight stainless-steel beds — $1,200

Description

FoVO provided eight stainless-steel beds for Hướng Phương Orphanage.

The beds were intended to provide durable sleeping accommodation for children living at the orphanage.

Project expenditure

Eight stainless-steel beds — $1,200

Observation

Beds were a basic requirement in the residential accommodation. Stainless steel was practical for an orphanage because it was durable and relatively easy to keep clean.

Reflection

This was another straightforward equipment project. The need was readily identified, the items could be purchased locally and the result could be easily checked.



Tien Cao visits the special care cottage where a room has been fitted with stainless steel beds.



Boy with behavioural difficulties in a room where timber beds have been damaged



REPORT TO DONORS 2013

6. Hướng Phương Orphanage, Quảng Bình

Electricity supply and voltage stabiliser — $1,800

Description

FoVO provided $1,800 towards improvements to the electricity supply at Hướng Phương Orphanage.

The project included a voltage stabiliser to provide a more reliable electricity supply for the buildings and electrical equipment.

Project expenditure

Electricity supply improvements and voltage stabiliser — $1,800

Observation

An unreliable electricity supply affected the everyday operation of the orphanage and the use of electrical equipment.

The project was therefore less visible than providing beds or a washing machine, but addressed basic infrastructure needed for the orphanage to function.

Reflection

Improving existing infrastructure could sometimes be more useful than providing additional equipment. Electrical appliances were of limited value if the electricity supply itself was unreliable.



Orphanage director with the diesel generator.



Electrical supply room with current, faulty and non-repairable stabiliser.



Voltage stabiliser detail.

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

7. Thuy and Family

Chicken-raising project — $600

Description

FoVO provided $600 to assist Thuy, a young mother who had suffered severe burns and was left with substantial disabilities.

Thanh had provided information about Thuy and her family circumstances. The assistance was intended to help her establish a small home-based livelihood while recovering from her injuries.

The initial project notes referred to pig raising, but later FoVO records confirm that the activity actually established at Thuy's home was chicken raising.

Project expenditure

Assistance towards establishing a small poultry-raising activity — $600

Observation

Thuy had suffered very severe burns and was still recovering, but a home-based activity offered a practical way for her to contribute to the family income.

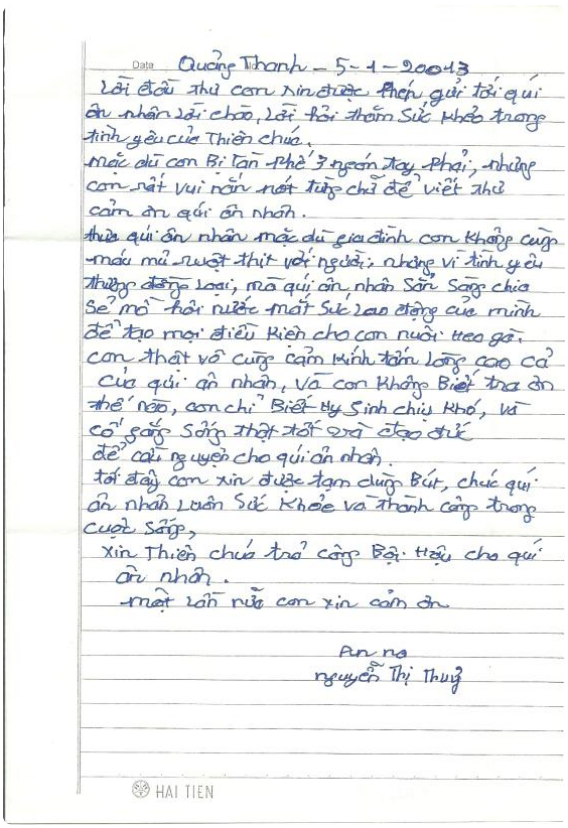
A later FoVO visit recorded that she was raising chickens at her village home and had recovered considerably.

Reflection

This was an attempt to provide something more lasting than emergency assistance by helping Thuy establish an activity she could carry out close to home.



Thuy after release from hospital



Date Quảng Thanh – 5-1-2013

Lời đầu thư con xin được kính gửi tới quí ân nhân lời chào, Lời hỏi thăm Sức Khỏe trong tình yêu của Thiên chúa.

mặc dù con Bị Tàn phế 3 ngón tay phải, nhưng con rất vui mừng một từng chữ để viết thư cảm ơn quí ân nhân.

thưa quí ân nhân mặc dù gia đình con không cùng máu mủ ruột thịt với người, nhưng vì tình yêu thương đồng loại, mà quí ân nhân Sẵn Sàng chia Sẻ mồ hôi nước mắt Sức lao động của mình để tạo mọi điều Kiện cho con nuôi theo gà; con thật vô cùng cảm kính tấm lòng cao cả của quí ân nhân, Và con không Biết trả ơn thế nào, con chỉ Biết Hy Sinh chịu Khó, và cố gắng Sống thật tốt và tạo dực để cầu nguyện cho quí ân nhân.

tới đây con xin được tạm dừng Bút, chúc quí ân nhân Luôn Sức Khỏe và thành công trong cuộc Sống,

Xin Thiên chúa trả công Bội Hậu cho quí ân nhân.

một lần nữa con xin cảm ơn.

Em ma
Nguyễn Thị Thuỷ

HAI TIEN

Letter from Thuy

Thuy's Story Thanh Tam and Peter Kabaila

Thuy lives in a village near Huong Phuong. Her father died when she was young and she grew up with her mother, older sister and brother. Her Mum had to work hard to support the three children. Because their family was so poor, Thuy had to stop school very early.

When Thuy turned 18 she married Hoai, a man from her village. When they had their first baby, it was found to have a serious heart defect that needed a medical operation. The operation would cost about 70 million VND ($3,500A). This was a huge amount of money for the poor family. If they sold all they had, including their small house, it may not have covered the cost of the operation.

The hospital agreed to cover half the cost of the operation. To pay the remainder, Thuy and her husband had to sell everything in the house. They also had to borrow on interest from the bank and from many other people. After the operation, the boy escaped death, but still relies on daily medication. Thuy's husband drives a truck to North Vietnam. He is away from home much of the time, to support the family and repay debts.

In Central Vietnam after giving birth, women in winter use a charcoal fire in a pot to warm the baby and mother and prepare them for the hard physical work in the rice fields and jungle.

Two days after Thuy gave birth to a second son, she loaded charcoal into the pot and sat down beside it, screened by a bamboo mat. Thuy's mother went to the kitchen to cook and look after two grandchildren. After a while, she asked the older boy to check on his mother. The toddler called out but she did not answer him. Curious, he came closer and saw through the bamboo mat that his mother was burning in the flames from the charcoal pot. Terrified, he called his grandmother.

The grandmother was so frightened the sight of her daughter on fire that she could hardly believe her eyes. In shock, she called the neighbours, who immediately drove Thuy to the large hospital in Hanoi, 450kms away.

Thuy had suffered a heart attack while heating herself behind the bamboo screen. Unconscious, she fell into the pot of burning charcoal. Her stomach, breast, right arm and right leg were burnt black and the bone could be seen in some spots.

When Thuy's husband Hoai heard the horrible news, he went immediately to the hospital. Luckily he was driving near Hanoi at that time. At the hospital, Thuy had three operations with skin and muscle grafts taken from her left leg to repair the burns. She was sent home after two weeks in hospital. There were no spare hospital beds and the cost of staying there was too high.

Since Thuy returned home, her mother has looked after her and the two children. It is hard work for the grandmother because Thuy has difficulty moving and needs someone to feed, wash and clothe her.

We arrived at Thuy's house one evening in winter. It was fairly dark and the power had been cut. The house was in poor condition, possibly the poorest home in the village. We called out, "Is there anyone in the house?" and heard Thuy's faint voice coming from the bed. Her mother then came from the kitchen. Thuy's older son was playing with a cousin in the corner of the house and the baby was being sung to sleep in a hammock by his eight year female cousin. The uneven earth floor of the house had a lot of holes. It was furnished with an old table, some second hand chairs and a traditional family altar.

Thuy could not sit up. Although it was a cold winter, she was not able to wear many clothes. Some of her wounds were painful, oozing liquid and infected. Her grandmother asked us to come and have a look at some of the wounds on her daughter's body. These brought tears to my eyes. Because the doctor did major surgery on the left leg, we saw a big hole with some bone protruding. The right leg could not move. The right arm was badly burnt. Three fingers had been so severely burned that they had to be removed.

Thuy has difficulty sleeping at nights. She told me that she always felt severe pain, especially at night time. She was so tired that she had could not move to right or left. But the pain, she said, is nothing compared to when she hears her baby cry from hunger and cold. She said at night the baby could not sleep as it was cold and because he was hungry. Thuy normally cried when she heard the boy cry at night. She was tearful while she was telling us about it.

Thuy then told us that her desire was to recover quickly and look after her baby and feed him. That was all she wanted. She just wanted to hold her child on her arms when he cries but could not. It was difficult for us to hold back our tears at that point.

Thuy showed herself to be a very courageous young woman. She said that God was good to keep her alive. She said, "I still have two fingers on the right hand. Hopefully, in the future I can use these two fingers to hold a spoon when I have a meal." Neighbours feel sorry for Thuy and for the baby. They have brought meals and canned milk for the baby but they are also poor. They do not have much money and life is still hard for them. We gave Thuy some gifts and said goodbye. On the way home, I could not shake off the image of this suffering and brave woman.

After this article was written, Thuy recovered enough to be able to stand and walk. Thuy's family still welcome any financial and social support. Their village community would welcome development projects.

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

8. Hoa Thi Nguyen and Cảnh Văn Hoàng Family

Cow and education assistance — $600

Description

FoVO provided $600 to assist Hoa Thi Nguyen and her children after the death of her husband.

The project was identified and managed by Tien Cao, who was then a seminarian studying in New Zealand.

The assistance combined a small livestock project with support for the children's education.

Project expenditure

- Contribution towards purchase of a calf — $300
- Education assistance for the children — $300

Total — $600

Observation

Hoa Thi Nguyen had three sons and very limited income. She chose to keep a cow as a means of establishing a more stable family income.

A calf cost about 10 million VND. FoVO's first $300 provided about 6 million VND and she intended to borrow the balance required for the purchase. The second $300 was intended to assist with the boys' schooling.

Reflection

This project had particular personal meaning for Tien. His own father had died when he was young, and he understood something of the difficulties faced by a mother raising children after the loss of her husband.

At this time both Tien and Thanh were seminarians studying in New Zealand and were among the young Vietnamese contacts helping FoVO identify and follow up individual families.







Cảnh Văn Hoàng

Canh's Story

Cảnh Văn Hoàng (b 2004) attends year 3 at Kim Lu Primary School (Kim Hoa, Tuyen Hoa, Quang Binh Province). His family moved from their home village of Ke Dong, Thach Dien, Thach Ha, Ha Tinh Province, which is north of Quang Binh province where they currently live.

Canh's family circumstances are particularly difficult. His father Niem Van Hoang was killed in an accident in 2007, leaving a wife and three boys. The boys' mother, Hoa Thi Nguyen, (b 1977) is 36 years old and is highly unlikely to remarry. The eldest boy, Quang Van Hoang (b 2001) is12 years old and attends year 5 at school. Canh is the second son in the family. The youngest boy (b 2006) is 7 years old and still in kindergarten.

Canh's mother cultivates rice on a very small plot of only 1,000 square meters. She could not raise enough money to pay government school fees for the boys. So she left the boys with their grandmother and went to Saigon to work as a servant for a wealthier family. She was still not able to raise enough money to pay for the children's schooling and so has returned home. Although she has a lot of difficulties, she does not want her sons to stop studying.

Information provided by Fr. Micae (Michael) Huong Xuan Hoang Kim Lu Parish, Kim Hoa, Tuyen Hoa, Quang Binh

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

9. Child's Heart Operation

Heart surgery — $2,800

Description

FoVO provided $2,800 towards a heart operation for a child requiring specialist treatment.

The assistance was based on a quotation from Hanoi Heart Hospital. The purpose of the project was stated simply in the contemporary project record:
"The objective of this project is to save the life of one child."

Project expenditure

Contribution towards heart operation — $2,800

Observation

This was a very different project from providing equipment or scholarships. The need concerned one child and the assistance was directed towards a specific medical procedure.

The hospital quotation provided a clear basis for deciding the amount of assistance.

Reflection

The project was deliberately small in scale. FoVO could not address the much larger problem of children needing expensive medical treatment, but it could respond to one clearly identified case where assistance might make a critical difference.



Dau Thuy Tien and her mother Pham Thi Huong with Sister Nguyen Thi Tu, case worker for many of the women who come to the convent for help.



Dau Thuy Tien, who requires surgery



Dau Thuy Tien and her mother Pham Thi Huong with Peter.



SỞ Y TẾ HÀ NỘI
BỆNH VIỆN TIM HÀ NỘI

CỘNG HOÀ XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM
Độc lập – Tự do – Hạnh phúc

GIẤY HẸN BỆNH NHÂN VÀO VIỆN PHẪU THUẬT

Họ và tên bệnh nhân: Dau Thuy Tien ..... Tuổi: 8/2012 ..... Nam/Nữ
Địa chỉ: Quỳnh Lưu - Nghệ An ..... Điện thoại .....
Chẩn đoán: TLT nặng - Còn ống nhỏ - TAĐMP .....
Chỉ định điều trị: Mổ mở toàn bộ sớm .....
Kinh phí dự kiến: 60 Triệu .....
Hẹn ngày vào viện: 9 giờ, ngày .....tháng .....năm 201
Có mặt tại Bệnh viện Tim Hà Nội: Số 92 Trần Hưng Đạo, để làm thủ tục vào viện.
Lưu ý: Kinh phí phẫu thuật phải nộp đủ khi làm thủ tục vào viện.

Hà Nội, ngày 27 tháng 11 năm 2012

Ghi chú:
1. Nếu là bệnh nhân BHYT:
   - Thẻ BHYT còn hạn
   - Giấy chuyển viện đúng tuyến
2. Điện thoại liên hệ: 043.9426623

GIÁM ĐỐC

PGS TS. Nguyễn Quang Tuấn

Hospital quote for $2,800

Background Story - Saving One Child at a Time - Dau Thuy Tien

Pham Thi Huong is a foster mother. She is 35 years old and her husband of 36 is disabled. When they realised they could not have children of their own, they adopted Thuy Tien at birth from an unmarried mother. When I met Huong at the convent she had just been to the hospital with her adopted baby. She had travelled all the way from Nghe An province, an area with many poor villages. At the Hanoi Heart Hospital she discovered that her baby Thuy Tien will die from a heart condition unless the hospital operates. The Hospital's quote was $2,800. Huong arrived at the convent to seek help at the same time that I was visiting. With tears in her eyes, she explained that she had used up her family's money to travel to Hanoi and get the hospital examination for her baby

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

10. Village Kindergarten and Clinic

Equipment — $3,000

Description

FoVO provided $3,000 for equipment for a village kindergarten and clinic.

The project provided practical assistance for two basic community services used by local families.

Project expenditure

Kindergarten and clinic equipment — $3,000

Observation

This project reflected FoVO's broadened objectives. Assistance was no longer confined to Hướng Phương Orphanage, but could be provided to practical projects within village communities.

The kindergarten and clinic offered an opportunity to assist children and families through existing local services.

Reflection

Supporting existing community facilities provided a simple way for a small charity to extend the benefit of a donation beyond one individual or institution.



The house was built in 1971 and is now used as a medical clinic and kindergarten, run by Catholic nuns.



Staff and children in kindergarten room.



Children at Chuyen My kindergarten.



Natural healing clinic main treatment room.



Heated herbal poultice to relieve muscle pain.



Massage treatment for joint problems

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

11. Vinh Orphanage

Winter clothing for disabled children — $350

Description

FoVO provided winter clothing for children with disabilities living at an orphanage in Vinh.

Project expenditure

Winter clothing — 7 million VND ($350)

Observation

This was the smallest funded project recorded during the period.

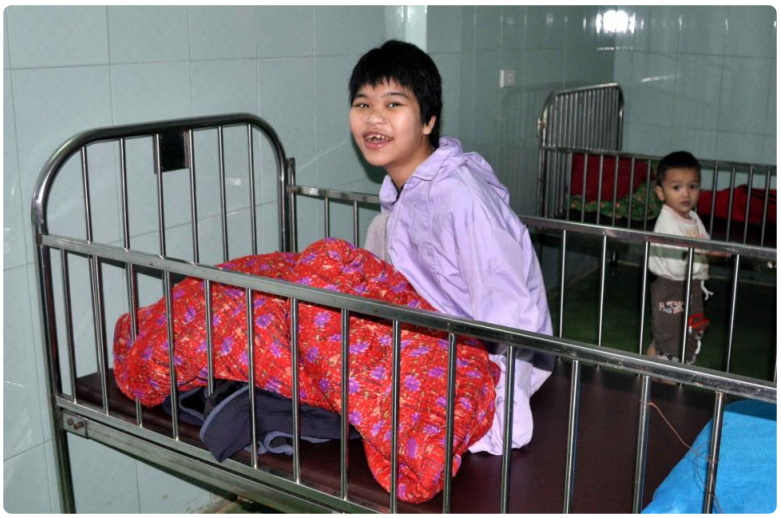
The assistance addressed a simple and immediate need for children living in residential care during the colder weather.

Reflection

A useful project did not need to be large or complicated. This was a modest purchase directed towards an easily identified need.



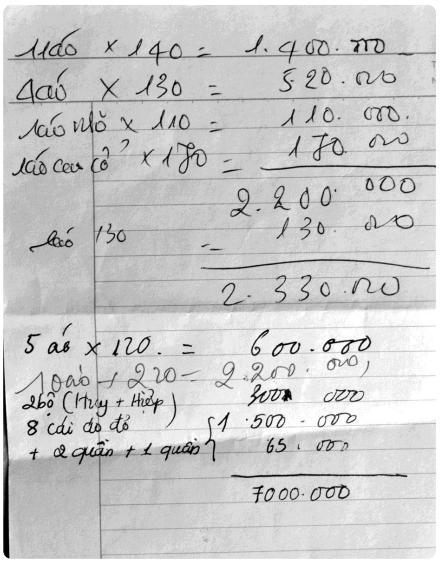
Leigh Kabaila visits one of the dormitories.



Child at the orphanage



Sisters in charge of the orphanage buying at the market.



Market seller's list.

REPORT TO DONORS 2013

Stories from the Year

The following stories were recorded during the 2013 field visit. They provide some of the personal background to projects described in this report.

Thuy — Recovering After the Burns

Thanh and I visited Thuy, a young mother living near Hướng Phương who had suffered terrible burns in an accident.

Thuy could not sit up and many of her wounds were still painful and infected. Three fingers on her badly burnt right hand had been amputated. At night she had difficulty sleeping because of the pain.

What worried her most, however, was her baby. She told us that she could hear him crying at night because he was hungry and cold, but she could not pick him up and comfort him.

Thuy said that all she wanted was to recover sufficiently to look after her child. Despite her injuries she remained hopeful about what she might eventually be able to do with the two fingers remaining on her right hand.

Neighbours were helping with meals and milk for the baby, although they themselves had little money.

FoVO provided $600 to help Thuy and her family establish a small home-based livelihood. The original project paperwork referred to raising pigs, but the activity actually established was raising chickens.

A later visit found Thuy much stronger and recovering well. She was raising chickens at her village home and FoVO subsequently considered helping her restock with young chicks.

A COW AND SCHOOLING FOR CẢNH'S FAMILY

Tien Cao identified a family in particularly difficult circumstances in Quảng Bình.

Hoa Thi Nguyen's husband had been killed in an accident, leaving her with three young sons. She cultivated only a very small area of rice land and could not earn enough to pay the boys' school costs.

At one stage she left the children with their grandparents and travelled south to Saigon to work as a servant. Even this did not provide enough money. She returned home because she wanted to care for her sons and was determined that they should continue their education.

FoVO provided $600 for a simple two-part project managed by Tien.

The first $300 went towards buying a calf. A calf cost about 10 million VND. FoVO's contribution provided about 6 million VND and Hoa intended to borrow the balance. The cow was intended to provide the family with a small, more stable source of income.

The remaining $300 was set aside for the boys' education.

I remember this project as having particular meaning for Tien. He was then a seminarian studying in New Zealand and his own father had died when he was young. Thanh, who also helped FoVO identify people needing assistance, was likewise a seminarian in New Zealand at this time.

Saving One Child at a Time

The project record began with one very simple sentence:
"The objective of this project is to save the life of one child."

Phạm Thị Hương and her husband could not have children of their own and had adopted Đậu Thủy Tiên at birth. Hương's husband was disabled and the family had very little money.

When I met Hương at the convent, she had travelled from Nghệ An Province after taking her baby to Hanoi Heart Hospital.

Doctors had found that Thủy Tiên had a serious heart condition and required an operation. Hương had already used the family's available money travelling to Hanoi and obtaining the hospital examination.

She arrived at the convent seeking help while I happened to be visiting.

FoVO obtained the hospital quotation and provided $2,800 towards the operation.

It was a very small project when measured against the number of children needing medical assistance in Vietnam. For one child and her family, however, it was anything but small.