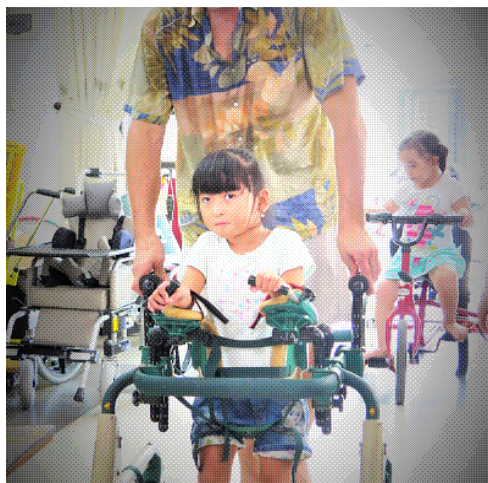


## Disabilities News



*Sitting Clinic – Trying out a walking frame*



*Making new friends*



In the province of Quang Nam, there are many children with disabilities who are in need of a mobility aids. Global Mobility has donated wheelchairs and other necessary equipment to children through CHIA. In response to their generous support, CHIA contacted some families and provided wheelchairs and walking frames where needed. The families are very happy and grateful because the equipment can help improve their children's quality of life.

Often, the conditions in the lives of children who live with disabilities can be severely affected if no intervention is provided in the form of proper rehabilitation and mobility equipment. In Vietnam, many of such families are very poor and cannot afford mobility devices. Most of the children remain housebound, either left lying or moving around on the floor or bed. They lack the proper equipment to allow them to experience their surroundings and improve their daily functions. Like other children in society, they are also very eager to play and be included in the world outside. A mobility aid such as a wheelchair or walking frame provides the bridge that allows these children and their families to pursue this dream. For those able, they can learn to wheel themselves while others are transported to participate in the community by their family.

The families are very grateful to receive the mobility devices. We hope Global Mobility and CHIA's donors will continue to support many other disadvantaged people. Once again, CHIA would like to send our deepest thanks for your on-going support.

*Written by Dinh Thi Thuy Phuong*



## Education News

Carry a smile!

A girl named Ngoc was born into a poor family with three siblings. Ngoc is 15 years old and the eldest child in her family. The family is presently living near the beach in a small metal and bamboo framed house with a palm leaf roof. Storms and heavy rain are a real menace to their unstable house. Understanding this difficult situation, the government has selected the family for their resettlement program providing the family with a new house in the near future, however there is no specific timeline on the move at this time. We hope that Ngoc and her family will receive the support to build a new house and to have a better life.

Ngoc's father is a fisherman who is often at sea. Ngoc's mother works part time as a house keeper with a \$50 US per month income. With a low income, Ngoc's parents have great difficulty in raising their four children. The family can barely afford all of their basic living costs and therefore cannot afford the school expenses for all of their children. All four children are currently at school age with a high risk of not having a proper education due to the family's financial difficulties.

Ngoc achieved good results at school, especially during the first semester of grade 9 this year 2016. When talking to Ngoc about her studies, she said that she would have a better chance of getting a good education if she would have enough money to pay for the learning fees. Ngoc really loves to learn Mathematics and she hopes that she is able to finish high school and apply to Da Nang Pedagogical University. CHIA is proud and grateful that through donors' contributions, Ngoc is receiving a good education and is pursuing her dreams.

*Written by Nguyen Minh Vu*

*Education Sponsorship Co-ordinator*



*Outside of the house*



*Ngoc and her mother*



*Ngoc's study corner*

**To Support CHIA Please visit us at**

**[www.ChildrensHopeInAction.org](http://www.ChildrensHopeInAction.org)**

## Medical Project

### Sexual Education Workshop for Secondary School Students

Sex is still a very sensitive topic in Viet Nam. Most Vietnamese do not dare to talk about it or to share with others to gain more knowledge about sexual health. This is the primary reason that makes the teenagers' abortion rate in Vietnam ranked the top five in the world.

*"On 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015, according to Mr. Dao Van Dung, Director of the Department of Social Affairs; abortion rate in adolescents of Vietnam is high, accounting for about 20% of all abortions annually (about 300,000 cases) . The rate of abortion among adolescents remains high compared to other Southeast Asian countries."*

In Vietnam, there is rudimentary lessons about the body's structure and development in grade 9 Biology and virtually nothing related to sexual health and the reproductive system.

Like any other teenagers, Vietnamese teenagers now have access to the Internet providing greater exposure to the topic through various medias and are generally curious about having sex. Unfortunately, without the proper knowledge on the issue, many are having sex without protection. The result is higher risk of sexually transmitted diseases and unwanted pregnancies resulting in abortion.

CHIA found it necessary to establish a "Sexual health education program for Vietnamese teenagers". We hope to bring more knowledge about sexual health to the students in our community. Our initial plan is to deliver to 8 secondary schools in Duy Xuyen, a poor district in Central Viet Nam. So far, we have delivered the training in 4 schools with positive outcomes. The students were really excited to receive the information and a great number of students participated in the question and answer sessions with our experienced midwife educator. We find it very encouraging that the training CHIA is providing has already helped to generate healthy discussions on a very sensitive topic as well as providing a platform for the students to learn about safe sex.

Through this article, we hope that more people will help us to continue to pursue this meaningful work. We hope to reduce the number of the abortion rate and improve the health of our youth and community.



*Separate workshop for male & female*



*Looking at Sexual Booklet*



*Question and answer with midwife educator*



## The Residence

### THANKS TO PAST DAYS

Nhung is a shy and diligent young woman at The CHIA Residence. This 18 year old woman has performed so well at school and was selected to study in the gifted class. She has ranked at the top of the students at her high school every semester. This is however not her best quality. Despite sometimes not knowing how to solve her mountain of exercises, Nhung is always willing to help the younger students at the Residence with their work. She is a bigger sister, a tutor and a mentor for the younger students.

When we first met Nhung, she was a very reserved person and was afraid to speak in public. It took a long time for Nhung to become familiar with everyone at the Residence, her now away from home family. Over the two years living at the Residence, she realized that this new big family is indispensable in



*Nhung in her school uniform*

As Nhung looks back, she feels thankful that the difficult time for her family has passed. Nhung is thankful to life for teaching her many valuable lessons. She is thankful for the gift given to her amazing father, a fisherman who has worked hard his whole life at sea to earn a little amount of money for their family. She is thankful for her admirable mother who ignored her own medical condition and works every day so her daughter would not miss a meal. She is also thankful to life for training her to be a fearless, hardworking and independent person who can now spend time to help her parents after class.

Nhung has every right to be proud of her parents and of herself as well. The difficulties have passed and the peaceful days have come. We are really proud of her and her accomplishments. The Residence will always be her BIG family for Nhung.

*Written by Nguyen Thi Yen Nhi*



*Nhung's daily life at the Residence*

***Proudly sponsored by Jochnick Foundation***

## Life As a Volunteer

*One step at a time....*

I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to work at CHIA's POD (Program of Development) program the past few months as a volunteer Occupational Therapist (OT). It was a great learning experience and one that was most cherished and rewarding. The rewards were the children's beautiful smiles. My clinical background has been primarily working with adults and older adults in Canada, and only minimal volunteer experience with this population. I was therefore quite anxious before starting and uncertain how I may contribute. Luckily, the previous volunteer OT provided some information ahead of time and the team was extremely helpful and supporting.



*Learning to be independent with daily tasks*



*Practice lacing and hand therapy*

My goal at POD was to play a supporting role to the existing program and provided complimentary therapy. As POD already have a good physical therapy program in place for each child, a focus on daily activities with the kids was needed. Feeding time at first was a struggle but with proper set up and re-enforcement from the whole team, half of our children can now feed themselves independently. Shower and toileting also became a daily 1:1 therapy time. In fact every interaction became an opportunity for play, teaching / learning and for stimulating their beautiful minds and body. I am very excited to share that half of the children learned to dress, undress and use the commode on their own or at times with minimal supervision or assistance. It is quite an achievement for the children and our team within such a short time. Hip Hip Hooray!!!

This however was only the first step of many in the children's journey. More challenging steps await at home and in the community once they leave the program. There will be a lot of work ahead for these transitions. I wish them all the best and am saddened that I am not able to join them for the latter part of the children's progress.

CHIA's POD is one of two available charity facilities supporting children and family with disabilities within Quang Nam province and the only one within city limits. The program is extremely valuable to this community and the amount of work for the caregivers and the

## Make a donation

### From Australia

**(tax-deductible receipts available to Australian donors for donations of \$2 and over)**

#### Deposit into CHIA's bank account:

Bank: Bendigo Bank  
Branch: Corrimal, NSW, Australia  
Account name:

Children's Hope In Action  
BSB: 633000  
Account number: 127543924  
BPay biller code: 342949  
Swift/IBAN code: BENDAU3B

#### Post a cheque / money order to:

### From the USA

In order for donations from US citizens to be tax-deductible we have partnered with Global Development Group USA.

Please stipulate that your donation is to go to

**"Project J156 - CHIA's Quang Nam Project Vietnam".**

#### Donate online:

[www.globaldevelopmentusa.org](http://www.globaldevelopmentusa.org)

#### Post a cheque to:

Global Development Group USA  
Project J156 - Children's Hope in

### From Anywhere in the World

You can donate to CHIA from anywhere in the World using details provided in the "From Australia" section.

While we will provide you with an official record of your donation, at this time we are unable to offer

Please visit us at

[www.ChildrensHopeInAction.org](http://www.ChildrensHopeInAction.org)



## Since the beginning CHIA has

*Since October 2015 Newsletter, CHIA has*

Provided Health insurance for **363** children

Supported **117**  
Orthopedic diagnostics, **30**  
Orthopedic surgery

**19** Hearing assessments

Cancer treatment for **9** children

**287** Cardiac assessments  
Heart surgery for **55**  
children

**34** Cleft lip and palate  
surgery, **16** Cleft-lip  
assessment

**8** Facial deformity  
surgery, **23** facial  
deformity assessments

**20** Colo-rectal surgery

**1064** Flu, **97** Hepatitis B,  
**49** Rubella and **24** chicken-  
pox vaccinations

Hepatitis B test for **53**  
children

**1,611** Baseline medical  
assessment & treatment  
**1,106** Medicine support

Helped **75** children  
access nutritional support

Provided **688** tins of milk  
powder & **2,304** boxes of  
fresh milk

Completed community  
health education about "In-

Managed a Residence of **30**  
children

Awarded **177** students for  
improvement

Kept **104** children  
attending school

Provided **55** bicycles for  
school students

Sponsored kindergarten for  
**14** toddlers

Helped **19** teenagers  
access vocational training

Provided glasses for **11** children

Tet gifts and celebrations for  
**876** children

Built **22** new houses,  
repaired **3** houses, **7**  
water and sanitation  
system for **1** primary school  
and **6** families, **1** piggery  
and **8** piglets as livelihood  
support

Provided **176** wheelchairs

Delivered **5,713** physical  
therapy sessions

Provided **56** other pieces of  
disability equipment

**150** Cpas training  
sessions (CHIA Practical and  
Life Skills)

**6** Aqua therapy sessions

Conducted **73** home  
visits

Medicine support for **2** children

**2** Baseline assessment &  
treatment

**528** Therapy sessions

Sexual Education for **580**  
teenagers

Maintained **69**  
children in Education  
sponsorship program

Tertiary sponsorship for  
**8** children

Maintained a Residence for  
**19** children

Nutrition support for **9** children

Provided **11** wheelchairs, 2  
walking frames

Provided **3** tins of milk  
powder & **624** boxes of  
fresh milk