



## Quarterly Newsletter



Children's Hope in Action  
improving lives, saving futures



*Thanks to the excellent collaboration with other local NGOs in Hoi An, together we were able to bring aid to the community.*



Welcome dear readers to our quarterly newsletter update for May—September 2016! Our recent focus at CHIA has been on educational and nutritional sponsorship.

As you may have seen via our social media communications, CHIA collaborated with the Lifestart Foundation and other NGOs in the region in providing \$45 000 AUD (900 000 000 VND) of milk to poor, sick and disabled children in the Quang Nam province!

This initiative was hosted by the Hoi An City Division of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs, and is one of many distribution days which will significantly improve the nutrition of babies and young children from birth to 2 years old. Each family received 3-months supply of the high-quality milk formula. Lifestart Foundation was happy to be able to share this donation with 50 disadvantaged families from CHIA and Kianh Foundation.

This milk formula is produced and packed in Australia under the strict supervision of the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, to ensure that the nutritional value is of the highest standard. This generous contribution from Australian supporters will benefit so many families and young children in particular. "Australians are a generous people, and they have been extremely supportive of Lifestart Foundation projects" Karen explained, herself a native Australian who has been based in Hoi An for sixteen years. "The donors of this incredibly generous gift, we have all worked closely with the local government, provincial and district authorities to ensure that this milk will go to genuinely deserving families, and that it will make a real difference to the health of so many young children at the start of life".

Recently we had the pleasure of attending Da Nang Rehabilitation Hospital by invitation, to choose and collect 30 wheelchairs for children with disabilities living in Quang Nam Province! Each year 'Global Mobility USA' a wonderful charity organisation, brings wheelchairs and other equipment to Vietnam. These lovely volunteers came to CHIA to fit all of the wheelchairs for each individual child. Their kindness for the children of CHIA and other disadvantaged Vietnamese people with disabilities is an extraordinary act of compassionate charity. They are an amazing, talented and very experienced group of people with hearts of gold. We thank them for their generosity and care and wonderful sense of humour. We look forward to seeing you again in the near future.

There is so much going on at CHIA and with your help in donations, fundraising or sponsorship, you can help us improve lives and save futures! We have many up-coming events and projects to come in the next few months in education and health, and we can not do all of this without your generosity to CHIA. New volunteers are helping us every little step and their time and contribution is commendable.

**Inside this newsletter edition are hyperlinks to our webpages.  
Please get involved and help CHIA any way you can.**



*Thanks to our friends at the Lifestart Foundation and Global Mobility, CHIA were able to provide life-changing resources for the children and families you support!.*



## Disabilities News

Previously I've written about a story of the girl Duong, she has cerebral palsy and had been abandoned at birth. Luckily she was adopted by a kindness couple. Duong joined our POD (Program Of Development) class at CHIA for 2 years. After a lot of time trying to practice, now she can do well the functions of daily living by herself as: as toileting, dressing, moving with support tools etc.. Now she is 6 years old and her parents are looking forward to her going to school just like other children. They are planning for the big day of Duong, we can say it's a major turning point since the early years of Duong.

Besides the joy there is also a lot of concern, worry, because Duong does not have a perfect body like other normal kids. They fear she will not keep up with other children mentally as well as physically. But the desire for their daughters will give a better future, this faith inspire them every day seeing a gradual increase - that their child will be in school and they will be a success.

*Ms Nhung with some of her amazing CHIA children!*



Fortunately for them that although their daughter is small, she has a highly independent spirit. She always tries her best to do therapy and not disappoint the expectations of parents. Her efforts have created an expected result as today – her family have more confidence in taking their daughter to school. Duong's family would love to send their most sincere thanks to the enthusiastic support of all CHIA staff and donors.

We are glad to know that there is a primary school that received her profile. We hope Duong will complete her studies, knowing that her journey will have many difficulties ahead - but we all believe that a new door, a new horizon is opening for Duong - to help Duong reach the light at the end of the road.

Best wishes to Duong and her family, always happy. We love you.

*Written by Dinh Thi Thuy Phuong*

*Duong brings a beam of light into our lives, everyday.*



*Duong is so happy at CHIA, she is becoming an independent and confident child now with a brighter future.*





## Education News

Anh is 17 years old and about to enter year 12. Tu is 15 years old and about to enter year 9. They live with their mother and five older siblings in a remote village of Quang Nam Province. Anh and Tu's father passed away in December 2015 after a four-year battle with cancer. Before their father passed away, the family were hard workers and owned their own business which was profitable and all of the children's needs were being met. However, since his passing, the mother had to find a job at a local brick factory, which is very low paying, and it is taking a toll on her hands and health. Anh and Tu's oldest brother also had to leave school to work at the brick factory to earn money for the family. The mother had to sell most of their furniture to pay for the father's medical therapy and now they are left with minimal belongings. The family has no extended family and is isolated with some neighbours willing to help with food some of the time.

Anh and Tu's oldest sister just graduated from university completing Mathematic subjects, he does tutoring to pay for her own education and help contribute something towards the bills and to feed the family. Anh wants to go to university to become a lawyer, so she can work to contribute to the family. Anh is very bright and does very well at school, gaining good grades. Considering her situation, she hopes to finish high school in the future but she does not know yet if she will get to go to university and become a professional one day.

In Vietnam, the families are responsible for the total cost of sending their children to school. Therefore, if the mother is unable to pay for Anh's education, she will have to also work at the brick factory to help support the family. The family has a 'Poor Certification Status' from the government. As you can see from the pictures their home is very basic, although they do have a bathroom block which is considered very valuable. Anh and her sister share a bed in the living room. The family is very close and the children cook, clean, and support each other.

With the support and care from a donor in providing sponsorship for An and Tu's education, they could be given the opportunity to have a chance at finding a better future. Their will to succeed could be nourished by your generosity, so that they can attend school and fulfill their dreams.

*By Ms Jeanne Grant*

*Marketing and communications Manager seeking Education Sponsorships*



*Tu VT with her sister Anh VT*



*CHIA visited the girls at their home in Duy Xuyen District*



*With your help, CHIA has been able to bring new hope and education to these two delightful girls.*

*How could you help change someone's life?*



**To Support the families and children of CHIA, please donate, sponsor and fundraise with us at**

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

## Medical Update

**Striving to provide a future for those in need!**



Son TV is aged 12 years old, he suffers from severe cardiac disease and CHIA has been supporting him since 2009 due to his medical problems. In 2009 Son was diagnosed and was told that he could not have surgery within Vietnam and he was given medication. In 2010 Son had further tests as his condition was not improving and advised him that he has very severe Pulmonary hypertension (PH), but he was told he still could not have surgery. In 2011 Son was admitted to hospital due to severe difficulties in breathing. Son was seen by a German doctor who again said Son could not receive surgery and he was placed on more medication. Today Son continues to struggle and he tries to go about his life and attend school every day however this is difficult. CHIA will continue to support Son and seek medical advice to help him live a comfortable life as much as possible.







## *Life As a Volunteer*

My name is David and I am from Oxford, U.K. I am volunteering with CHIA for 5 months through the summer and autumn of 2016. I came to Vietnam in June this year and began working with CHIA shortly after. This is my first time living in Asia and it is a completely new and exciting experience for me.

As well as working at CHIA, I live and work down the road in Da Nang City teaching English as a second language. I have a lovely morning commute to Hoi An along the beachfront and past the famous marble mountain on my motorbike. I had never driven a car or scooter before I came to Vietnam! However, I faced the challenge of the lively roads, jumped on a bike and I'm so glad I did! To work in a place like Hoi An is a real treat. Many tourists and travellers come from far and wide to visit this beautiful place. I am lucky enough to come to this amazing place on a weekly basis. I would encourage anyone who has the chance to visit this fantastic town (and, of course, drop in at CHIA while you're here)!

Settling into a new workplace can be a difficult experience, never mind in a new country! Thanks to all the staff at CHIA, they have made me feel extremely welcome. The work CHIA's carers do for the children here sets a fantastic example about how to approach your work.

One of the great things about working for a small organisation like CHIA is you can see how the whole organisation function right in front of your eyes. You see donations come in as a result of the fantastic fundraising efforts of the staff here and then how it is used to run effective projects, which really benefit children in the surrounding areas.

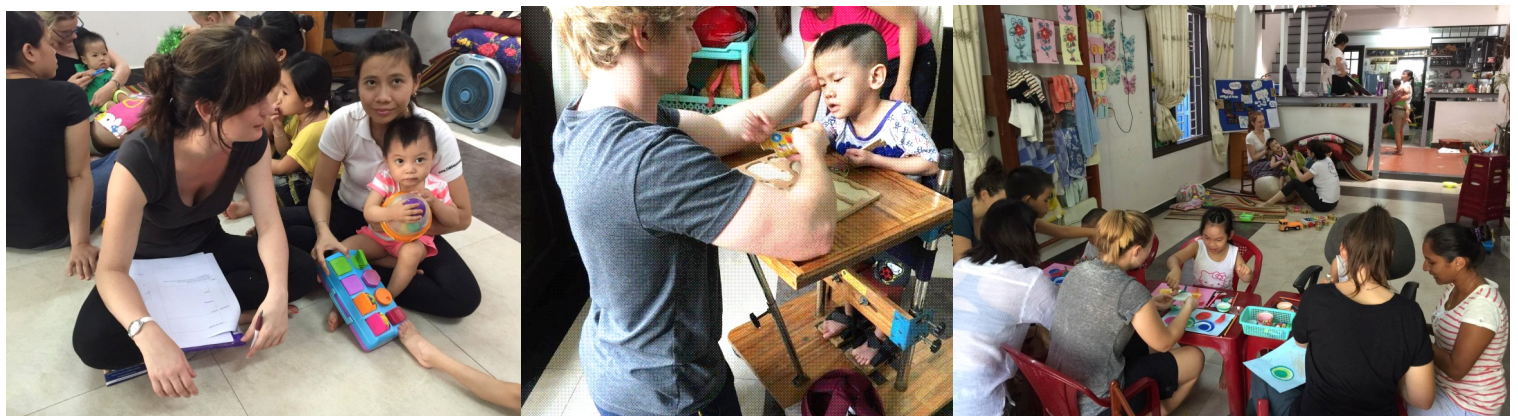
Doing home visits to children that CHIA support has also been an eye-opening experience for me. Close to Da Nang and Hoi An, with all their amenities, are villages filled with people living far more simple and less privileged lives. It is great to see the positive impact CHIA's support has for these families and their children. I hope I can make a significant contribution to the great work CHIA does and support everyone else here in their efforts during my stay.



David hard at work in the office, helping to influence sustainable development in the CHIA community.



**CHIA was also very lucky to have Australian Catholic University students come and volunteer their time and skills, putting their knowledge into practice with our children. Thank you so much and see**





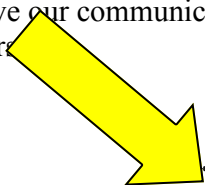
*Marketing and Communications*

The management team at CHIA has been working hard to conduct outreach visits to children in rural Quang Nam Province in an effort to identify poor children in need of education and nutrition sponsorship support. The team visited 22 Families in Hoi An, and Duy Tan – Duy Xuyen, Quang Nam Province with the assistance of the local government and we discovered over 40 disadvantaged children requiring education and/or nutrition sponsorship.

Most of these children live in homes with loving families however, it is very evident that the family members earn very little income due to some serious and unfortunate life situations. For example, a family of three young children lost their mother in 2015 to an accident whereby she was crushed by the water tank, which fell through their roof. Shortly after this occurred, the father was severely injured in a motorcycle crash, leaving him permanently disabled. The family has become very poor and is now supported by their elderly grandparents working in the fields.

There are many stories like this one but the good news is that we have located 22 generous sponsors for the poorest and neediest children and await further donors for the other children. There is great need to find sponsors for the disadvantaged children in our province therefore staff will continue to seek support from around the world who can make a significant difference in a child's life.

The CHIA logo below is a hyperlink to an important CHIA survey. It is a short 2-minute survey we would like you to complete in order to help CHIA improve our communication and services for our sponsors, donors and partners.



By Ms Jeanne Grant  
Marketing and communications Manager  
Children's Hope in Action  
improving lives, saving futures



A huge thank you to our IT volunteer Kitka Hiltula from Australia [below]. Whenever there is a problem, she is there to fix it. We acknowledge Her long-term contribution to CHIA. We could not do this without you!

**Make a donation or sponsor a child****From Australia**

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

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

Bank: Bendigo Bank  
Branch: Corrimall, 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. We can provide a tax-deductible receipt.

Please stipulate your donation to:  
**"Project J156 - CHIA's Quang Nam Project Vietnam".**

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

**Post a cheque to:**

Global Development Group USA  
Project J156 – Children's Hope in Action

**From Anywhere in the World**

You can [donate](#) or [sponsor a child](#) directly through our [CHIA website](#), or with our partnership with [Global Development Group \(GDG\)](#).

**Click on the hyperlinks in this newsletter to be redirected to our**

Help CHIA fundraise via  
Global Giving

[https://www.globalgiving.org/  
projects/educating-  
disadvantaged-girls-in-central-](https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/educating-disadvantaged-girls-in-central)

*Since 2006 CHIA has accomplished:**In education, housing & residential services:*

Tet Vietnamese celebrations and gifts for **895** 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

Managed a Residence of **30** children

Awarded **177** students for improvement

Mid autumn festival for **1,957** children

Provided **63** bicycles for school students

Kept **120** children attending school

Sponsored kindergarten for **19** toddlers

**100** education packs for children at a kindergarten in the village

Hosted **41** Intrepid tours.

Helped **19** teenagers access vocational training

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

Provided handmade quilts and clothing for **20** children

**19** children attended the "Australian Taste" event in Da Nang hosted by Australian Consular General

Organized a day trip for **77** children on Person with disability day

Provides sexual education for **580** teenagers

*In health and disability services:*

**6** Aqua therapy sessions

Provided Health insurance for **363** children

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

Provided glasses for **11** children

Delivered **7,573** physical therapy sessions

Provided **59** various disability equipment

**4** group of **27** therapy specialists providing **140** therapy sessions for **10** children with disabilities

**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 assessments

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

**20** Colo-rectal surgery

**1064** Flu, **97** Hepatitis B, **49** Rubella, **24** chicken-pox vaccinations and **53** Hepatitis B tests for children

**1,618** Baseline medical treatment and assessments

**1,106** Medicine support

Nutritional access and support for **121** children

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

Completed community health education about " Infant

*Since June 2016 CHIA has accomplished:*

Conducted **74** home visits

Medicine support for **2** children

**3** Baseline assessment & treatment

**1,056** Therapy sessions

Maintained **69** children in Education sponsorship program plus **16** more new education sponsorships

Tertiary sponsorship for **8** children

Sponsor kindergarten for **5** toddlers

Provided **8** bicycles for school students

Nutrition support for **15** children

Provided **6** wheelchairs for children with disabilities

**3** group of **20** therapy specialists providing **100** therapy sessions for **12** children with disabilities

Provided handmade quilts and clothing for **4** children

Cooperated with LifeStart foundation to provide formula for **40** infants

Mid Autumn Festival gifts for **115** children