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# Children's Hope In Action

*Improving lives, saving futures!*

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March 2017

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

## Quarterly Newsletter



Children's Hope in Action  
improving lives, saving futures

Welcome dear readers to our quarterly newsletter update for March 2017!

Our recent focus at CHIA has been on educational and nutritional sponsorship however, it has been a very busy months with lots of activities and events which we are very proud to be part of.



CHIA staff had the great pleasure of attending Streets International Class 8 Graduation where one of our own CHIA boy made his graduation. Nguyen Van Linh has been sponsored by CHIA through our Residential program and education sponsorship and began his journey into the food world 18 months ago. Linh graduated with high prospects and comments from his teacher as being very smart and having a great future.

Streets International give a fantastic opportunity to poor teenage children of Hoi An by sponsoring them into their culinary school, giving the children a bright and prosperous future. Most of these graduates are now working in 5 star hotel across Vietnam and the world.



Past and present students of CHIA's education sponsorship and residence also attended the gala event and were happy to see CHIA staff. It gives CHIA great pride to see these children develop and move forward in their lives.

Rotary International is an international service organization whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and to advance goodwill and peace around the world.



Mr Howard Goldin, the founder of S.T.E.P. (Spring Valley Rotary USA - School to End Poverty), has been supporting CHIA since 2008. CHIA had the pleasure of hosting 40 volunteers (mostly from New York) who donated 30 bicycles and 3 wheelchairs at our event in Thang Binh Quang Nam Province.

Their donations were provided to the poorest children of the village who otherwise would have to walk miles to school for their education. There were so many smiling and delighted children, even though some couldn't reach the pedals. It was clear to see the joy on the volunteers faces and by their comments, they thoroughly enjoyed the event.

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

## 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: 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. 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-)



## Disabilities News



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



*Chi is receiving her daily therapy*



*Chi is a very happy child at CHIA, she has got a big personality and loves to play with the other children*

POD program returned after TET holidays and is now running at full capacity. The children enjoyed their Spring break and their faces show happiness which makes the classroom come alive with fun.

On the first day of the new-year, it is the Vietnamese tradition to give lucky money to the children with the belief that all good things will come to the children. Now, in class we have 10 children and most with cerebral palsy, however there are some children requiring extra special care such as Chi.

Chi is 19 months old and she has multi-disabilities; hip-dysplasia, club feet, and scoliosis. The doctors have assessed that she is unable to have surgery therefore, her therapy is crucial for her health and development. Her parents are very sad to hear of her condition, but they love and want to take care of Chi and are keen to ensure she gains a better life. Chi is very smart, happy and agile child and is a delight to have in our POD program. With the support and daily therapy, by our staff at CHIA, we hope we can help improve Chi's condition. This will also help the family to attend work when Chi is at CHIA so they can provide income to their lives.

*Written by Dinh Thi Thuy Phuong  
Physiotherapist of POD*



## Education News



### DANH VH

Danh (meaning: famous) was born on 23/03/2011 and he lives with his mother and grandmother in Thang Binh village, Quang Nam Province, Vietnam. Danh's mother has mental health problems and possible genetic mental disability since birth. The mother works for a tailor company but she is slow and has to be guided which results in her inability to provide a good income for the child. The grandmother has seven adult children and disabilities throughout the family are evident including Down Syndrome therefore the pressure and responsibility on the grandmother is extensive.

Danh doesn't appear to be healthy as he presents with yellow skin tone but the family cannot afford medical expenses. His grandmother says he is a sad boy and has cried since he was born. He doesn't have toys or much clothing. The mother had another child in 2015 but gave her away due to being so poor and unable to care for her. The family has a 'Poor Certification Status' by the government and their house is very basic. The house has two rooms and no bathroom. The grandmother goes out to work to make a small amount of money to provide food but she is also unwell and cannot work hard or for very long periods. The family have pigs, which provide some income.

CHIA located a sponsor from Switzerland for Danh and now he attends school. With this support, Danh will have a better life in the future.

*Written by Dinh Thi Thuy Phuong  
Physiotherapist of POD*



*Danh VH with his grandmother*



*CHIA visited the boy at his home in Thang Binh District*



*With your help, CHIA has been able to bring new hope and education to this beautiful boy.*

*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!

To award nutrition sponsorships, CHIA receives information from the government about poor children who have difficult circumstances in the province of Quang Nam. CHIA works closely with the DOLISA of Binh Dao, Thang Binh district to introduce the most difficult cases.

This family has three children; the oldest child is Kien 11 years old, Lien 9 years old and Danh 2 years old and they live together with their mother. The mother is deaf and recently their father died of a stroke while he was working in the fields. The family faces severe economic difficulties as the mother is unable to provide for the family. The children need support with their schooling, eating, and general care but the mother struggles with all of these tasks so the children's grandmother moved in and helps the mother with their care.

CHIA located an Australian sponsor for Kim and Lien and they attend school, receiving very good results and this donor also supports nutrition for the youngest boy- Danh, he is growing up day by day and he looks very healthy. Without this support, the children would not be able to stay in school, and would not be in good health. When we visited this family, we witnessed the family's desperate circumstances and it was clear that it is a very sad case and the family are experiencing many hardships and difficulties, including their grief from losing their beloved father.

CHIA will continue to support this family which will help the children and mother and will reduce the fear, pain and financial burden they face. The children will have an opportunity to learn and have a better chance of getting a good paying job in the future. CHIA looks forward to helping many other disadvantaged children by finding generous donors to provide nutrition sponsorships, providing hope for the people of Quang Nam province.



*CHIA visited this family to provide vital nutrition and support.*



## *Life As a Volunteer*

Hello! My name is Julia and I'm an Accounting for International Development volunteer at CHIA.

I'm a professional accountant (CPA) and maybe you would think: "What an accounting volunteer could possibly do at CHIA?" Well, from outside it seems like I sit in the office, talk to CHIA staff and look in my computer a lot. Doesn't sound very useful, does it...

Well, I'm not really sure how useful my job is for CHIA, but I hope I could bring in some improvement in what concerns finance and administration. Since I've been here (3 months already) I've conducted an internal audit to ensure financial information is reliable and financial controls are in place. Together with Dung we've made substantial improvement to the use of the accounting software. With the guidance from Global Development Group (GDG Australia) we've optimised the chart of accounts. During the last month of my assignment at CHIA I would like to focus on improving the management accounting function. I hope this will help CHIA with financial planning and seeking funding for their programs.

I'm really enjoying my time here at CHIA and generally in Vietnam. I've accompanied CHIA staff during several home visits and it was really revealing. I could see how local people live in rural areas, what are their daily struggles and happiness, their wishes and aspirations. This has been such a tremendous experience for me!

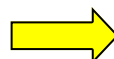
I think I was blessed to come to CHIA and that they've given me far more than I can give them.



Julia hard at work in the office as CHIA accounting volunteer



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.



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### Marketing and Communications

Here are some of our other activities at CHIA since our September 2016 newsletter which has included several exciting events and support to the Quang Nam province communities.

CHIA received a very generous donation from Vitamin Angels USA in the form of multivitamins for pregnant and breastfeeding women. Vitamin Angels provided Multivitamins for 189 women which were distributed yesterday through a CHIA event in Thang Binh district. Some of the women were not able to be personally present so their family members collected their vitamins on their behalf. This project is ongoing for three years and we will be able to support many more women in the community.

Karma Group hosted a very special event for the children of CHIA and their families. Karma Group and CHIA joined together in the first Inaugural 'Children's Day Out' and it was so much fun. Karma Group has chosen CHIA as their local charity and their support will be very well received and appreciated.

There was an amazing balloon guy and magician who entertained the children and they were delighted. Some had their faces painted including the boss!

The children had a wonderful and exiting time at the event. CHIA thanks Karma Group for their ongoing support.

At the celebration ceremony of 70 years of Vietnam Red Cross Union, CHIA was proud to receive a "Certificate of Appreciation" from Thang Binh Government & the Red Cross Union acknowledging the support that CHIA has been providing to the disadvantaged children in Thang Binh District, Quang Nam province. CHIA will continue to do all the best to provide support for more disadvantaged children to have better lives

This Australian donor was able to meet her sponsored child and his family when visiting Vietnam. Tears all round due to the generosity and gratefulness of this gift. The family is one of the most poorest in central Vietnam and thanks to Ms Lawrence, the child is able to attend kindergarten. Ms Lawrence and CHIA also provided fresh food, warm blankets, pillows, a TV, antenna and set top box for the family who have never had this luxury. CHIA provides milk and rice and household goods to his family on a regular basis.

*By Ms Jeanne Grant  
Marketing and communications Manager*





## 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 **98** bicycles for school students

Kept **145** children attending school

Sponsored kindergarten for **26** toddlers

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

Hosted **78** Intrepid tours.

Helped **19** teenagers access vocational training

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

Provided handmade quilts and clothing for **40** 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

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

Provided furniture for **20** poor families such as bunk beds, metal storage cabinets, tables, chairs...  
Provided multivitamins for **134** pregnant and breastfeeding women

*In health and disability services:*

**7** Aqua therapy sessions

Provided Health insurance for **363** children

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

Provided glasses for **11** children

Delivered **8,803** physical therapy sessions

Provided **60** various disability equipment

**8** group of **52** therapy specialists providing **265** therapy sessions for **12** 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

**1,698** 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 Nutrition" for **1,185** mothers

Provided ventolin for **2** children

Provided **185** wheelchairs

## Since September 2016 CHIA has accomplished:

Conducted **145** home visits

Medicine support for **2** children

**80** Baseline assessment & treatment

**1,230** Therapy sessions

**01** Standing table for the kids of POD

Maintained **52** children in Education

Tertiary sponsorship for **3** children

Sponsor kindergarten for **10** toddlers

Nutrition support for **15** children

**4** group of **25** therapy specialists providing **125** therapy sessions for **12** children with disabilities

Provided handmade quilts, pillows and blanket for **20** families

Provide multivitamin for **134** pregnant and breastfeeding women

Provided furniture to **20** poor families such as bunk-beds, metal storage cabinets, tables, chairs...

Provided 35 bicycles for school students of year 6 to year 12

Provided 6 wheelchairs for people with disabilities

Hosted **37** Intrepid tours.