



Full moon for disadvantaged children



Mid-Autumn decoration and celebration



Happy children with goodie bags



Especially in Asia and Vietnam, the Mid-Autumn festival is very important and meaningful to children. On this occasion, cities, towns and streets are covered in the light of lanterns and colours of many kinds of candies and cakes. In addition, the noise from the lion dance and the lovely smiles of children also makes the atmosphere become so wonderful. Mid-Autumn is the time for adults to show their warm care and love to children by holding many activities like lion dances, lantern displays... These activities will become an unforgettable memory and make children's childhood more meaningful. However, many disadvantaged children are not as lucky as others. They do not get a chance to enjoy this festival because of poverty, misfortune or disabilities. They dream of once enjoying a party with parents, relatives and walking on the streets to see beautiful lanterns and lion dances. But to them, it is just a dream.

Understanding this simple desire, CHIA held a "Happy Mid-Autumn 2012" festival for some children in Que Son district. This district is located deep inside the mountain area so children there were very happy to join the party. On that day, CHIA's staff gathered very early to drive over 100km to get there. Though the distance was so far, we were very eager and happy because we knew we were bringing joy to disadvantaged children.

When we arrived there, our tiredness immediately disappeared after looking into the eager eyes and faces of the children. We started to prepare some things for the party. The noises from the lion dance performance, the drums, the applause and the songs made the atmosphere so great. After that was the gift delivery with candy, cake, lanterns, towels, tooth care kit and milk. We hoped that these gifts could bring a warm autumn to these disadvantaged kids.

Goodbye Que Son in the happiness of givers and receivers, CHIA hopes to bring more joy to more children next Mid-Autumn. CHIA would like to thank generous donors and supporters for your kind donations of goodies bags. These disadvantaged children could have an unforgettable Mid-Autumn celebration.





Bicycle for School

In the beginning of every new school year, CHIA awards not only scholarships for disadvantaged students in some primary and low secondary schools but also considers to hand-over bicycles for some children who have quite difficult circumstances. In Viet Nam, it's quite easy to see many children spend 40 – 60 minutes to walk to school in countryside because their family is so poor that they can't afford to buy a bicycle for their children.

We would like to share a story of Thim who lives in a mountainous region of Duy Xuyen district. There are five people in Thim's family. His mother has to work hard to bring up Thim and his 3 young siblings. Thim lost his father to cancer 2 years ago. They just live day by day with a low income from farming. There is only one old bicycle that these 4 children take turns to ride to school. CHIA has been providing Thim with an Education Sponsorship since 2009 to help release the financial burden for the family. Income from farming cannot cover all of living cost and education expenses.

Understanding how hard their situation is, CHIA handed-over a good bicycle for them. It's a present to encourage these students and makes the journey from their house to school shorter.



Thim with his new bike



The whole family of Thim and their old bile

Written by Minh Vu, Education and Training Sponsorship Coordinator



Tuyen and her little sister proudly show off her certificate

Call for help?

Little Tuyen is living in a poor family with her father, 3 elder sisters and 1 younger sister. Their family becomes more and more difficult after Tuyen's mother died because of cancer. Her eldest sister left school early to work to reduce their financial pressure. Her father is a farmer, however his income from crops and pig husbandry is not enough for them to cover their living cost and especially study fees for these children. Their family is listed as one of the poorest households in their commune.

Tuyen is always a quite good student although her family's situation is quite difficult. She has just finished grade 9 with good result, she was awarded as a good student. Tuyen is proud of her teacher, her class and her family. She is good at almost all subjects at school, especially Maths even though she could not attend any extra classes. Tuyen is active and enthusiastic in all classes and school activities. She wishes she can continue to study and have a stable and good job to take care of her father when he gets older and help poor people who have the same circumstances like her now in her commune.

Such a good and determined student like Tuyen deserves to go to school. It should be such a waste if she leaves school. Your generous support can help Tuyen to remain in school and achieve her dream.

Find us on

facebook

www.facebookCHIA.Vn

to keep up-to-date with our daily activities.



Vaccinations

Having healthy and happy children is the dream of all parents in the world. Nevertheless, some couples are not as lucky as others. Every week, at CHIA, we receive many new children with health problems and abnormalities. Some children's condition can be treated, others cannot. And this truth makes us keep thinking and wondering about how we can help the most. We found out that Rubella vaccinations are a very good option. The vaccinations help to prevent Rubella virus which can cause many **birth deformities** like brain problems, cataracts, heart defects, developmental delays. Many mothers whose children suffered from heart disease report that they had Rubella before.

We are very happy and proud to be active in reducing the number of children who will be born in the future with these significant congenital health issues. CHIA Medical team created a new program named "Reproductive health for adolescent and **free Rubella vaccination**". This program will deliver not only free vaccinations but also knowledge about sexual health for teenagers. Since Vietnamese schools don't pay much attention to this subject there is a high need in this area. Vietnam is the country with the fifth highest abortion rate in the world so this program can help to decrease the number of abortions and the number of children born with disability, reduce the incidence of sexuality transmitted diseases and help teenagers to know more about teenage life changes.

We are currently **raising funds** for a sexual health seminar (including free Rubella vaccinations) for **400 girls** – Your donations can help more girls have Rubella vaccinations and receive this important education.



Rubella vaccinations injection

Better



Huy is a cute boy with Down Syndrome. His family is one of the most miserable families which CHIA Health program has been supporting for many years. Two years ago, Huy's brother died after a long time of suffering a severe and degenerative neurological problem. During the time Huy's brother was at hospital, CHIA and Huy's family tried a lot to find the best doctors with the hope that his condition wouldn't get worse. However, we couldn't save Huy's brother. Huy's father suffered a severe stroke right after because he couldn't stand the death of his oldest son. Huy was the only hope and the only reason for his parents to keep living. Nevertheless, Huy was diagnosed with Down Syndrome. This shock resulted in his father suffering the second stroke leaving him hemiplegic and his mother felt hopeless.

CHIA staff continued helping the family helping the father to be treated and encouraging the mother to overcome the situation. CHIA has been supporting milk formula and treatment cost for Huy and his dad as well as livelihood support for the mother to build up a small business from home to generate an income. And with strong determination and hope from CHIA and the family, the situation is slowly improving. Huy now is attending kindergarten and he can do some simple work when his mom asks. His father can walk by himself again instead of dragging his legs with difficulty

CHIA is happy that Huy's family is getting better day by day. Though there are still difficulties in their daily life, we believe that they won't get down any more because CHIA is always here with them.

Written by Ms Doan Thu Thao, Health Program Coordinator



House need

A New Comer



"Hot boy" Phi with his new friends

I felt both exciting and worried when hearing about being received to live at The Residence. I was worried and anxious if I could study well in a new environment. On the first days I came to The Residence, everything here seemed so strange to me. However, after one week I am familiar gradually with everyone. I feel happier then. All people here make me feel like I am staying with my siblings at home. Sometimes, we have some small conflict but everything is fine afterwards, we talk and smile again. Here is just a big family. Of course, we all need to follow our Residence's regulation. Living in here I have less time to go out in comparison with staying at home but I think this is much better for me. I feel very and very lucky to live in our big family like The Residence.

It took more than 1 hour on a rough road to visit Khoa in Que Son district. Twelve year old Khoa suffers from thalassaemia, which is an inherited blood disorder in which the body makes an abnormal form of hemoglobin (the protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen). The disorder results in excessive destruction of red blood cells, which leads to a form of anemia which is made worse by traditional anemia treatments. Khoa had been absent from school for 4 days as her thalassaemia made her so tired. Khoa was lying on her bed beside her granny, who has been bedridden for the last 7 years, because of a severe cardiac condition.

Khoa's mother left Khoa and her 2 siblings when the youngest child was just 2 years old. Khoa's older sister had to stop attending school after grade 9 to clean dishes for a food mall in Danang to contribution to Khoa's medical expenses. Khoa's father had to stop working as a construction laborer as he could not leave his family to follow the availability of construction work. He is now forced to seek work near his home whenever he can, so he can provide daily care for his sick mother and daughter, as well as Khoa's younger sister. Khoa needs to receive a blood transfusion and medications every 20 days in Danang Hospital. She recently had to have her enlarged spleen removed.

Khoa's family home was "built" 20 years ago and could easily collapse at any time. Bricks, concrete, wooden beams and pillars are all rotten. Whenever there is a storm or typhoon threatening, they are the first family it their village to evacuate. But where is safe?

As the weather becomes more severe from year to year, Khoa's family lives increasingly in fear and trepidation, as the storm season approaches.

Replacing their collapsing house with a new storm resistant concrete house will make the other significant difficulties of this little family, just a little easier to bear.

Khoa's nearly collapsed house



Anxious faces of Khoa's family



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:

Children's Hope In Action
PO Box 7360
East Brisbane, QLD 4169
Australia

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

Post a cheque to:

Global Development Group USA
1314 Longwood Oaks Boulevard
Lakeland, Florida 33811
United States of America

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 tax-deductible receipts outside of Australia and the USA.

Please visit us at

www.ChildrensHopeInAction.org



Since the beginning CHIA has

Health insurance for **362** children

114 Orthopedic diagnostics, **27** Orthopedic surgery

21 Hearing assessments

Cancer treatment for **9** children

264 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

1289 Flu, **97** Hepatitis B, **49** Rubella and **24** chicken-pox vaccinations

Hepatitis B test for **53** children

458 Baseline medical assessments

Helped **50** children access nutritional support

Provided **596** tins of milk

Community health education about " Infant Nutrition" for **1100** mothers

Managed a Residence of **30** children

Awarded **122** students for improvement

Kept **137** children attending school

Provided **30** bicycles for school students

Sponsored kindergarten for **5** toddlers

Helped **9** teenagers access vocational training

Provided glasses for **11** children

Tet gifts and celebrations for **698** children

Built **18** new houses, repaired **3** houses, **1** water and sanitation system for one primary school, and **1** piggery and **8** piglets as livelihood support

Provided **141** wheelchairs

Delivered **2,965** physical therapy sessions

Provided **51** other pieces of disability equipment

150 Cpals training sessions (CHIA Practical and Life Skills)

6 Aqua therapy sessions

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

Mid autumn festival for **630** children

From June to September CHIA has

Conducted **143** home visits

6 Baseline medical assessments

1 Cardiac surgery

10 Hepatitis B and **225** Rubella vaccinations

110 Therapy sessions

Orthopedic assessment for **3** children

2 Hearing assessments

Adjust **11** wheelchairs

1 Orthopedic surgery

Sponsored kindergarten for **5** children

Provided **1** bicycle & Other **GIK** donations

Maintained **108** children in Education sponsorship program

Community health education about " Infant Nutrition" for **240** babies and mothers

Built **1** house

Nutrition support for **7** children

Mid autumn festival celebration for **100** children