



# Quarterly Newsletter

HOI AN  
SOCIAL CLUB  
bringing people together

The Hoi An Social Club organizes the monthly meetings dedicated to the local charities.

Fortunately, CHIA was chosen for the October event at the Mango Mango bar in An Hoi area. This time event was held on 28 October that also brought everyone to Halloween celebration. During the event, CHIA was introduced to the participants (mainly from the expat community) and we were able to raise funds through a silent auction and the ticket sales. The event had a record turnout, with over 80 guests enjoying the live music, exchanging various cultures or just simply sharing life experience. We highly appreciate the support from the attendants and the generosity of the Hoi An Social Club.



## Mid-Autumn Festival in Thang Binh commune



CHIA organizes Mid-Autumn event annually for disadvantaged children under 12 years old with the purpose of providing them with the necessities and holding some fun activities. This year CHIA and our lovely donors (Kerry and Brian) traveled to Binh Sa and Binh Hai commune and brought some lovely gifts for the children. What a meaningful day!



## GGC volunteers practice therapy for our POD Children

Every Friday, GGC Volunteers Ltd comes to CHIA center and kindly help our children to do physical exercises. The children enjoy their time very much, and the friendly volunteers design activities and bring some special toys that help the kids with disabilities improve their motor function. We have seen some tremendous improvements in the children that have attended daily physical exercises, which encourage us to seek for more volunteers for doing the physiotherapy.

This newsletter edition is attached the hyperlinks to our webpages. Please get involved in CHIA

## 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

### 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 All over 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 website and more!



## Program of Development



**Ms Phuong supports Tho to practice**



**Tho's first day at CHIA center**

It even becomes a more challenging situation as the father is the only breadwinner and merely earns a wage of \$130 per month.

Luckily, Tho's family heard about the opportunity to receive therapy at CHIA from a friend. Now, Tho's parents take her regularly to CHIA to receive the treatment and specialist care. At first, Tho was really scared of working with the caregivers at CHIA but she soon got more comfortable to do her exercises and the daily routine.

The CHIA team will continue to make an effort to work on Tho's physical ability and help her to become more independent. We hope that doing therapy at CHIA will provide the little girl with a chance to integrate into the community more easily.

*Written by Dinh Thi Thuy Phuong*

*Physiotherapist of POD*

CHIA has welcomed little Tho to our group of children attending physiotherapy at our center. The little girl suffers from extremely loose and flexible muscles. This condition makes it hard for her to learn how to sit straight and walk on her own.

Tho's young parents previously took her regularly to Da Nang to receive therapy with the hope to increase her development. They were so happy to see the positive results the therapy had on her daughter, it really encouraged them to continue although it took the family over one hour to get there. Sadly, with the rainy season setting in, this became increasingly hard especially because little Tho gets sick easily in the cold weather. The parents made the decision to continue the therapy at home with tips received from the specialists in Da Nang.

Tho's father is currently working as a security guard for a local construction sight. Her mother has dedicated all her time in looking after her daughter's health status.



**Tho enjoys doing therapy at home**



## Education News

Being born into a family with a single mother, Thu (blue T-shirt)-grade 12 and Da (brown T-shirt)-grade 10 always understood the importance of working hard in school. We visited the family in the middle of this summer. Upon our arrival, we were immediately invited inside the house, where we observed little to no furniture. Unfortunately, the study corner for the boys was also improvised. Without the dad in the picture, the mother is struggling to feed her sons adequately. Their daily meals only consist of rice, fish sauce and sweet potato, which is an under-nutritious diet for children in their puberty.

In Vietnam, families are responsible for paying their children's tuition fees. The mother admits she had to seek for financial support from relatives and neighbors in order for her children to continue their education. She told us her fears that her sons will have to stop their education and stay at home or get a low-paid job.

Although the situation is far from ideal, the proud mother bragged about her well-behaved and studious sons. The boys laughed shyly when they heard her say it. Thu admits he enjoys going to school. The sons are well-aware education is the only way of breaking the cycle of poverty and obtaining a better life for their family.

To fulfill their dreams, Thu and Da need to pursue their education. The boys are in immediate need of a sponsorship for the upcoming semester. CHIA hopes to find a lovely donor so Thu and Da can stay in school.

*Written by Dinh Thi Thuy Phuong  
Physiotherapist of POD*



**The family photo without a dad**



**Family daily life**



**The boys' studying corner**



## Medical Update

### Sex Education Program



#### Sex seminar for boy

One week prior to the seminar, students fill in a questionnaire to evaluate their understanding. On the session day, they participate in a 1.5 hour discussion with the healthcare expert from Hoi An Medical center. The boys and girls are separated into two groups. When the training has come to an end, then another survey will be delivered to them to collect feedback and evaluate the changes in their comprehension.

In terms of logistics, CHIA is in charge of preparing questionnaires, a banner, the presentation and inviting the expert. The sex education program has helped CHIA recognize the significance of exchanging sexual information with the students. Aside from the seminars, CHIA has experienced thousands of wonderful moments with the energetic students and our lovely volunteers. It is also a great chance for the local students to practice speaking English with your friendly volunteers. Even though they are quite shy at the beginning, they seem to be friends at the end of the conversation.

### Healthcare insurance

Another great achievement for some families: 15 children have been allocated the health insurance. This allowed families to be covered for all medical situations that normally could not be dealt with due to the costs and waiting times in hospitals. The event was at Ben Tre community, Cam Ha, Hoi An. Thank you Kerry and Brian for your great Fundraising through GoFundme and everyone who have contributed to help us in supporting these disadvantaged children.

*The Sex and Reproductive Health project was implemented since 2015 in the Quang Nam province. With the purpose of raising knowledge about sex among teenagers in remote areas, CHIA is co-operating with the local government, The Quang Nam education and training department, school officials and a professional specialized in reproductive health to carry out this project.*



#### A student practiced using condom





## Housing Project

### A new house in Tien Phuoc



Early September, we were very happy to have our friends Sandra and Garry from Australia visit CHIA again. They have been incredibly generous in donating money to build a new house for a family in the Tien Phuoc District in the mountainous region.

After joining CHIA on a home visit, Sandra and Gary felt for the family and the situation they were in. The family concerned consists of four individuals: two healthy parents and their older son Nhat and younger daughter Khanh. Unfortunately, Khanh has never been able to truly be a child as she has spent most of her life in the hospital due to a severe hip disorder. The family has to spend a lot of money for her treatment. Now, after several surgeries, she is doing better but still needs to have daily therapy treatments to recover completely.



Both suffering from disabilities. Nhat, born in 2009, has problems with his eye sight but is lucky to be able to attend school.

Because both medical conditions cost a lot for the family, they get poorer and poorer. When Sandra and Gary visited with us, they were shock with the conditions in which the family lived. The home improvised, did not have a bathroom or a toilet and had no real furniture. Furthermore, because of its location in the mountains, at times of heavy rain, water would pour into the home.

Our generous friends Sandra and Gary sympathized with the family and decided to support them in building them a brand new house! After nearly 2 months only, the house was completely built and the family was ready to make it a home. They now live in a house which is safe, able to withstand rain, storm and wind and it has sanitary facilities!

The family is forever thankful for the generous donation from Sandra and Gary that have changed the life of the family forever.



### Painting project at Ly Tu Trong school

This July, CHIA was fortunate to receive support from Ox Adventure both financially and physically. There were two groups of volunteers helping us to fix and paint the fences of Ly Tu Trong primary school in the remote area of the Thang Binh District. This school is the least fortunate school of the district and has very limited access to teaching and study facilities.

Each group spent 4 days volunteering at the school. They were also very happy to spend time with the students, playing games, interacting with the teachers, the staff and the people in the neighborhood. They brought lots of school supplies to donate for the school and their students. They also bought 5 brand new computers for school as they have very limited resources and most of them are old and broken. What a generous gift! The school was pleasantly surprised and very thankful for the donations. Furthermore, the volunteers also provided education sponsorships for 4 students and some volunteers decided to individually sponsor other children.

When the broken fence was transformed from moldy gray to beautiful yellow, the teachers and volunteers had a lovely lunch together. Products were ordered locally and a lady working at the school cooked the meal for the whole group. At lunch, everyone got together to truly connect with each other.

The school's principle, the staff and the students are very grateful of Ox Adventure group. They do hope that the Ox Adventure group will come back to the school next year to continue helping with other projects.

Written by Dung Nguyen  
Children's Hope in Action General Manager



## Life As a Volunteer

Hello! My name is Femke and I am interning at CHIA in the project development and communications department as a part of my degree program back home.

I've already been working at CHIA for over 4 months and enjoying every minute of it. I decided to do my internship at CHIA because I truly feel passionate about giving all children of all layers of society the same opportunities when it comes to education, health care or just simply being happy! I hope to help this cause as much as I can during my stay here. Most of the time I can be found behind a computer. I might be applying for grants, writing reports or being busy with all sorts of fundraising activities. From time to time I also like to sneak downstairs to play with the children or eat some fruits together. Although I had not been to Vietnam before, I really wanted to do my internship here. That's how I luckily ended up working for CHIA in Hoi An. The city is great: it has a picturesque little center and is surrounded by rice fields. In my free time, I enjoy taking out my motorbike to explore the area. As I am from the Netherlands, it's only the very hot weather I cannot get used to yet!

I had the chance to go on many home visits and visit various schools in rural areas. It was a blessing to see how these people lived and to see how CHIA changes their lives.

As the year is coming to an end, my time at CHIA is too. Although I am sad to leave, I know this is not a forever goodbye. This has truly been a life changing experience for me. Thank you for having me as an intern.



Birthday celebration at CHIA



*Written by Femke Veen*

*Fund-raising and Project Development Intern*

### CHIA Online Survey Results

Thank you for all of you who participated in our online CHIA survey and questionnaire! We have taken on board all of the data we have collected from the survey. 89% would like knowledge of where my money goes after I donate it, 40% appreciate the social media updates and 60% would like personal updates about their individual sponsorship. 50% said that the best way to help CHIA is by donations, and 30% is by volunteering. We will work diligently to meet your needs and continue to improve CHIA for you and for our families and children you support!



## Since 2006 CHIA has accomplished

### Education, housing– water, sanitation & residential services

Tet Vietnamese celebrations and gifts for **895** children

Built **23** new houses, repaired **4** houses, **7** water and sanitation system for **1** primary school and **6** families, **1** piggery and **8** piglets as livelihood support

fixed and painted the old fence for **1** school

Managed a Residence of **30** children

Awarded **177** students for improvement

Mid autumn festival for **2,077** children

Provided **99** 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 **134** Intrepid tours.

Helped **20** teenagers access vocational training

**150** Cpals 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 **3,780** 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 **389** pregnant and breastfeeding women

### Health and disability services

**18** Aqua therapy sessions

Provided Health insurance for **378** children

*Supported* **117**

Orthopedic diagnostics, **30** Orthopedic surgery

Provided glasses for **11** children

Delivered **9,428** physical therapy sessions

Provided **72** various disability equipment

**15** group of **80** therapy specialists providing **370** 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

**1,713** Baseline medical treatment and assessments

**1,106** Medicine support

Nutritional access and support for **124** 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 **199** wheelchairs

Provided **5** new computers

## CHIA accomplishments since July 2017

Conducted **72** home visits

Medicine support for **2** children

**15** Baseline assessment & treatment

**600** Therapy sessions

**01** wheelchair & **4** various disability equipment

Maintained **74** children in Education

Tertiary sponsorship for **3** children

Sponsor kindergarten for **10** toddlers

Nutrition support for **18** children

**4** group of **28** therapy specialists providing **105** therapy sessions for **6** children with disabilities

Provided **5** new computers, and lots of school supplies, fixed the old fence and painted the fence for **1** school

Gifts for **120** students of a school & **20** children of POD & their families

Provide multivitamin for **200** pregnant and breastfeeding women

Built **1** new house, put **2** new roofs for a family and the POD

Provided health insurance for **15** children  
Provides sexual education for **2,800** teenagers

Mid Autumn Festival for **120** children

Provided **1** bicycles for 1 child

Hosted **31** Intrepid tours and **6** groups from The Hoi An Backpackers Hostel

Helped **1** teenager access vocational training