



# Quarterly Newsletter



## Vinpearl South Hoi An Trip

On the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018, CHIA children, families, volunteers and staff visited Vinpearl Land South Hoi An. The main focus was a visit to the zoo for the children to experience the wild animals from around the world. The children had been studying the animals beforehand and doing lots of art activities including mask making. The games room, the 3D art and the water activities were also popular with the children. We all travelled together by bus to Vinpearl and we were excited to see the Halloween characters and displays. The children were fortunate enough to travel around the theme park on an electric buggy. The bird aviary was full of colorful large parrots which the children were able to feed. They also were able to feed the giraffes and the elephants. Thank you to Vinpearl for the free entry for the children. We would also like to thank our volunteers for helping to fund the trip. It was an experience that the children will remember for many years to come.



## Christmas Event

Kamar Group has been supporting CHIA with regular donations toward CHIA's vital work for the disadvantaged children since 2016. As part of their support, Kamar Group organizes an annual Christmas party for the CHIA families. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2018, once again the children and their families were treated to a fabulous dinner and Christmas party.



The crowd was entertained by a magician, a balloon man and the Lion Dancers. Even Santa Claus made an appearance to deliver gifts to all the excited children. The food was very delicious and professionally prepared by the very capable staff of Kamar. We are extremely thankful to the Kamar Group for their generosity. We are also grateful to Mr. Steve Kirkpatrick and the local staff of Kamar for making it such a wonderful occasion for the children and their families.





## Disability Program

In the POD program, we are working with a new child named Min. She is a 3 year old girl who has cerebral palsy and has had heart surgery. She is very small and pretty and resembles a little princess with a lovely nature. Her parents also have a 20 years old son. They tried for many years to have another child. After falling pregnant with Min, the mother developed high blood pressure which affected Min in the uterus. As a result, Min developed problems with her brain and her ability to move freely. Currently she is not been able to stand and walk unassisted.



Every Monday to Friday she attends CHIA in the morning for physical therapy. In the afternoons she attends kindergarten to study. At the CHIA organization there are foreign O.T. students coming to volunteer as part of their training. In particular, she likes to practise with these students as the practice is more fun. We are focused on her balance, standing and walking, Min is very scared, afraid to stand alone or walk. She is afraid to fall. We are always beside her and encouraging her. With daily practice she will be more confident with her walking. Hopefully



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

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

### CHIA POD MAKE OVER

Over recent months the CHIA POD has received a much needed make over. The entrance was refreshed with a new sign and brightly painted gates. The red and blue was chosen as they are the CHIA official colors. Inside new timber shelves for the toys were built by one of our local parents. There are full of interesting and colorful toys. Our classroom area now has appropriate school desks for our students. All the works and materials were donated by our generous volunteers.





## Education News

### Ha and story of his family



Recently a special case was referred to CHIA from the D.O.L.I.S.A. of Thang Binh District. This is the case of Ha's family. Currently he is in grade 5 and his younger brother is in grade 2. The two brothers lost their mother from childhood as she passed away from cancer. The family reported that when the mother was 6 months pregnant with her second child, she was diagnosed with cancer by her doctor. Following the birth, the doctor isolated the mother and baby for treatment. After 4 years of treatment, the mother died, leaving two young children with the elderly father and his mother to nurture. The family has encountered many difficulties. The Red Cross paid for the mother's funeral and has called for donors to support the family. At present, the father is the main support for the whole family.

Every day, he had to drive his motorbike from home to Da Nang (over 1.5 hours) to work as a mason to earn money for his two children and the elderly mother. It is admirable that he is not afraid to return home to his children after a hard day and show them love and care. You can say that this is a great father, rich in love for his children. Fortunately, his children are well behaved and good at studying. Ha always has high marks in studying in the past years. Due to the family's circumstances, he often does housework to help his father. We hope that with his efforts and positive outlook, Ha will have many good achievements in learning. I hope that there will be many benefactors who will help the family overcome the current difficulties - helping the dream of Ha to fly higher and higher.



### 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:

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. 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  
 120 Hiwassee Circle  
 Reliance, TN 37369, U.S.A.

#### 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!**



# Medical Update

## Nutrition support makes a big difference to Hien's health

CHIA provides nutrition assistance to many disadvantaged children in Quang Nam. Hien is a needy child who is receiving support as part of this program. His mother died of cancer and his father works as a painter to raise money for Hien. Life is difficult for him as he also cares for his aging father. I remember the first day I visited him to get information for considering nutrition support as well as his learning. He looked very thin and pale. I told his father that he should take him to the doctor and check his health. But after receiving nutritional support and a scholarship from CHIA, his health condition has improved. He is now taller and stronger.



**Hien at his kindergarten**

Even his skin is healthier. His father said Hien was happy to go to school where he can play with his friends. Therefore, his father is also more reassured to work longer hours and earn more income for the family. We are very happy that our help can bring the fun and hope for the children we support.



**Hien with his classmates**



## Other activities

### Hoi An Social Club meeting



In December 2018 The Hoi An Social Club hosted a fundraising event for CHIA at Silk Sense Hoi An River Resort. This was the second fundraising event for CHIA organized by the Social Club during the year 2018.



Despite the very heavy rain and the football final (Vietnam vs Malaysia) it was a very successful and enjoyable evening. All the expats and local who attended were very generous in supporting our raffles and silent auction. The surroundings were beautifully decorated for the coming Christmas. The funds raised from the evening will assist us to purchase Tet gifts for the poor children who are supported by CHIA. A million thanks to our friend Greg and Hoi An Social Club! .

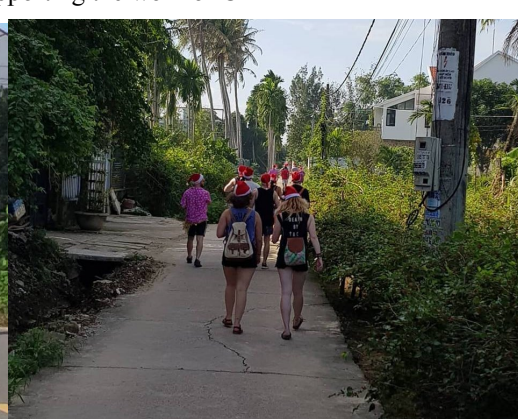
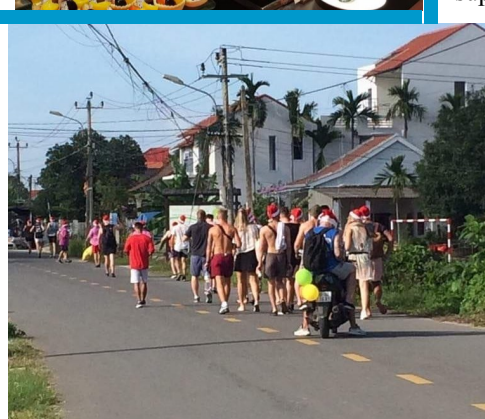
### Women of Hoi An fundraising event

December 2018 was a very busy and lucky month because there were many events organized to raise funds for CHIA. One of these events was organized by The Women of Hoi An. The location was in The Attic of Royal Hotel Hoi An. Although there were only a small number of women in attendance, it was an entertaining night in lovely surrounding. The sweets and drinks were very popular with all the ladies. The evening also included a raffle and Secret Santa gifts. Santa was on hand to deliver the gifts to the ladies. There was live music and a dancing display as well to



### Fun Run

During the festive season Hoi An Backpacker Hostels organized a fun run for its guests to raise funds for CHIA. The participants were required to run or walk five kilometers from the ancient town to An Bang beach. Wearing their Santa hats and arm with beers, the young people traveled through the alley ways and the paddy fields to Kahuna's Club. On arrival they were able to jump in the pool and cool down with refreshing drinks. The day continued with raffles and live music. After the event, the staff visited CHIA and delivered the donations including cash and gifts. Thank you to Kahuna's and Hoi An Backpacker Hostels for organizing this fun event. We look forward to future events together. We are also very grateful to the young guests who were very generous in supporting the work of CHIA







## Life As a Volunteer

My name is Monica Hossain, I'm a Yorkshire lass living in London, UK, and I was privileged to be a volunteer at CHIA in December 2018.

So what brought me to Hoi An? Well I'm a Chartered Accountant by trade, and had been seeking an opportunity to volunteer my finance skills abroad. I was able to obtain a 2 week assignment with CHIA through Accounting for International Development (AFID). It is a UK based Social Enterprise that places volunteer accountants with NGO's or charities to enhance their financial capacity in a sustainable manner. Often local skills are lacking and it is very expensive for a small organization. The reporting requirements of their donors are complex and may require additional support. CHIA has benefited from prior accounting support from AFID. On review of systems and processes implemented previously, my role was to then provide further guidance and mitigate queries, as well as support on budgeting and the future strategy of the charity.



**Home visit in the community**



**With the POD children**

I had backpacked in Vietnam some years ago so was pleased to be able to re-visit Hoi An. On this occasion my experience was a snapshot of living a bit like a local. My commute was a brief minute walk avoiding or should I say striding confidently through speedy motorbikes. Over time I grew to relish any journeys I could hitch a ride on. These included rides loaded with children, or clothes and boots for those in the village, or all at the same time! Walking around barefoot in the office is a little different to the corporate high-rise air-conditioned building of my London base. As CHIA was handy to my accommodation, I purchased a rather unattractive but essential poncho for the rainy weather. I was just like everyone else. Of course it would be shed as soon as entering the clean and dry office!

Office life would bring something new every day that I would not have encountered back home. There were often friendly visits from a range of people who have simply passed by and noticed the sign for CHIA or those abroad seeking to volunteer who have read about CHIA on the internet. It was very heartening to see the number of offers to volunteer skills or donations of any shape or form.

It was also very rewarding to have a break from work and simply pop in to a lesson for the children with disabilities and see their faces light up when they had created their own Christmas cards, or learnt a new phrase in their English and Vietnamese lessons. It was also pleasing to see a Down's Syndrome baby crawling up the stairs with excitement at seeing a whole new floor and world! None of this would have been achieved without the support from the volunteers and donors. I was also privileged to be invited to visit a couple of families who have had their lives turned around due to the generous donations. This includes funding, clothes, books, toys, shoes, mosquito sprays and medical supplies. These are the things we take for granted in our lives in the developed world with comprehensive social services. The smiles on the faces of the families are just priceless.

It is also brilliant to see that CHIA is running with financial capabilities to a very high standard. This is one of the keys to maintaining CHIA as an ongoing service that is vital to the disadvantaged children and families in the wider impoverished areas of the Quang Nam province. It was a pleasure to work alongside Dung, the General Manager, and her small team with all their enthusiasm and energy. It was inspiring to see how many different roles she plays in maintaining the organisation.

The time flew by so quickly but I thoroughly enjoyed it and am very grateful to all I have met for the welcoming and encouraging spirit. This has made me feel like another one of the ever-increasing CHIA family and being able to contribute to this great cause. This experience was a reminder that many things in life cannot be taken for granted. I look forward to a continuing relationship with the charity and supporting them in raising awareness for further fundraising and expansion of their vital educational and therapy programs. As they say in Vietnamese – Cam On – thank you CHIA!





## Since 2006 CHIA has accomplished

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

Tet Vietnamese celebrations and gifts for **1,095** children

Built **23** new houses, repaired **4** houses, **8** water and sanitation system for **1** primary school and **7** families, **1** piggery and **8** piglets as livelihood support, Built **3** chicken coop for **3** family

fixed and painted the old fence and an old broken playground for **4** school

Managed a Residence of **30** children

Awarded **177** students for improvement

Mid autumn festival and Tet gifts for **2,147** children

Provided **131** bicycles for school students

Kept **145** children attending school

Sponsored kindergarten for **26** toddlers

**200** 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 **70** children

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

Organized a day trip for **87** children on Person with disability day

Provides sexual education for **6,780** 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 **405** pregnant and breastfeeding women

### Health and disability services

**34** Aqua therapy sessions/swimming lessons

Provided Health insurance for **393** children

*Supported* **117**

Orthopedic diagnostics, **30** Orthopedic surgery

Provided glasses for **11** children

Delivered **12,391** physical therapy sessions

Provided **80** various disability equipment

**28** group of **169** therapy specialists providing **817** 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

**1,759** Baseline medical treatment and assessments

**1,106** Medicine support

Nutritional access and support for **127** children

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

Completed community health education about " Infant Nutrition" for **1,953** mothers

Provided ventolin for **2** children

Provided **211** wheelchairs

Provided **5** new computers

Provide shoes for over **2,400** children and adults people in the communities and **6,680** sweaters for teenage girls and women

## CHIA accomplishments since November 2018

Conducted **67** home visits

Medicine support for **2** children

**14** Baseline assessment & treatment

**903** Therapy sessions

Provided **3** various disability equipment

Maintained **62** children in Education

Nutrition support for **23** children

**4** group of **16** therapy specialists providing **65** therapy sessions for **10** children with disabilities

A day trip for **15** children and their parents to Vinpearl South Hoi An

New clothes for **30** children

Fundraising events by the Hoi An Social Club, The Women of Hoi An and The Hoi An Backpackers

Christmas party for **30** children and their families

Tet gifts for **70** children

Kept teaching numeracy and literacy for **6** children with disabilities at CHIA

English lesson once a week for **5** children at CHIA

Painted front gate and all fence of **1** local secondary school