

Quarterly Newsletter



Acknowledgement from the Quang Nam Government

CHIA is extremely happy and grateful to have been invited to a major conference. An event which promotes the partnership between Quang Nam province and a foreign, non-government organisation. The conference was held in Hanoi and was organised by Vietnam Union of Friendship Organisation and People's Committee of Quang Nam Province. On this occasion CHIA was thrilled to sign the renewal of agreement with the Department of Labor, Invalid for Social Affairs of Quang Nam province for the next 5 years 2019-2023.

CHIA is very proud and honoured to have been acknowledged as one of the organisations that makes a positive contribution to the development of socio-economic outcomes within Quang Nam province. Below are photos taken of the certificate of acknowledgement and the signing new agreement between CHIA and Quang Nam people's committee



Tea milk

Early this year, CHIA was fortunate to receive a huge donation of milk tea for children in some of Quang Nam province's rural communities. We then visited the Peace Village and the Orphanage of Phu Ninh district where many disadvantaged children live. We were honoured to deliver over 3,000 boxes of milk tea (225ml/box) to these children. It was wonderful to see the happiness on every child's face, especially when they tried to open and taste the milk. We now know that they love the milk! Thank you Ms Anh and her company for their generous donations. We were so very happy to see the smiles on the needy people's faces.





CHIA gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Karma Group



CHIA Beach Day Out

In June, CHIA was happy to have visit of OT students and teachers from San Jose State University. This is the 3rd year that San Jose State University visited us and worked with our children. Besides working with children with disabilities at CHIA, each year, they come and were humble to join at least one different project to learn about our work within the rural communities. This time we were happy that the group was so excited with "a beach day out" for the kids. All the children, staff and volunteers were so thrilled to have a morning out at Hidden Beach, Hoian. The weather was so beautiful, sunny and very warm. Everyone loved swimming and had great fun together Thanks to the OT students and teachers from San Jose State University who organized and funded this trip for the kids



Columbia shoes delivery

May 2019 seemed to be the hottest time ever but the wonderful team at CHIA continues to work very hard. During this month, CHIA was honored to be able to go to Phu Ninh, a rural district, to deliver 684 pairs of shoes to people in need. One of the places we visited was Nguyen Duc high school. The students were so happy and thrilled to receive and wear their new shoes. We owe a very big "thank you" to the Columbia Sportswear Company for their most generous donation of these shoes. This is the second time we have received a shipment of shoes from the Columbia Sportswear company and we are very hopeful that we will receive more support from them in the future.



Disability Program

Su was not born as lucky as other children in that she has multiple disabilities which include congenital deafness, cleft lip, weak mobility and mental retardation. In the past, Su's family brought her to CHIA to practice physiotherapy. After a short time, she was able to walk by herself but was not steady. Due to her illness, she must have enough weight to have palate surgery, so her mother decided to stop sending her to CHIA and keep her at home to take care of her. After spending time at home, Su gained weight and had successful surgery. Her family was very happy with this. Their financial situation faced many difficulties because Su's family had to spend a lot of money on curing her illness.



It is known that CHIA has a model to do exercise for children and take care of children to create conditions for families to work and earn extra income. Su's family decided to send Su to CHIA again. They hope that their daughter will make further progress and it is important that they have the opportunity to work to cover life expenses.

Because Su is deaf and dumb and has a mental retardation, it was difficult for us to communicate with her at first. After a short time, we got used to Su's way of living and now she is familiar with doing therapy in the morning and is picked up every afternoon by her parents (like children at kindergarten) to be taken home.



Su's parents are happy that she has cooperated in being returned to CHIA, so they may have the opportunity to work, which will increase the family's income and provide additional funding for her cochlear implants. We always hope that the best things will come to Su and her family.

Written by: Ms Phuong Dinh

Physiotherapist



Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy

Having OT and PT students attending CHIA is now a regular part of our programming. CHIA is now busy on Monday and Friday every week, and is happy to have the OT and/or PT students from GGC volunteers come along and work with our staff and the kids at CHIA. This is a great time for the GGC students as well as our staff and children at CHIA.



The children are always excited about their activities with the students and the staff are eager to share what the problems the children have and the students are thrilled to find suitable methods or exercises to work with each child's health condition.

Education News

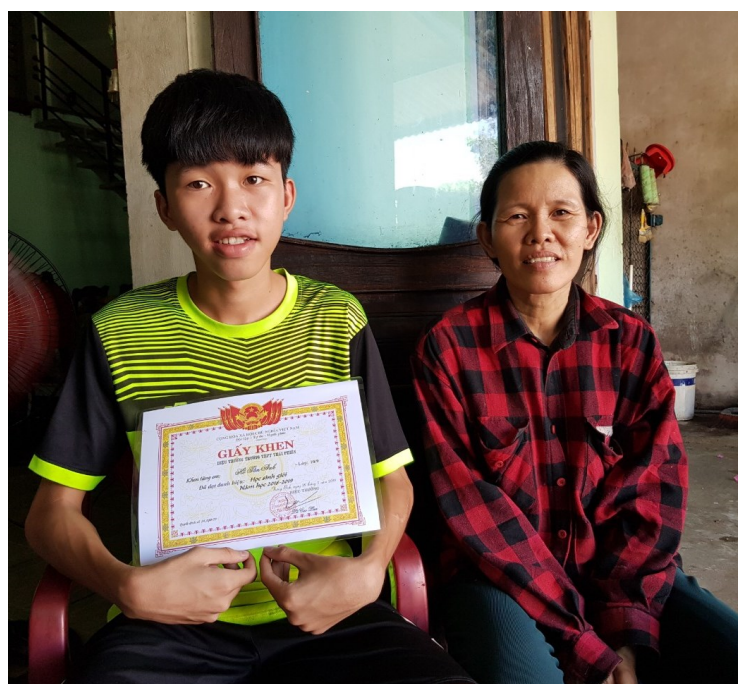
Ta and story of his family



Ta lives with his mother who has liver cancer and is currently undergoing chemotherapy. Ta, who is 15, lost both his father and older brother to cancer leaving just himself and his mother. His mother is always trying her best despite her illness, to provide for her son. This year Ta was in grade 10 at a high school in Thang Binh district, Quang nam province. He has been a good student during the past school years, always achieving admirable results. He is a very gentle and sociable boy with people around him, so he is always loved by everyone. Outside of school hours he always helps his mother to do housework such as cooking, sweeping, etc. Because Ta has studied very hard, his mother is worried and afraid that if one day she dies who will care for her poor son.

We are deeply sympathetic for her plight. Although the family situation is difficult, his mother always finds ways to do some work to earn money. An example being, she receives a very small income for allowing a noodle vendor to use a space at the front of her house to sell the noodles. If she can't earn enough she must borrow more money from relatives to take care of her son's study and activities. Being aware of this problem, Ta always tries his best not disappoint his mother's sacrifice and hard work.

Proof of his dedication and hard work is that he won the title of 'student of the year for 2018-2019'. We are very happy to hear this and so pleased for Ta and his mother.



Thanks to the power of social media, Ta is now sponsored by one of our generous donor. Ta and his mother are so grateful of your support and he promise to do well at school to have a better life in the future.

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

www.ChildrensHopeInAction.org

Teaching project

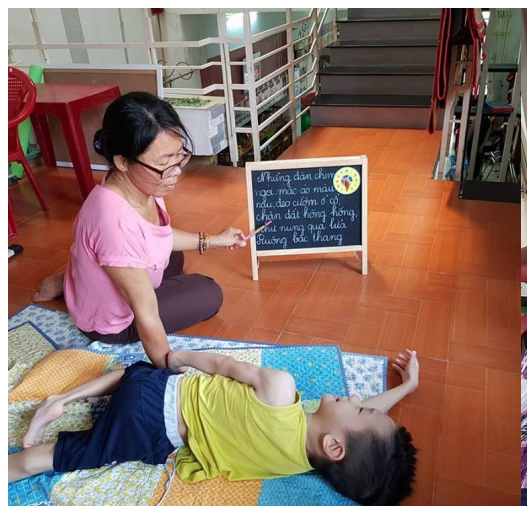


After 1 year of operation, the learning curriculum for children with disabilities at CHIA, has been in operation. The children are now familiar with our teacher and there has been considerable improvement in their progress. The students are very interested in these classes and we have seen improvements in areas such as reading, spelling and writing the alphabet. Rieu, who have severe physical disability, is able to read by himself now. Kung is a young girl who we had big concerns about before the start of this project. We were worried that she might not able to concentrate for longer than 5 seconds.

However, it was a big surprise to us after a year, that Kung can now spend the whole morning sitting on the student desk. Although she can only manage a few little items, this can be considered a huge success. Up to now, the children have gradually become accustomed to this class and the teacher/student relationships have gone from strength to strength. Parents are also very happy because their children now have the opportunity to have an education



Proudly sponsored by Rotary Club of Harvey Bay





Medical Update

Nutrition support will make a big difference to Ba's health

This is Ba who is 10 months old and has a very sad story.

He was born healthy and happy, but unfortunately, his mother began to suffer from postnatal depression. This became so bad that she was removed from home and taken to a mental hospital in Da Nang for treatment. This treatment is still ongoing and may take quite some months. His father had to finish his job so that he could take care of his son and his wife. Sadly this has resulted in his family no longer having the income to feed and support them. Because Ba is no longer able to take his mother's milk, he is in desperate need of baby formula which father is struggling to provide.



Ba with the kindly teacher

We hope you can find it in your heart to help in some small way. If you are able to support Ba through a nutritional sponsorship program, this can be done by contacting Children's Hope In Action. This is a not for profit organization and any donation received from various countries such as Australia, USA, United Kingdom, New Zealand etc. are considered as tax deductible by those countries governments.

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

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!

Housing, Water & Sanitation

In April this year, we visited a family in a rural village with our friends from Australia, Sandra and Gary, and they have considered building a new house for this family. The family of 4 people live in a humble, tiny hut by the river. The hut was made from bamboo, leaves and the roof was partially covered with a combination of tin and plastic material.



House before

Following this visit, we were so grateful that Sandra and Gary had donated the funds to help this family to build a new home. 2 months after our first visit, the construction of the building has begun and it is now making good progress. Sandra and Gary have since come back to visit after 4 months and we took them to visit the family and to view their construction. Both Sandra and Gary were so surprised to see the progress on the new house. We are so happy to report that, in 2 months' time the family will have a very nice, big house in which to live. This is the tenth house that Sandra and Gary have been involved with and we are so grateful for their generosity. They said it is great to share with those who are less fortunate people.



New house is on progress



Photo with our sponsors Sandra and Gary

Other activities

School painting



Earlier this year, CHIA was very lucky to have a group of teachers and students from The Exploration Academy from the United States, volunteer for a week. Our project for them was painting a local school's front gate and wall. The first 2 days was so frustrating for us, as it was constantly raining. However, the students and teachers were extremely enthusiastic in scraping off the mold and cleaning the wall, as well as the metal gate. On the 3rd day, it was raining in the morning but they continued with the cleaning task. It was much better in the afternoon, as the sun was shining and they began to paint the wall. From that day and until the end of their volunteer week, they dedicated all of their time to finishing the painting project



Before painting



After painting

We are so proud that after a week of working hard, the wall and gate we're completed and they now have a sparkling new appearance. It was rather like a person who had changed their old clothes and was now wearing new ones. The wall and gate are looking much brighter with white and yellow colors. Looking from the outside, the school now has a new face. Thank you so much to The Exploration Academy for providing funds for us to implement this project. We are very grateful that you have spent your time in volunteering with us to offer this school a new appearance.



Other activities

Swimming lessons

A Swimming program is one of the activities that CHIA organises annually for our children. This is great for the children with disabilities to attend as it help them to be relaxed and, in particular, to have hydro therapy. We would really like to send our very big "Thank you" to Tanya for organizing the 3rd summer of swimming lessons for our CHIA children with disabilities.



Thanks, also, to Water Skills for Life for funding this program, plus the support of the Swim Vietnam Charity. The kids were so excited and gained great experience in the water. They had wonderful times at the swimming pool every time they had their swim lessons. Once again, thank you to everyone for making this happen.



School supplies for kindy students

In June, CHIA was thrilled to visit a local kindergarten, where they distributed many pencils, color pencils, playdoh, coloring books and many other school supplies. All the children were very happy with these gifts





Life As a Volunteer

My name is Wendy Glasscock and I live in a seaside town in the North of England. I come from Manchester where we are famous for our football and many famous musicians. Around 4 years ago I decided my life as I knew it wasn't working for me anymore and I wasn't getting any fulfillment from anything I was doing. I had always wanted to travel but felt that at my age, a backpacker lifestyle wasn't something that would work for me. Being a more 'mature' traveller, I wanted a little more security. I came across 'cultural exchange' schemes which is where you exchange working hours for your room and food. I liked the idea of this as it meant that I would get to live like locals live and be able to immerse myself into different cultures rather than just being a tourist. I had always wanted to go to South Africa and so this was the first place I looked at going to. Once I had decided that this was something I really wanted to do, I had to make some fairly big decisions about my life and this involved giving up a secure full time job in the NHS and renting out my home.



On the 31st August 2016 I finally left the UK and flew to South Africa. Scary it was, but exciting too. I had to arranged to stay with a farmer for 3 months helping with housekeeping and gardening. I lasted 11 days! I hadn't been prepared for being treated like a slave and this was not something that the cultural exchange scheme was about. My friends begged me to return home and were worried for me being stuck so far away. This was not an option. I had given up too much to 'cave in' at the first hurdle. I simply found myself another hosting. Since that time, I have undertaken 43 hostings in places I had never dreamt I would go to. Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Bali, and visited many more. I have made some fantastic friends, gained many new skills and had many amazing experiences. I've also had some not so good experiences, but it makes for a good mix and I always think that there is something to be learned from every situation, good or bad. Most of my work consisted of gardening, hospitality, housekeeping, housesitting.

There was still something missing though, despite all the fabulous destinations and experiences I was having, I still didn't feel fulfilled. I wanted to make a difference to people's lives and not just their gardens or homes. I decided when I left Australia that my next destination was to be SE Asia. Having spent a couple of weeks in Thailand, I arrived in Cambodia to work for a charity that feeds and educates the children from the slums. This work had such a huge impact on me for lots of different reasons and I knew this was what I wanted to be doing. My plan had been to leave Cambodia for Vietnam and once settled into Hoi An, I looked around for suitable charities to become involved with.

One evening I was sat in a restaurant and got talking to a fellow brit who told me about her work for CHIA. She was due to leave in a weeks' time and suggested I might like to help out there. I went along the next day and met with Dung the Manager. She was so welcoming and friendly and I felt an instant connection. The atmosphere at CHIA was a happy one and the children were willing to engage with me. I liked the ethos too and felt that I really wanted to spend some time volunteering at CHIA. So, I spent the remaining 3 weeks of my stay in Hoi An helping Dung with office work, and playing with the children. We enjoyed lots of games as well as helping a few children to learn some English. Despite their disabilities, they are such happy children and I felt very humbled during my time there. My plan is to return to CHIA sometime next year and get involved in the community work side of things too. Time spent here has definitely changed my life going forward and I'm so happy that I found such a rich and rewarding experience in Vietnam.





Since 2006 CHIA has accomplished

Education, housing– water, sanitation & residential services

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

Built **24** 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 **5** school

Managed a Residence of **30** children

Awarded **177** students for improvement and partly support for **50** gifted students visit Hanoi

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

Provided **134** bicycles for school students

Kept **145** children attending school

Sponsored kindergarten for **26** toddlers

200 education packs for children at a kindergarten and school supplies for **80** students in the villages

Hosted **134** Intrepid tours.

Helped **23** 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.

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...

Health and disability services

46 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 **82** various disability equipment

35 group of **201** therapy specialists providing **887** 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

1,761 Baseline medical treatment and assessments

1,106 Medicine support

Nutritional access and support for **127** children

Provided **674** tins of milk powder & **2,304** boxes of fresh milk and over **3,000** boxes of milk tea

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 **3,084** children and adults people in the communities and **6,680** sweaters for teenage girls and women

CHIA accomplishments since March 2019

Conducted **65** home visits

Medicine support for **2** children

12 Baseline assessment & treatment

675 Therapy sessions

Provided **2** various disability equipment

Maintained **62** children in Education

Nutrition support for **23** children

7 group of **42** therapy specialists providing **70** therapy sessions for **10** children with disabilities

A beach day out trip for **15** children to Hidden beach Hoi An

School supplies for **80** children of a local kindergarten

On progress of building **1** house for one family

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

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

12 Swimming lessons for **10** children with disabilities

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

Provided **3** bicycles for **3** children

Provided over **3,000** boxes of milk tea for children of Phu Ninh

Provided **684** pairs of shoes for students of Phu Ninh

Partly support for **50** gifted students to visit Ha Noi