

# Providing quality health care to people who need it'!

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## Thank you!

We couldn't do the work we do without your generous and continued support

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The Henkel organization
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Kees van den Berk
William Meister
Hayley Tristram
Gillian Eborn
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Jim Orr

Australian Volunteers
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Sherstin & Steve Lommatzsch
Chris Otwell & Michele
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Heather McKendry

Donations are always welcome. Please visit www.vnhip.org/donate

Fluoride was appling for all children

# Nam Giang Smiles

In May we conducted a dental outreach program in the Ca Dy commune of Nam Giang district. This was made possible through our wonderful partnership with East Meets West (EMW) Dental Center and a grant from the Australian Consulate in HCMC. Over 850 children were provided with dental hygiene education and free dental care, a feat made possible by the hard work and dedication of the VNHIP staff, EMW staff, eight overseas volunteers and students at Da Nang University. While there were some tears during the dental work, the children left with a smile.

This is the first real dental care that people in the Ca Dy commune have received given that it is very poor and in a remote area. The children, their parents, teachers, and Nam Giang government were pleased and grateful for the work we did.

# **School Water and Sanitation**



The only secondary school in the Ca Dy Commune has nearly 330 students (including 220 boarders living at the school) and no functioning toilet for the last 5 years. The main primary school in Ca Dy has only two functioning toilets for 230 students. After learning of this dire situation, VNHIP decided to rebuild these decrepit toilets at these two schools, providing them each with 6 new toilets. Access to hand-washing troughs has been built into each toilet block.

New toilet blocks at secondary school

Other schools in Nam Giang have no water storage facilities, meaning there is not enough water for cooking, flushing the toilets, hand-washing and drinking. VNHIP supplied new water systems for the 5 schools with the most need. The teachers and students are excited about the new toilets and water tanks that they can use in the new school year.

We are very thankful to the Henkel Corporation and the Betula Foundation for their generous donations that made this project possible.



Water tanks also provide water for hand washing

#### **Adult Shelter**



The Adult Shelter in Hoi An provides residential care for people who are disabled or homeless. Many of the residents are elderly and in poor health. VNHIP provided initial education on hypertension and diabetes management for the staff of the shelter in 2014 and has been providing medication for management of these diseases since that time. Recently we met with the managers of the shelter to review this arrangement. We found that the shelter nurse educates residents on lifestyle modifications for these conditions and regularly sees those on medication, monitoring them in accordance with the protocol VNHIP developed. We were very pleased to learn that 56 people are now on regular medication and no resident has had a stroke or heart attack since 2014

These were common prior to our intervention due to untreated hypertension and diabetes, with an average of 6 strokes and several heart attacks a year. The shelter is keen for us to continue our medication support, which has been made possible through our generous donors.

#### HIV PROJECT



#### **HIV Credit Program working well**

We have now provided no-interest loans to 6 families. Five families received a loan of 20 million VND (US\$892) and one received a loan of 15 million VND (US\$669). Of these families, three bought a cow for breeding, one opened a building supply materials shop, one refurbished a small coffee shop, and one bought a musical instrument and an additional speaker for his band, which plays music for weddings and at a coffee shop. All families run their businesses very well and have made regular repayments, which we are reinvested, in loans to new beneficiaries

Hong is a 10 year old living with HIV. She is always the best student in her class and is living with her parents and her older brother. Her parents are living with HIV but her older brother is HIV negative. Through the VNHIP loan, the family has moved from living in one room to a small house, and the father now manages a building supply materials shop. The family has a much better life and Hong is looking much healthier and happer.

#### HIV Credit Program not an answer for all

We received a referral from Quang Nam Red Cross of a new child living with HIV. Her name is Thy - she is 11 year old and in grade 5 in the local primary school. She is living with her grandparents in a mountainous area in the Nong Son district of Quang Nam province. The child's father was infected with HV and died in 2007. The child's mother was infected with HIV from her husband but she was unaware of her disease and died in 2015. After her death, the child went to Da Nang and tested positive for HIV.

The grandparents are debilitated. The grandmother (aged 67) has dementia - she sometimes cannot control herself and throws things. The grandfather is 70 years old and is a quiet man. They are very poor and the child needs assistance with school fees, nutrition and transport to the HIV clinic in Tam Ky for medication. In spite of this, the family cannot manage a loan and the repayments. Monthy sponsorship would be very helpful for families like Thy's. If you would like to sponsor Thy please email us: <a href="mailto:info@vnhip.org">info@vnhip.org</a> or donate through the website

http://www.vnhip.org/donate.html

# **Other Things**

#### **Sponsorship Guidelines**

Some families are too unwell or vulnerable to manage a loan. For these families sponsorship provides a very important lifeline. VNHIP has developed guidelines for such arrangements which outline who is eligible for sponsorship and what donors can expect when they sponsor a child or a family.

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Lenora joined the VNHIP team in June 2015 as a program management coach. Like our other volunteer Andrew, Lenora is

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