



P.O. Box 181182, Denver, Colorado 80218 USA

visit our website at  
[www.hoianfoundation.org](http://www.hoianfoundation.org)



## FUNDRAISER

The Hoi An Foundation had its first fundraiser this year in Denver, Colorado. The event was held on April 13th at Parallel 17, a Vietnamese restaurant in the heart of Denver. Mary Nguyen kindly donated her restaurant for the evening. Our Master of Ceremony was Gil Whiteley, a well-

known movie critic, wine connoisseur and a sports radio talk show host. We had over 140 silent and live auction items and reached our goal of \$20,000 for the evening. We also made a lot of new friends in the process! The event was coordinated by Jessica Cromie and she was helped by

many great volunteers. We owe the success of the evening to these volunteers as well as all the businesses in Denver that donated goods and services. A special thanks to Neal Stanley for his generous contributions. Our next event is planned for early next year.

## BACH MAI

We participated in the Critical Care Symposium at Bach Mai Hospital in Ha Noi on April 29-30th. The symposium was planned and coordinated by Carl Bartecchi, a physician from Pueblo, Colorado. Carl has been working with Bach Mai for many years and

has greatly helped to improve the delivery of care in the ICU, Emergency Room and Poison Control Center. Speakers included doctors from the University of Colorado, St. Anthony's Central Hospital and the Mayo Clinic. Carl also brought over ventilators, pulse-

oximeters and stethoscopes. Over 600 Vietnamese doctors from all over the country attended the conference. The event was a success and the next symposium will cover toxicology and will be held in November of this year.



## New Staff

We have hired a full-time staff member in Viet Nam. Her name is Luu Phuoc An, a 27 year old chemistry major who previously worked in the public health sector but has wanted to work with charity projects in Hoi An. She has

been with us for 5 months and has been a tremendous asset. In addition to translating, she coordinates the clinic, answers calls from patients, participates in the direct care of patients and has recently been helping

with the future direction of our work. Her long term goals are to attend medical school and work to improve health care in Viet Nam. Due to our increasing workload, we will hire a second staff member next month.

## Street Children Screening

Working with Blue Dragon Children's Fund and Nicole Woods of the Street Children Center, the Hoi An Foundation held its first health screening of adolescents. We were helped by Dr. Jocelyn Nava, a physician from the Philippines

working in Da Nang. The day started with lectures about general health issues pertaining to adolescents and then was followed by health screening exams of the children. We are committed to yearly health exams of the children as well as

management of any active health issues. As our relationship with the health minister of Hoi An has matured, we have begun planning to hold similar screening days for adults to look for and initiate treatments of chronic diseases.

## CHIA Clinic

We continue to work with Children's Hope in Action conducting a weekly clinic for new and established patients. They have recently hired Carol Ngay from Australia to coordinate medical services. The clinic is running smoothly and we are caring for

a large number of children. Our attention has recently been focused on children with heart defects in Hoi An and the neighboring province of Duy Xuyen. In addition to the medical services, CHIA provides disability services, education

opportunities and poverty alleviation to hundreds of poor families with sick children. Please check out their website at [www.childrenshopeinaction.org](http://www.childrenshopeinaction.org).

## Disabled Persons Clinic

Our clinic for disabled persons continues to grow. Our initial intervention group was the disabled group in Hoi An. We started with a basic screening exam and general health questions. To our surprise we found a significantly high percentage of diabetes and high blood pressure as well as a lack of knowledge about these diseases. All of our patients are poor and paying for expensive medicines is not an option. So, as we travelled around Viet Nam, we have been able to find sources of the most inexpensive and effective medicines for the diseases we are treating. Most of our patients can afford these inexpensive medications but we will provide free medications for the poorest of them. Over the last few months, we have been able to control these diseases and improve our patient's quality of lives. In fact, a significant number of our patients have quit smoking and, when able, increased their exercise level. We have moved into the neighboring province and are seeing 20 to

30 new disabled patients a day. Our goal is to see and care for the disabled population of our 2 neighboring districts by the end of the year. With the help of visiting physicians we will continue to expand the scope of our work. We are also adding dental care to our services provided.

In addition to health related issues, Karen Leonard's Lifestart Foundation is helping by providing 3-wheeled motorbikes and employment. Together we are working to improve both the health and the quality of life of these patients.



## Pediatric HIV and Heart Disease



Progress on our HIV project has been slow. Finding these children and getting medication and care to them is a formidable task. Children in the north and south are taken care of by many great foundations including PEP-FAR, WWO, The Clinton Foundation and VCHAP. We are trying to provide this same standard of care in central Viet Nam. It was recently reported to us that a district in our province has a large number of in-

fectured children. We have met with the medical director and are planning to meet the children and work with these other organizations to provide the needed care. In addition to HIV, we have received a list of 85 children in the neighboring district of Dien Ban with heart disease and asked if we could help. Using the model we established with CHIA, we are looking for funding for the workup and any surgical correction

needed. A group of volunteers is travelling throughout the district to find these children and get them to our clinic. Our assessments of these children is almost complete and, if donors can be found, we plan for surgeries to be completed by the end of the year. We also assist in the palliative care for those children whose disease has advanced beyond repair.



### **The Hoi An Foundation**

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### **Thanks to our repeat contributors.**

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## Health Education

In order to make sustainable changes in the delivery of health-care, we are focusing a lot of our efforts on teaching the local doctors and nurses who care for the majority of the population in the poor central regions. This is done by introducing

treatment algorithms for the common and undertreated diseases that lead to the majority of the illness and death. Our travel to all of the local clinics in the area allows us to teach directly and provide supplies. One of our major goals is to introduce

ways to measure improvements in patient health and quality of life. This teaching will also take place on a provincial level through health symposiums in the capital city of Tam Ky. This initial phase of education will be complete in 6 months.

## Website Changes

Funding an organization such as ours is always an ongoing task. As our project list and patient load expands, we will be looking for funding for specific projects as well as general support for our foundation. Our website has a new section

with descriptions of specific cases or areas requiring funding. Please continue to check our site as we will frequently update this project list. The website will also track the progress of some of our long term patients. For more information on

the other charities we are working with, please visit the "connect" section of our website. If you have graphic design experience and want to help us with marketing, please contact us via the website.

