

Newsletter



January, February & March 2013

For the last quarter, with great support of the generous benefactors, OG CDC has achieved much development in helping children with disabilities. The great donations have brought about thousands of source of endless happiness, thousands of new lives for the unfortunate children with mental retardation, heart defects and other severe diseases. From the bottom of our hearts, we truly thank all of the benefactors who have been nobly giving their deep solicitude with all kind hearts for us and children with disabilities in Vietnam.

*We are also grateful to **Mr. Chau Trong Ngo** (Hue City), **Mrs. Tran Thi Hong Phan family** (Quy Nhon), **Mr. Phan Dang Hoe** (Nghe An), **Mr. Tran Dinh Phuc** (Quang Nam), **Mr. Duong Le Van Xuan** (Quang Ngai), **Dr. Trang Xuan Chi** (Binh Dinh) and Association for the support of Vietnamese Handicap and Orphan (ASVHO) of Quang Binh Province who gave us highly valuable time to help us in programs for children with disabilities.*

During three months of January, February & March 2013 with your great help, we have achieved:

Programs	No. of Cases	Funded
Heart Operation	22	17,731.20
Other Operations and Supports	02	670.00
Children with cerebral palsy and epilepsy who received rehabilitation	05	685.00
Scholarship program for poor or disabled students	110	10,280.25
Charity hostel for poor patients in Le Village de Bretagne Vietnam	18	81.50
Total	157	29,447.95

Through the end of March 2013 the long-term activities of OG CDC are as follow:

Programs	Number
The poor families with disabled children who have been participating in loan program	670 families
Scholarship program for poor or disabled students	281 students
The Special Education Program for children with intellectual disabilities	
+ Future School	50 students
+ 2 special classes at Duc Son's Care Orphanage Centre	15 students
+ 3 special classes in 3 communes in Nam Dong district	18 students
The Early Intervention Program for children with intellectual disabilities	
+ The home- based program	30 children
+ The centre- based program in Hue Centre for Caring and Early Intervention	19 children
+ The centre- based program in Nam Dong Centre for Caring and Early Intervention	15 children
Jobs for disabled adolescences	20 workers

All programs above are on-going.

Sharings

♥ When the spring comes again



In the spring weather, when all families are hurried, jubilant in preparing for a new spring coming, we received an entreat from of the family of Cao Thi My Sa. She is 16 years old and she lives in Lam Hoa Hamlet, Hoa Hop Commune, Minh Hoa District, Quang Binh Province. Carrying hand-baggage with having trouble breathing, My Sa with her father – Mr. Cao Hai Quan looked at us with hopeful glint.

To be born in a poor countryside, a mountainous region district of Quang Binh province, in a poor and large family, Sa's father did not have good condition to find a suitable job that he really wanted. Proceeding with the work of family, he toiled and moiled all the year round for a bare living. When he was 27 years old, he met his better-half- Dinh Thi Hoa. They are the same age as well as fellow-countryman. And both of poor and miserable have found soon in the

same situation of soul.

After a simple wedding, the married couple decided to set up a temporary house in a exhausted garden of parents-in-law. Since that time, the married couple joint forces to work very hard in this small grove. However, the monthly income of growing on the rice-field is unstable, especially when their children were born. Witnessing the wife and children have to face with straitened circumstances every day, he feels insecure about their future. Then, he decided to find for many different jobs to earn more income. It is very strenuous but 20 years have elapsed, their economic situation is unchanged. His temporary house in the past didn't rebuilt to be more solid. His first-born child had to give up his studies to earn more money. Therefore, his family belongs to one of the poorest household in their commune.

Visiting My Sa's house when Tet Nguyen Dan was coming, unlike the other families, Sa's family prepared nothing for the most important day of a year according to the Vietnamese psyche. In a wooden-clay building, My Sa and her parents with the emotion voice, they told that: "The whole family work at full pressure in a small grove but that's not enough to live on. Now our child catches a disease, we don't know how to manage it. A Tet comes, all family has flower, cake, melon seed...but Tet in our family is very sad".




Looking at her parents' glints, we know that they didn't to sleep a wink all night because they really worry about their daughter condition. She was struggling for disease all day long. My Sa has had heart defect for 10 years. However, due to poor family, living in mountainous region, they don't have condition to go for a medical examination regularly. That's the reason why her condition worsens. In Hue Central hospital, her parents were numbed with the news from the doctor that My Sa need an operation as soon as with the cost of 55 million VND.

With the current income, they couldn't even cover their everyday needs, let alone manage the operation fee of 55 million VND. It is very high and it goes beyond their ability. Therefore, immediately after finding out the condition of My Sa's family, OGCDC quickly asked the support from donors. Finally, My Sa hospitalized and to be operated.

One month after Tet holiday, Sa is fit enough to be discharged from hospital with a healthy heart. In the date of discharge from hospital. we met My Sa and her parents at the hospital. She was still afraid after a difficult surgery but she smile happily besides her parents. She realizes that now the spring has come indeed.


Heart Operation Program

 **AFEPS Association** (France) sponsored 4 cases with total amount \$1,918.60.


 Ms. **CLAIRE BURGESS** (New Zealand) sponsored 1 case with amount \$1,106.


 **HEALING THE WOUNDED HEART SHOP** (Vietnam) sponsored 10 cases with total amount \$895.30.


 **LA FONDATION STÉPHANE GUY CROISIER** (Switzerland) sponsored 5 cases with amount \$1,667.30.


 **TUOI XANH - ASSOCIATION D'AIDE EN FAVEUR DES ENFANTS DEÏMUNIS AU VIET NAM** (Switzerland) sponsored 5 cases with total amount \$1,667.30.

 **THE UNITED WORLD COLLEGE Fund** (Singapore) sponsored 11 cases with total amount \$4,726.60.

 **SPIRAL FOUNDATION** (USA) sponsored 9 cases with total amount \$1,673.90.

 **MS. PHAN NGOC TRAM** (Vietnam) sponsored 1 case with total amount \$136.50.

 **JASBIR SAINI Fund** (Australia) sponsored 1 case with total amount \$50

 **Mr. PAUL Fund** (France) sponsored 1 case with total amount \$50.

With heart operation program, please see our web page www.ogcdc.org to have information in details about the children who are supported and the donation of sponsor for each child.

*We are deeply grateful to kind cooperation of **Lotus Humanitarian Aid Foundation** (USA) and **Children of Vietnam Foundation** (USA) in this program.*



SAD NEWS

*Despite receiving great support of the generous benefactors, the child **Ngo Nguyen Tuong Vy** couldn't overcome the most risky challenging moment of life and passed away after the operations due to severe heart defects. This bad news has really given all of us much sorrow and regretfulness as well.*

OTHER OPERATIONS AND SUPPORTS

With the support of sponsors, many poor patients with weak kidney, trauma of spinal column, brain tumour,... were operated and treated successfully. We are very happy and we would like to express our gratitude to the sponsors who have given poor patients the opportunities back to their life.

 **Mr & Mrs. TRAN MINH PHUOC'S FAMILY** (France) sponsored 2 cases with total amount \$570.70.



REHABILITATION SUPPORT

HOSPITAL OF FUNCTIONAL REHABILITATION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Rehabilitation Support Programme for children with cerebral palsy at Hospital of Functional Rehabilitation for Handicapped Children - Hue City has still remained receiving great help of the benefactors. On behalf of the children and their families, please receive our sincere thanks for your care and sharings of their difficulties.



 **Mr. BART RUUD FUND (USA)** sponsored 1 case with amount \$145.

ANONYMOUS INTERNATIONAL DONORS sponsored 4 cases with amount \$432.

LOAN PROGRAM

RECOVERING LOAN SUPPORTED BY VNED ASSOCIATION FROM FAMILIES IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE

Loan program supported by the Vietnam Association for Children Victims of Dioxin in France (VNED) was made within 3 years from January 2010 in three communes, including: Hai Quy, Hai Tho and Hai Lam at Hai Lang District, Quang Tri Province with the total number of loans is 50,000,000 VND (5,000,000 VND/ each family). The program has brought many realistic benefits for families have children with disabilities, help families escape from poverty and so that they can take care for their children better.

In order to help for more families who have children with disabilities can benefit from the loan program to develop their production, since March 2013, OG CDC has cooperated with Quang Tri Association for the support of Vietnamese Handicap and Orphan (ASVHO) to withdraw the loans to give for the new families in district. We hope that with the support of the VNED in France, there will be more and more families get the support from the meaningful program.

 **The NORIKO Fund (Japan)**

 **The PARACELS Fund (USA)**

 **The VIETNAM, LES ENFANTS DE LA DIOXIN (France)**

 **The BRETAGNE-VIETNAM Association (France)**

 **The CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE/WALMART (USA)**

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

GRANTING SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED PUPILS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS AFTER CARDIAC SURGERY

With the help of AFEPS Organization (France) and STEPHANE CROISIER Fund (Switzerland), in March 2013, the Office of Genetic Counseling and Disabled Children (OGCDC) - Hue College of Medicine and Pharmacy awarded 59 scholarships with a total amount of **110,440,000 VND** for underprivileged pupils and students after their cardiac surgery. The scholarship is a great encouragement for them to overcome diseases and difficulties in order to go to school and continue to strive to become useful members of society.



Through this, we would like to sincerely thank AFEPS Organization (France) and Stephane Croisier Fund (Switzerland) who have co-operated with us in supporting the pupil and the college students after surgery so that they have more opportunity to go to school as the other students.

GRANTING SCHOLARSHIP FOR POOR PUPILS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

With the sponsor of the Organization for Vietnamese Children with Dioxin (Vietnam les Enfants de la Dioxine - VNED) in France, NORIKO IWAMOTO Fund (Japan), AFEPS BREST Organization (France), Viet Hung Fund, friends (France) and Ms. Karla (Germany), in the last March, OGCDC has also granted 51 scholarships to poor pupils and college students in Thua Thien Hue and Binh Dinh. **Overall worth of the 51 scholarships is 95,165,000 VND.** These are great encouragement gifts to help them overcome difficulties in life.



On behalf of the pupils and college students with difficult circumstances, we would like to sincerely thank benefactors and donors who have co-operated with us in this meaningful program.

-  **THE MINDFULNESS COMMUNITY OF HAMPTON ROADS, VIRGINIA(USA)**
-  **Mr & Mrs. RANDY GRANT** (Japan)
-  **AFEPS Association** (France)
-  **VIET HUNG Fund** (France)
-  **Ms. KARLA KUHNE** (Germany)
-  **ROTARY CLUB – MATAYOSHI Fund** (Japan)
-  **VIETNAM, LES ENFANTS DE LA DIOXIN** (France)
-  **Mr. KAZUZO NOMURA** (Japan)
-  **VACEF Fund** (USA)
-  **LA FONDATION STÉPHANE GUY CROISIER** (Switzerland)
-  **Mrs. NORIKO IWAMOTO** (Japan)
-  **DKSH VIETNAM Co.Ltd** (Vietnam)
-  **Dr. PHAM HUU DIEU**, through **EYES OF COMPASSION RELIEF** Organization (Canada).

ACTIVITIES OF LE VILLAGE DE BRETAGNE VIETNAM, CHARITY HOSTEL FOR POOR PATIENTS

In the first quarter of 2013, the Bretagne-Vietnam Charity Hostel for poor patients has received and accommodated 18 poor patients with congenital heart disease and other diseases, who are undergoing functional rehabilitation, or waiting for regular check-up or for surgery in Hue Central Hospital. Throughout the activities, we have received the continuous support by Bretagne-Vietnam (France). We would like to extend to the donors our deep gratitude and we hope that we will continue to receive your supports so that we can develop this program regularly.

STRENGTHENING THE COOPERATION BETWEEN BRETAGNE VIETNAM ASSOCIATION (FRANCE) AND OGCDC IN PROJECTS FOR HELPING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY

The trip of Mr. Eric Facquet and Mr. Freddy Rene Gilles, co-vice director of Bretagne Vietnam Association (France) to visit projects in cooperation with OGCDC had got many results especially many benefits which the projects have brought for families of children with disabilities such as the parrainage program for poor students in Future School, the special classes for children with learning difficulties in Huong Hoa and Duc Son. Especially, we have made the home observation to families in the parrainage program for more understand about their conditions, giving gifts and plan some small support to improve the living



condition of our children.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

STUDENT'S JOY IN THE PLAY TIME AT FUTURE SCHOOL



With the great support of W.P. Schmitz Foundation, the project of improvement of the learning environment by the procurement of outdoor toys and the protective screen has been carried out which aiming at creating a safe learning and playing environment for children with intellectual with disabilities in the Future School. And now, the classes do not affected under severe weather conditions like Hue. Student especially likes to swing, ride the circle bicycle or slide. The school playground are full the student's laughter during playtime.

THE ACTIVITIES OF ASSESSMENT AND INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT ROOM

Thanks to the project of improvement of the learning environment for children with intellectual with disabilities by W.P. Schmitz Foundation, Future School has set up a assessment and individual support room with materials in practice to strengthen student's skills. The establishment of this assessment and individual support room is very important in enhancing the quality service for children with disabilities. Initially, school has assessed some new children in second school term 2012-2013 and implemented the individual support session for severe and autism children.



THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE FIRST SCHOOL TERM 2012-2013



On January 24th, 2013 The Future School organized the first term closing ceremony with the collaboration of volunteer student in the centre of youth and adolescents at Thua Thien Hue Province. On this occasion, student received some gifts for New Year holiday from some company and individual support as the Hue weave fabric company, the lottery company, the green rice cake of the Centre Hospital and the policemen in Hue city.

PARTICIPATED IN THE HAND OVER THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT CEREMONY AND WORKSHOP "THE ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST OF CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM" FROM 2009 TO 2013



From March 5th to 8th 2013, Ms. Tran Thi Phuong Anh, Hoang Thi Dieu Hong and Huynh Thi Cam Tu – staffs from OGCDC have participated in the Ceremony and workshop in using the assessment checklist which is the achievement of project in the partnership project between JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) and Ritsumeikan University and Hanoi National University of Education. From April to June, we will perform workshop to popular the checklist in sharing to teacher and practice in children case in Hue City.

NAM DONG CLASS



The three special education classes in Nam Dong district is running well. Every month, OGCDC's special education team, Ms. Tran Thi Phuong Anh and Ms. Huynh Thi Cam Tu supervise the activities of these classes and provide on- the- job training.

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAM

SENSORY INTEGRATION CORNER FOR HUE EARLY INTERVENTION CLASS

With the guideline of establishing suitable intervention model and satisfying the demands for the



children, recently we started conducting the usage of sensory integration corner for children's demands. This special supporting corner will be the base for enhancing children's participation into activities and for developing their basic skills. Besides, with the cooperation of the parents, outdoor activities for stimulating experience ability of children will be deployed in the near future

such as joining some movement games at entertainment area in supermarket, flying kites, drinking activities. We hope that with professional advice of the expert from GIZ organization (German) – Ms. Kerstin Gruener, Early Intervention program as well as training for key staff will be more and more effective.

EARLY INTERVENTION IN NAM DONG DISTRICT



Reinforcement of independence and interacting with community for disabled children are aims that we are going to forward to our children of early intervention in Nam Dong. In addition to the ongoing curriculum, some activities for enhancing perception of weather as well as of some process of daily activities such as brush teeth, wash hand, hygiene are being deployed through during the class sessions. With participation and support of parents even in difficult condition of geography, we will try our best to enhance

development skills for children.

HOME-BASED PROGRAM STARTED



At the end of February, we started conducting assessment and selection of eligible children under the age of 6 in home-based early intervention program. With well-trained and well-experienced staff, since this year, we will reinforce close coordination among interdisciplinary team such as early intervention expert, doctors in pediatric and psychiatry, teachers, physical therapist, speech therapist, supervisors and parents. . In schedule, we are planning to organize some advanced training courses for teachers, therapists

and parents about supporting methods for the children.

PHYSICAL THERAPY AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM



Enter into the beginning of 2013, there is a change in the physical therapy program about the number of kids. Some parents want to increase the amount of practice time in order for the kids to have improvements about movement. Besides, some families cannot take their child to centers regularly because of lacking transport or being unable to arrange their time. In this context, from the end of February, the physical therapy group conducted assessment to filter and re-classify kids into groups. Thereby, the kids will be classified into groups so that their treatment at center as well as at communities will be scheduled exactly. For the children who is distant from the centers, their parents will be provided with activities and specific exercises using visual images so that they can train the children at home regularly by themselves. On the other hand, the children at centers will be also exercising with an increasing frequency thanks to the cooperation between therapists and female teachers. With this change, the group hopes to reduce the parents and the female teachers' concern so that great improvement would be brought to the children.

Besides, the physical therapy group also participated in multidisciplinary meetings, planning meetings, training, etc.

SPEECH THERAPY PROGRAM










In first quarter at the beginning of 2013, Ms. Hoang Thi Van Anh has finished the first term at Pham Ngoc Thach University, Ho Chi Minh city and came back working with therapeutic language team. During that time, that was the second time specialist Emily Armstrong came back to work with “therapeutic language” team as a supervisor as well as a consultant of program.

Team worked at Early Intervention Centre with model “Supporting teacher in teaching communication for children, support and instruct parents take care of children who are difficult in food and drink”. Besides, individual therapy model still keep with each child at Ham Nghi centre.

After 3 months of work at OGCDC, Ms Emily and team achieved the goals and set many plans in the next 3 months.

Our office would like to thank from the bottom of our heart to Ms. Emily Armstrong. We are grateful for her supporting and help with “therapeutic language” team during that time. We express heartfelt thanks to Trinh Foundation for giving facilities to Emily as well as specialists, volunteers coming to us. OGCDC wish we can receive more cooperation and help.

Special Education and Early Intervention Program for children with intellectual disabilities always receives great care and support from kind organizations and individuals. On behalf of the disabled children and their families, we would sincerely thank the following benefactors who are always on the same way with us bringing real happiness to the underprivileged children.

-  **GIZ – GESELLSCHAFT FÜR INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT** (Germany)
-  **BRETAGNE VIETNAM** Association (France)
-  **LILIANE FOND** (Netherlands)
-  **SCHMITZ STIFTUNG** (Germany)
-  **MIRJA SACHS STIFTUNG** (Germany)
-  **ROTARY CLUB OF PROSPECT** (Australia)
-  **CHEER FOR VIETNAM** Organization (USA)
-  **CHRIS JENKINS** Fund (USA)
-  **VIETNAM FOUNDATION** (Australia)
-  **KALSANG LING CHARITABLE** (USA)
-  **AFEPS** Association (France)
-  **EURASIA** Association (Switzerland)
-  **ROTARY CLUB EUTIN** (Germany)
-  **SOS/ ESF** Association (France)
-  **Ms. SUSANNE ARBEITER** (Germany)
-  **MS. VIVIEN HELLER** (Germany)
-  **ARBEITER'S FAMILY** (Germany)
-  **Mr et Mme JEAN FABRICE & VERONIQUE WLODY** (France)
-  **AARON KILLOUGH** Fund (USA)
-  **DR. JONATHAN RHIM FAMILY** (USA)
-  **DR. JOHN KASCHKO FAMILY** (USA)
-  **Mr & Mrs. DENISE AND KINGSLEY PALMER** (Australia)
-  **Mrs. SUE DURRAND** (Australia)
-  **Ms. TRACY VUONG'S FAMILY** (USA)
-  **Ms. LE THI HAN'S FAMILY** (USA)
-  **CHILDREN OF VIETNAM** Foundation (USA)
-  **HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION** (Belgium)
-  **CONEMUND** Organization (Spain)



VISITS OF INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS

It is our great honor and pleasure to have warmly welcomed individuals and organizations to our office during the past three months. These significant visits really encourage us to work with the best of our ability to help children with disabilities in Viet Nam.

- **Germany:** Mr. Erhard Milatz – Viet-Kid Organization.
- **America:** Ms. Sara Mullen; Members of International Association of Special Education: Ms. Drower Iris Sharon, Mr. Csapo Margeret Gloria, Ms. Mac Entee Virginia Mary, Ms. Budsisz Mary Gale, Ms. Daquilanea Kathryn Macentee.
- **Japan:** Noriko Kuwabara.
- **France:** Mr. Georges Michel; Members of Bretagne-Vietnam: Mr. Eric André Facquet, Mr. Gest Dalcapo Freddy Rene Gilles, Ms. Facquet Alice Helene.
- **Singapore:** Teachers and students from United World College: Ms. Catherine Macdermid, Ms. Barbara Abidin, Mr. Mehar Singh, Mr. Nicholas Fong, Mr. Darren Ngatimin, Mr. Patrick Richardson, Mr. Mohit Achanta.
- **Australia:** Ms. Emily Armstrong.

Welcome to OGCDC, Hue University of Medicine and Pharmacy



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OGCDC, PLEASE CONTACT:

NGUYEN VIET NHAN MD, PhD

Associate Professor

CHIEF OF OFFICE OF GENETIC COUNSELING AND DISABLED CHILDREN (OGCDC)

HUE UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY, 06 NGO QUYEN St. HUE CITY - VIETNAM

Tel: 84.54.3833694 - 2243727*Fax: 84.54.3833694*Web: www.ogcdc.org * E-mail: davn@ogcdc.org or ogcdc@dng.vnn.vn

