



Improving quality-of-life for Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) in provinces affected by Agent Orange

- 862 PWDs were screened and identified as having a need for intervention
- 300 PWDs received rehabilitation intervention at home and at the hospital by 24 physical therapists and 5 speech therapists
- 400 PWDs are cared for at home by 14 nurses and local medical staff
- 37 commune officers were trained on knowledge and skills working with PWDs and supporting and monitoring the provision of community-based rehabilitation
- 378 family members/caregivers trained in home care skills for PWDs
- 29 rehabilitation technicians from the Centers/Health Facilities and private rehabilitation centers/hospitals were trained on updated rehabilitation knowledge.

Our program entitled "Project to support improving the quality of life of people with disabilities in provinces heavily sprayed with Agent Orange" has been implemented in the provinces of Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue and Quang Nam (Inclusion Project 1) funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). This program is under the management of the Project Owner of the National Action Centre for Toxic Chemicals and Environmental Treatment (NACCET) under the Ministry of Defense. Funding is managed by the Center for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population (CCIHP).



Screening for people with disabilities

In the second and third quarters of 2023, VNHIP organized screening for about 900 PWDs in Nui Thanh district and Dien Ban town in the province of Quang Nam. The activity involved a team of nearly 40 rehabilitation doctors, nurses, and technicians specializing in physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy. PWDs were fully examined and their needs assessed to make intervention decisions. After this screening, we selected more than 700 PWDs who need home care/rehabilitation or assistive devices

Training for caregivers

In the Inclusion 1 Project, VNHIP provided home care services for 400 PWDs. To ensure that these services meet the needs and desires of beneficiaries, VNHIP conducted training activities on "Knowledge and skills to care for and support PWDs at home" for 460 family members and caregivers.

The training content focused on physical health care skills for people with disabilities and included content on psychological support and spiritual encouragement for both caregivers and PWDs. After participating in the training class, caregivers became more confident and proactive in supporting people with disabilities. They also felt that taking care of their loved ones is a happy and lucky thing and no longer a burden as before.

"My husband and I have to take care of a mentally ill person, my husband's younger brother. Sometimes it's very tiring and frustrating!, but through what the teachers have shared, I will change, I will take care of him wholeheartedly. If he is happier, I think he will be less sick" : shared by a caregiver!

Rehabilitation intervention for PWDs

In the Inclusion 1 project, 300 PWDs received rehabilitation intervention (including 277 PWDs received intervention at home and 23 PWDs who received intervention at hospitals).

With the dedication of the project's team of rehabilitation technicians, many PWDs are able to walk on their own feet again, or can eat and drink by themselves, serve themselves, and even can work again. For them, it is the start of a new journey at the age of 50 or more. Seeing those positive changes is a source of motivation for all of us. We thank them for not giving up!



HIV care saves lives



- 300 gifts were given to children infected/affected by HIV/AIDS at social events : Lunar New Year, International Children's Day, Mid-Autumn Festival
- 22 children infected/affected by HIV/AIDS received monthly nutritional support
- 60 children infected/affected by HIV/AIDS received scholarships
- 30 HIV-AIC children improved their life-skills through participation in our training courses
- 6 young people infected with HIV/AIDS received subsidies for vocational /college/ university training
- Support for travel costs to receive ARV drugs was provided for 66 people with HIV/AIDS;
- 70 people living with HIV were trained on active treatment after receiving HIV viral load results
- We trained 70 people living with HIV on self-care skills.

- YOU CAN HELP!

- 30 children are in need of monthly nutrition support - \$50 Monthly/ \$600 yearly
- 15 children are in need of school fees and books to continue going to school- \$250/ per child/per year
- 20 teenagers need to learn life skills to protect themselves and their communities
- Dozens of children wish to participate in social events like other children: Mid-Autumn Festival, Children's Day and the summer picnic.

Wish come true!

Vinh, one of the young people involved in the VNHIP project, received his diploma this school year! For the past six years, we have accompanied Vinh on his way to school and in life with practical support such as scholarships, monthly nutrition allowance and having him participate in life skills courses and other extracurricular activities. Vinh studied hard to graduate from high school and enter a vocational school. His dream is to become a tour guide. The team at VNHIP and his sponsors are happy to see him with his diploma in hand and are so proud of his achievements!

He is currently working for an event management company in Da Nang and he loves his job. He feels very lucky to have a job right after graduating and is grateful to VNHIP and its sponsors for helping him achieve his dream. We wish him continued good luck in work and life!



Nice reunions



It was our great pleasure to welcome one of our donors and the founder of HULZA Foundation Ms. Moniques to visit VNHIP in March, 2023. HUZLA has partnered with VNHIP in the HIV/AIDS project since 2018. We were so very happy to arrange a field visit for her to one of the families whose have an orphan disadvantaged child that has received benefits from our HIV/AIDS project in Quangnam province. Ms. Monique was happy that HULZA's contribution could make so much difference in the life of their children and their families. She loved seeing the happy smiles of children and the grandparents.

On this visit, we took a look at what we have achieved during the past 5 years. Mrs. Monique highly appreciated what the project has done for the disadvantaged community. She also said that HULZA Foundation will continue to accompany VNHIP on our mission of improving the quality of life for disadvantaged children in central Vietnam. We are again so very thankful of the ongoing support from HUZLA Foundation for VNHIP and its project.

Inclusion education for children with disabilities (CWDs)



- 8 inclusive education support rooms were established at 8 schools and functioned well, supporting more than 100 students with disabilities to learn inclusively.
- 65 teachers were trained in teaching inclusive education
- 19 teenagers at 2 junior schools were trained in reproductive health and sexual abuse prevention
- 96 parents, teachers and CWDs participated in exchange and sightseeing activities
- We trained 36 students with disabilities, parents and teachers on Sexual and Reproductive Health
- 20 students with disabilities were rewarded for making great academic progress

You can help!

- \$800 per month to maintain 8 inclusive education support rooms for 150 children with disabilities
- Teaching aids and equipment for the inclusive education support room



Inclusion education for children with disability (CWD)

9 out of 10 children with disability are not welcome in school !

In April 2023, VNHIP organized an outing for 40 students with disabilities, 40 parents and 16 teachers in the town of Hoi An. The trip aimed to give children with disabilities and their parents the opportunity to talk and share experiences in caring for and supporting children with disabilities at home. Under the guidance of the instructor, the parents were able to open up and confide in each other about caring for children with disabilities. Ms. Hanh, a parent of one of the children shared this: “As a mother with a special child, I rarely take my children here and there because I am afraid that I will not be able to manage them. Thanks to sessions like this, I can have fun and experience with my friends. Many thanks to the project and the school for allowing us to participate”

“In the past, I often scold my son because he is very stubborn, through previous training sessions with the same project, I understood that if I scold him, he will be more stubborn, so I tried to confide in him first. When I go to bed, the next day, I see that my child's attitude has changed. Actually, everyone wants to hear compliments and words of love rather than scolding, right, parents,” said Nguyen Tu, a parent of children with disabilities.

“This tea has no taste at all, but why does it taste better than any cup of tea I have ever had,” said Huynh Tan Linh, emotional when his son brought him a cup of butterfly pea flower tea that his son prepared himself.

After the exchange and sharing session, parents and children can experience baking activities, fold coconut leaves and participate in team building games with their children.

Both parents and students are very excited and happy to participate in this meaningful activity





WHO WE ARE?

The Viet Nam Health Improvement Project (VNHIP) was started in 2008 by Joshua Solomon to bring medical knowledge and skills to disadvantaged people in Central Viet Nam. The organization started a free clinic to treat various ailments. As the clinic grew, it became apparent that it would be better to focus on specific areas of need and to work to improve the systems in place to facilitate sustainable change.

YOU CAN HELP!

- Monthly/yearly sponsorship for children infected/affected by HIV
- Contributing to social events for children infected/affected by HIV
- Scholarships for young people infected/affected by HIV
- Contribute to maintaining inclusive education support rooms for children with disabilities



VISION

Our vision is for the people in Vietnam, regardless of social standing or ethnicity, to have access to lifesaving, contemporary treatments and rehabilitation for health conditions in an effort to promote healing and alleviate suffering.



MISSION

VNHIP's mission is to improve the health and well-being of the disadvantaged people in Viet Nam through direct patient care as well as improvements in health awareness and the standards of the health services.



TARGET GROUPS

VNHIP's target groups are the most vulnerable and marginalized people, especially the children living with HIV, people with disabilities, ethnic minority females and older people in the Central Vietnam.

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