

VNHIP 2025 NEWSLETTER

Vietnam Health Improvement Projects

vnhip.org

December 2025



Dear our beloved supporters,

The past year has been a time of significant challenges for VNHIP, marked by funding uncertainties and the increasing impact of natural disasters. In the face of these difficulties, your trust, partnership, and continued support have been essential in enabling us to stay committed to our mission of improving access to quality health care and education for the most vulnerable communities in Central Vietnam.

We are deeply grateful to all our donors, partners, and friends who have stood with us throughout the year. Your solidarity has made it possible for VNHIP to adapt, persevere, and continue creating meaningful and lasting impact.

Focus programs in 2025

- 1 Improving quality life of people with disability in provinces affected by Agent Orange
- 2 Improving the capacity of staffs working in health and education relates to PWDs
- 3 HIV Care Saves Lives - Improving comprehensive health and education for HIV - infected children
- 4 Others Activities



Project Inclusion 1

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, Hue and Da Nang (Inclusion Project 1) funded by the United States Government. 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).

Highlight Results

18

Households of persons with disabilities received livelihood support, helping improve household income and economic resilience.

438

PWDs received home- and hospital-based rehabilitation interventions delivered by 35 trained physical and speech therapists.

530

PWDs were provided with home care services by 30 of nurses, doctors, and local medical staff.

60

Family members/caregivers trained in home care skills for PWDs

120

Caregivers and PWDs participate together in peer group activities with various themes.



In 2025, despite sudden suspension orders and fluctuations in funding, the project continued to strengthen community-based care and rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, reaching hundreds of individuals and families. Through integrated interventions and close collaboration with local partners, we improved functional independence, caregiving capacity, and livelihood opportunities, reaffirming our commitment to inclusive and sustainable support for vulnerable communities.



GIVE OPPORTUNITIES – OPEN THE FUTURE



This year, we have the opportunity to implement a component on livelihood development for households of people with disabilities in the community.

Each livelihood model provided represents a doorway to hope—carefully designed to match the abilities and real-life conditions of each household. From sugarcane juice carts and pressing machines, bread stalls and small stationery shops, to electrical repair stores, mechanical services, and other essential vocational equipment, all interventions share a common goal: enabling persons with disabilities to take ownership of their work and generate sustainable income for their families..

We believe that with the right tools and timely support, persons with disabilities can fully realize their potential, confidently shape their own livelihoods, and contribute meaningfully to their communities. These livelihood models are not merely means of income generation; they are affirmations of dignity, resilience, and the determination to move forward.



VNHIP sincerely thanks the Da Nang Association of Persons with Disabilities, local authorities, and participating families for their close collaboration and continued support throughout the project implementation.



REHABILITATION INTERVENTION AND HOME CARE SERVICE FOR PWDs

Over the past year, VNHIP's rehabilitation services have helped 438 PWDs improve mobility, independence, and confidence through home- and facility-based interventions. Beyond physical recovery, the support has enabled beneficiaries to re-engage with daily life and social activities

Thanks to the enthusiastic and dedicated guidance of the team of technicians, doctors, and nurses, many PWDs have greatly improved their health.

"After six years of being dependent on my family following a stroke, I can now walk independently at home, climb stairs, and confidently go out for breakfast or attend family events again. My life has truly changed." shared by Ms. Hong

In 2025, VNHIP's home care services provided regular and comprehensive support to 530 persons with disabilities, helping address daily health needs and reduce the care burden on families. Through dedicated visits by nurses and medical staff, beneficiaries received not only essential care but also reassurance and emotional support. As one caregiver shared, "Knowing that someone comes regularly to check on my family member gives us great peace of mind and helps us feel less alone."



HOÀNG'S JOURNEY TO FINDING HIS VOICE

Lâm Tấn Hoàng is the youngest child in a small family living in Phú Ninh commune, Đà Nẵng city. He lives with his grandparents, parents, and older brother in a modest home. The family relies mainly on farming and irregular labor for income.

At six years old—an age when most children begin school—Hoàng faced significant challenges. He struggled to express himself verbally, regulate his emotions, and respond to simple instructions. Although he could say a few single words, he was unable to use language intentionally. When he wanted something, he often cried, grabbed objects, or ran away instead of speaking. His mother had to stay home full-time to care for him, and the house gate was kept locked to ensure his safety. Because of these difficulties and the family's limited financial means, Hoàng was unable to attend school or access specialized education services.

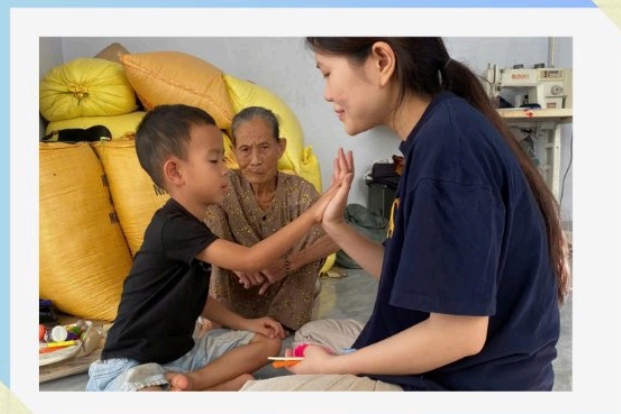


A turning point came when Hoàng was screened and enrolled in a home-based speech and language therapy program under the Inclusion 1 Project. Speech therapy technicians began visiting his home regularly, working directly with Hoàng and guiding his mother so she could practice with him daily. In the early sessions, Hoàng was shy and uncooperative—avoiding eye contact, unable to sit still, and rarely responding when called. Through professional expertise, patience, and consistent care, the therapists gradually gained his trust.

Every week, the therapists traveled nearly 100 kilometers from Đà Nẵng to support Hoàng at home, even in difficult weather. Each visit was not only a therapy session, but also an opportunity to encourage the family and provide practical guidance for daily routines. This dedication, combined with a mother's love and persistence, slowly brought hope to Hoàng's home.



In less than two months and after only 15 intervention sessions, Hoàng's progress was remarkable. From a child who barely spoke, he began to express his needs using clear words and simple sentences. He now asks for food, calls family members, names objects, follows instructions, and participates more actively in daily activities. Most importantly, Hoàng has learned to wait, listen, and better control his behavior—changes that deeply moved his family and community.



Hoàng's story demonstrates the power of early, home-based speech and language intervention with strong family involvement. With proper guidance, parents can become active partners in supporting their children's development. His progress is not only a joyful milestone for his family, but also a meaningful motivation for the project team and local authorities to continue and expand early support models for children with disabilities.

Peer Group Activities

Strengthening Inclusion, Well-being, and Community Resilience

Peer group activities are extremely important in helping caregivers and people with disabilities participate in community activities and gradually integrate into society.

In 2025, VNHIP organized ten peer support group sessions, engaging more than 120 persons with PWDs and family members from multiple localities. The sessions addressed practical and relevant topics, including mental health and psychosocial well-being for caregivers and disaster preparedness with disability inclusion.

The session on mental health provided a structured and supportive space for caregivers to reflect on their own well-being. As individuals who are often focused on caring for others, caregivers were encouraged to share experiences, identify sources of stress, and access peer support—contributing to improved awareness of self-care and psychosocial resilience.



Quảng Nam province is regularly affected by natural hazards such as storms, floods, and landslides. In recent years, climate change has increased both the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, posing growing risks to local communities. These risks are particularly acute for households with persons with disabilities and older adults, where preparedness and timely response are critical.

Despite this, many caregivers and persons with disabilities have limited access to information, skills, and resources needed to effectively prepare for and respond to emergencies. Addressing these gaps is essential to reducing vulnerability and strengthening inclusive disaster risk management at the community level.



To respond to these needs, VNHIP collaborated with local authorities in five communes within the project area to implement peer group sessions for caregivers and persons with disabilities. Using participatory, topic-based discussions, the sessions aimed to:

- Enhance knowledge and practical skills related to disaster preparedness,
- Promote proactive and inclusive response planning,
- Strengthen social connections and mutual support within communities.

The activities received positive feedback from participants and local authorities. According to Ms. Lan, a commune social worker in Tam Thanh:

“Tam Thanh is a remote commune with limited access to external support. Many caregivers spend most of their time at home and have few opportunities to update their knowledge. These sessions helped both caregivers and persons with disabilities step beyond their usual environments and gain practical, relevant information, while strengthening community connection.”

Through these activities, VNHIP continues to contribute to inclusive, community-based approaches that promote well-being, resilience, and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities and their families.



Project HIV CARE SAVES LIVES

Highlight Results

224

Gifts were given to children with and affected by HIV/AIDS through social events such as: International Children's Day, Mid-Autumn Festival

264

Children with and affected by HIV/AIDS were supported with monthly nutrition costs in 2025

30

Children and young people under 25 years old with and affected by HIV participated in summer picnic activities

66

Children with and affected by HIV/AIDS received scholarships for the 2025 - 2026 school year

20

Young parents and young people with HIV participated in a knowledge and skills sharing course on health care and prevention of common diseases related to HIV/AIDS

12

Families of children with and affected by HIV/AIDS received livelihood support to improve income

30

Children with/affected by HIV/AIDS participated in 10 life skills activities during the summer

11

Young people with HIV/AIDS received scholarships for vocational training/college/university studies in the 2025-2026 school year



Following the success of the summer program "Developing soft skills for vulnerable children in Da Nang city", this year VNHIP continues to coordinate with Da Nang CDC to implement classes to support the improvement of children's skills. Improve important soft skills for children with 6 different topics.

Starting with the topic "Effective communication skills", students gain a deeper understanding of the importance of communication in daily life, in learning as well as in the future working environment. Besides, to have fluency in communication, listening skills are an inseparable part. At the end of the sharing session, the students self-assess their communication scores and together make plans to improve their own communication weaknesses in the near future.



SUCCESSFUL STORY

When Diễm (name changed to protect privacy), an orphaned girl, first joined the program at the age of five, she was already living with HIV, having been infected at birth, and was experiencing significant emotional distress. Learning about her HIV status was a major shock, leaving her shy, withdrawn, and hesitant to communicate, with limited confidence about her future.

Through VNHIP, Diễm, now 17 years old, was supported last year to enroll in a vocational training program in restaurant service, combined with soft skills development, particularly English communication skills. The safe and inclusive learning environment helped her gradually rebuild confidence and recognize her personal strengths.

Over time, Diễm became more open and proactive in communication, actively engaging with teachers and peers. She also developed stronger self-care habits, professional behavior, and a willingness to learn, share, and support others—key qualities for success in the hospitality sector.

Currently, Diễm is continuing her studies and is expected to graduate next year. With improved vocational skills, soft skills, and growing confidence, she is increasingly prepared to enter a dynamic and inclusive work environment and pursue a more independent and hopeful future.

For more success stories,
YOU CAN HELP

- Monthly/yearly sponsorship for children infected/affected by HIV with \$50 monthly
- Contributing to social events for children infected/affected by HIV
- Scholarships for the young infected/affected by HIV with \$500



When Diem was 5 years old



And now



Mid-Autumn Festival – Sharing Smiles, Spreading Hope

VNHIP, in collaboration with the Da Nang CDC and Quang Nam CDC, organized a warm Mid-Autumn Festival celebration for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

For the children, the festival was more than mooncakes and lanterns—it was a moment of joy, care, and belonging, creating cherished childhood memories. On this occasion, VNHIP also awarded 10 scholarships for university, college, and vocational training, reaffirming our commitment to supporting their educational journeys and future aspirations.



The event was warmly received, with many families traveling long distances to participate, hopeful that their children are one step closer to achieving their dreams.

Capacity building for children affected by HIV

The Life Skills Training Course is a 2025 initiative by VNHIP, implemented in partnership with the Da Nang Center for Disease Control, to support children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in Da Nang City. The program aims to strengthen children's confidence, resilience, and essential life skills through interactive, activity-based learning and group discussions. In a context where stigma, loss of parental care, and social exclusion remain significant challenges, the course provides a safe and supportive space for children to rediscover their strengths and sense of belonging



Through teamwork, creative activities, and guided self-reflection, participants develop key skills such as communication, stress management, emotional awareness, decision-making, empathy, and goal setting. Progress is assessed through continuous observation and a final presentation, where children reflect on what they have learned and how they will apply these skills in daily life. The expected outcome is that participants feel more confident, motivated, and better equipped to build positive relationships and pursue healthier, more hopeful futures.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Emergency Support and Strengthening Global Partnerships

In 2025, Central Viet Nam suffered significant losses following a historic flood, which swept away household belongings and caused severe damage to crops and livelihoods.

In response, VNHIP worked in coordination with the Da Nang Department of Foreign Affairs and several local NGOs to provide 300 relief packages to children in flood-affected communities.

In addition, VNHIP delivered 30 emergency support packages, including essential items and cash assistance, to households with children affected by HIV in Da Nang city. This support aimed to address urgent needs and help vulnerable families stabilize their daily lives in the aftermath of the disaster.

Alongside emergency response efforts, VNHIP continues to proactively expand its outreach to new partners in order to strengthen global collaboration and enhance collective impact. In this spirit, we were pleased to welcome a delegation from Japan, comprising representatives from several NGOs working in the fields of social welfare for persons with disabilities and children.

During the visit, the delegation joined VNHIP in visiting a local school and households of persons with disabilities. Through direct engagement, they gained insights into daily

life, lived experiences, and the aspirations of families in the community. This exchange provided a valuable opportunity to better understand local needs while opening pathways for practical and meaningful collaboration in the future.

VNHIP believes that the connections built today will serve as a strong foundation for continued cooperation and impactful initiatives that contribute to improving the quality of life of vulnerable groups in Viet Nam.



Special Thanks

To achieve the above results and positive impacts on the community, we cannot complete without your cooperation and support. In 2025, we look forward to continuing our mission of contributing to society, especially improving health, education and life for disadvantaged groups in Vietnam.

Your contribution, no matter how little or much, will be a great encouragement to us.

YOU CAN HELP

- Supporting in improving livelihood for household with members with disabilities 1000\$/package (implementing a model of livelihood)
- Monthly/yearly sponsorship for children infected/affected by HIV with \$50 monthly
- Contributing to social events for children infected/affected by HIV, children with disabilities
- Scholarships for the young infected/affected by HIV, children with disabilities with \$500



VNHIP would like to especially thank the sponsors and partners who have supported our project over the years. and wish everyone a peaceful new year.

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MORE INFORMATION

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THE
GALLERY
OF
2025