



BETULA ASIAN AID FOUNDATION

Newsletter October 2018

Dear friends of Betula,

Happy to present you our newsletter for October 2018. Betula's main focus is healthcare and healthcare related issues. In this newsletter the main focus is on one of the "related issues" school fees, that were due in September.

The number of families that have health insurances increases rapidly. Not all treatments or operations are covered though or when covered only partially paid. The expenses families face are a huge burden. Families sometimes forced to sell their homes or cattle to pay their hospital bills. Often parents can no longer afford to send their children to school.

This is where we step in as we feel education is vital in order to break the poverty cycle for these children. Throughout Vietnam in cities as Hue and the mountainous areas of Quang Nam and Gia Lai province we now support over 70 children so they can stay in or go back to school.

Please keep supporting us, so we can keep helping these children.

Being a step ahead



In cooperation with the Ho Chi Minh City based local NGO Tuong Lai (Future), BAAF organized 2 trainings for over 150 female migrant workers in Ho Chi Minh City. The topics lectured were about reproductive health, sex and sexual transmittable diseases.

Through these seminars we aimed to inform and create awareness about these topics amongst women from rural areas who have hardly any knowledge about it. We consider it a meaningful way to prevent "preventable" diseases.

The seminars were done by healthcare workers and doctors specialized in these fields. Part of the seminar was also used to inform about and stress the importance of having health care insurances. For 20 of the participants we provided free healthcare insurance.

School fees in Gia Lai



The living conditions of many minority people in the mountainous Province of Gia Lai are still harsh. Many families still live in poverty and cannot afford to send their children to school.

With your help we are able to help over 10 children and youth in one village to attend school. We provide books, uniforms and pay for some additional cost. Annual cost are about 100 euro per child.



Sad news

We try to help children where and when possible. In a small village in the province of Gia Lai we support 3 children who were orphaned as their mother recently suddenly died. Their father passed away several years ago. As we learned that the father might have been HIV+ we suggested to have the children tested. Unfortunately 1 of the children was tested positive. We were saddened by the news.

For a child like this we need your support. Not only may the vital ARV medicine not be provided for free anymore starting next year, but the 8 year old child also has to travel every month to the provincial hospital to receive the medicine and for check-ups.

TET Trung Thu, Vietnams Full Moon festival



In September children all over Vietnam celebrated the Full Moon festival. For many children celebrating this event with friends or family is not a normal thing.

We support where we can in Hanoi, Hue, Quang Nam and Gia Lai to make this event a special evening for all children.

Meet Tan Anh

Tan Anh is born in a fisher family in Thuan an, located about 30 minutes' drive from Hue. He has a younger brother. Tan Anh is hearing impaired. He is very smart and a fast learner. With your help Tan Anh is a boarding student at Tam Binh centre. He is learning how to write and sign language. Now he can communicate with family and friends by using basic communication symbols. Tan Anh enjoys reading picture books.



School fees in Hue



We are happy to announce that we have a new partnership with a Buddhist monastery in Hue. They manage a local kindergarten with almost 60 children. We will help out when furniture or maintenance is needed in order to keep the school in good condition. Moreover, because of their extensive network, children that cannot go to school or at risk of dropping out of school, will be introduced.

Through the intermediary of 2 monasteries and 1 other local institution we are now supporting over 50 children in Hue and its surroundings. These children otherwise would have no opportunity for a brighter future. A big thank you.



A new home in Tien Giang

Despite the substantial economic development in Vietnam over the past 10 years an estimated 10 million people still live in poverty. Many of them have no proper housing. This is especially the case in the mountainous areas and places in the Mekong Delta. Tien Giang is one of the provinces in the Mekong Delta.



A young family here lives under very poor conditions. The home they lived in could hardly be called home. With BAAF paying for the construction materials needed and the neighbours doing the construction, the family got a new home. This may not seem like much but with toilet and bathroom it's a huge step up for them.



In short:

An elderly man in Hue needed urgent medical attention after a **stroke** was diagnosed. He didn't have the money to be hospitalized. We were happy to support.

Support ARV medicine for a young family in Hue.

Help in Laos where we supported a young family coming to Vientiane to deliver their baby but had no means to stay in the hospital.

Why support us? Betula works at grassroot level and direct. Your donations are completely used to help the beneficiaries. For more information about the programs and projects please visit our website:

www.betula-asianaid.org

Your support is needed and appreciated, thank you!

Wish you good health!

Kees