



BETULA ASIAN AID FOUNDATION

Newsletter July 2018

Dear friends of Betula,

Herewith our newsletter for July 2018. It has been Betula's wish to start its activities in Laos for quite some time. Issues such as who is a suitable partner that understands our working way and how will we support, needed to be assessed. We are happy to inform you that from June we have found this partner in the Mother and Newly Born hospital located in the Lao capital Vientiane. The hospital is a hospital specialized in neonatal care.

Bounlod our first Laos patient

Bounlod is a 2,5 months old baby boy. His family lives in Nong Bua Thong about 50 km away from the Lao capital Vientiane. He suffered from severe pneumonia. His family is very poor. In these cases in Lao the government supports basic things as medicine and blood test. But additional cost such as a room, travel expenses, food etc need to be covered by the family. As Bounlod needed urgent help we supported the family to cover additional costs so the baby could receive the proper care soonest.



Meet Ngoc Anh



Ngoc Anh is 7 years old and the eldest girl from a poor family that lives at An Hai village, 15 kilometres from Hue city. Her father is a fisher, her mother stays at home to take care of her siblings. Ngoc Anh is hearing impaired. Her parents brought her to several schools. She never wanted to stay though as she was the only hearing impaired child.

With your support we could offer Ngoc Anh to become a boarding student at Tam Binh centre for children living with a disability. She seems to have really found her place. Ngoc Anh adapted very quickly and studies well. She learned sign language that enables her to communicate with her friends.



Clean water

As mentioned in previous newsletters Betula considers clean water projects “life saving”. We conducted in cooperation with our partner VNHIP and the Nam Giang Department of Education in Quang Nam province assessments at 8 schools in a mountainous district. We concluded that water storage systems and renovation works at 5 schools for almost 1000 pupils were necessary.

Ta Po Primary- kindergarten School with 280 students

This school is situated far up in the mountains. From Da Nang one has to cross more than 100 kilometres on the narrow, winding mountain roads to arrive at the school.

The water source is from a mountain stream near the school and is delivered via a piping system that was built long time ago. This system is still useful. Missing though are water tanks for storage and a proper piping system to bring the water to the toilets and kitchen.



We provided 2 water tanks of each 1000 liters so all students and teachers have enough clean water to use. Water pipes were also installed to the toilets and kitchen so they can function again.

Ta Bhing- Ta Po kindergarten School with 150 children.

The school had access to an old brick tank, which is unhygienic, and needed to be replaced. Now, there is enough clean water for students and staff.

Za Ra Primary- kindergarten with 200 students.

The school has no water tanks at all for hand washing or daily activities. The water source is nearby and has running water. All that was needed was a storage system.



We provided a 4000 liter water tank, including 6 hand washing taps for students and teachers. This water tank will also provide the water for toilets.



Thanh My kindergarten with 250 children, providing lunch for 550 children

This is the main kindergarten in Thanh My town, the only town in Nam Giang district. The school already has 2 brick water tanks but they are not sufficient and unhygienic.



This main kindergarten also has the responsibility to provide lunch for two other kindergartens in the area with almost 550 children. The water provided by the water company is only available for 3 hours per day. We installed 1 big 4000 liters water tank to provide clean water.

La Dee primary school with 90 students

This school is built by the government only 2 years ago. As the toilet is new and there are hand washing taps outside, we only needed to support this school with one water tank of 3000 liter, along with an electric powered pump. The students now have enough water for their daily activities.



Little Lysa's heart condition



We learned about the situation of baby Lysa who is 20 months old and weighs only 7 kg. She had a check-up at a local hospital in Gia Lai where they found a heart disorder. They were not facilitated to further examine her. We supported the family to go to Ho Chi Minh. Here they found that Lysa had pneumonia and needed to be hospitalized. Further examination also showed she has a serious heart condition called Taussig Bing that needs an operation as soon as possible.

Help us help Lysa!

Phuong another case of atrosis



Phuong is 4 years old, she is from Hue. She comes from a poor farmer family. When she was 1 year old she experienced very painful swelling of the knees, wrists, ankles, fingers and got high fever. She was diagnosed with osteoarthritis. Over the years she has had several treatments but her situation did not get much better.

A new treatment prescribed for the next 6 months seems to help but is quite expensive. The insurance covers 50%. We will support little Phuong for the next 3 months for the remainder. We wish her all the best.

Unfortunate Vy

Vy is 18 years old. On the way to school she had an accident. She is from a poor farmer family that lives in An Luu village near Hue city. We learned about Vy when she was in the emergency room. Her pelvis was broken and needed surgery. Hospital bills were mounting and insurance only covered 50%. We are happy to be able to help Vy and wish her a quick recovery.



In short

- **Summer school** fees are supported for several poor children
- **Remember Hue** the girl we helped with emergency surgery after a terrible motorbike accident. She is doing well and thankful for our support!



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