



# Children of Vietnam

Mission: to provide direct aid to poor and handicapped children in Vietnam

Summer News Update 2012

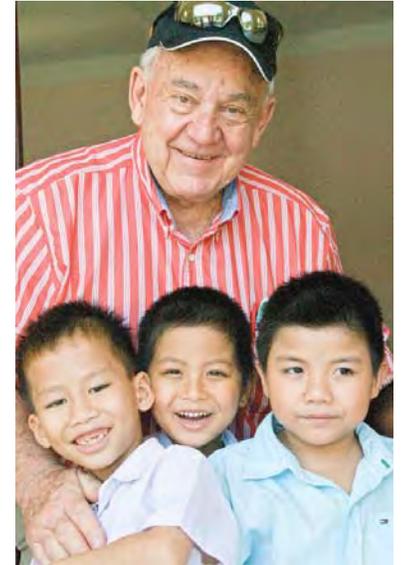
## From Our President & Executive Director

### Partnerships: Leveraging Resources for Children

Partnerships have been a major element of our work since our beginning 14 years ago. Without them we could not operate.

Local government, civic organizations, and other nonprofits in Danang and around the world assist us in locating poor children with serious congenital heart defects needing surgery, complicated facial tumors needing operations, and one of our most extensive programs, locating 26,000 children needing intestinal parasite medications. This year alone, our partnerships with two local organizations ensured the delivery of 855,000 nutritious soup mix meals to those in need. Most significantly, our Hope System of Care for Children with Disabilities involved many partners from a broad array of fields – medical, education, rehabilitation, counseling, construction – all dedicated to providing a better life for children with disabilities.

In the donor area, partnerships are needed to provide vital services to poor children. Stop Hunger Now donates



Ben at Thanh Tam Special school for children with disabilities.

*Photo by Richard Brummett*



Nancy with children at newly built rural kindergarten

*Photo by Richard Brummett*

nutritious dehydrated soup mix ideal for children's diets. Facing The World provides all expenses for children with serious facial tumors to fly to London for 6 months for complex operations, giving them a new life.

These are just a few shining examples of significant partnerships that demonstrate so clearly that when we join together for a common purpose, miracles can happen. We sincerely thank all our partners for their dedication and support of the children for whom we all care so deeply.

Nancy Letteri

Ben Wilson

### Vietnam Factoids

- Population: 89 million
- Size: About twice the size of North Carolina
- Population under 18: 31%
- Children with disabilities: about 1.2 million
- Rural children considered poor: 40%
- Education is not free
- Children without a high school education: 38%
- Children considered underweight and malnourished: 20%
- Children with intestinal parasites are common
- Children without hygienic sanitary facilities: 50%
- Children are still being hurt by Agent Orange/dioxin
- 2,935 victims of trafficking between 2004-2009—this tragedy continues

### Leave a Legacy

Make a bequest in your will; it is the final and everlasting expression of your love and values. When you do so, please consider naming Children of Vietnam as a beneficiary.

*Leave a lasting legacy.*

## E-newsletter to Share Stories from the Field

We are working to begin distributing an e-newsletter that will include even more stories and information about our COV children. If you would like to be on our e-newsletter list, send us your email address (we will not share it) to: [info@childrenofvietnam.org](mailto:info@childrenofvietnam.org) with "e-newsletter request" in the subject line.

817 West End Boulevard, Winston Salem, NC 27101

[www.ChildrenOfVietnam.org](http://www.ChildrenOfVietnam.org)

Phone: (336) 727-1110

E-mail: [info@childrenofvietnam.org](mailto:info@childrenofvietnam.org)

---

## Why are bicycles important?

Morning, noon, and afternoon paved streets and dirt roads are filled with children pedaling to and from school while some who live close by walk. For children of poor families or orphans, a \$70 bicycle means the difference between attending school or not.

Duc is one boy that recently received a bike. He lives in the countryside with his mother who is disabled and a

younger brother. His mother supports the family by growing and selling vegetables. With Duc's new bike he now arrives to school every day and he gets home in time to help out with chores. His life is much easier now and the probability of dropping out is much reduced! Duc's whole story was recently broadcast on Euronews. To watch go to: [www.euronews.com/2012/02/03/education-moves/](http://www.euronews.com/2012/02/03/education-moves/)



---

## Children's Day is a Big Day in Vietnam . . . And Kraft Foods International Made it Even Bigger

The parks are filled and children are smiling around the world in celebration of International Children's Day on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Vietnam is no exception, but many children do not receive small toys or treats as their parents earn barely enough to buy food. This year hundreds of children



Children's Day made happier thanks to Kraft Foods International.

received an extra special treat thanks to Kraft Foods International, which donated huge tins of cookies for this special day. COV believes each child should have bright spots in their lives and was delighted to distribute 6,738 Kraft cookies tins making some very happy children.

---

## "Go Around"

"Go around," says very aptly what it means to live without an indoor toilet. In the small rural village of Khai Tae, there were many households without indoor toilet facilities. Not very sanitary, convenient or allowing for much dignity. The Khai Tae families are poor earning on average about \$35 per month as hired farm labor. Our goal this spring was to construct toilets for as many families as possible. Thanks to a grant from Citizen Effect ([www.citizeneffect.org](http://www.citizeneffect.org)) we had sufficient funds for 17 families to construct the toilets. What a great gift! But there is more... when the families learned this news they were delighted but

realized other families still needed toilets. They met to discuss and with much volunteer labor they were able to stretch these dollars to include 3 more families! That is what community is all about—stretching from half way around the world to just a few feet down the road.



One of the 20 families to receive an indoor toilet this spring

Photo by Richard Brummett

---

## Remember COV in your Workplace

- CA, FL & NC State Employees, COV is now included in your campaigns
  - Federal Employees our CFC # is 15685
-

---

### 3 Events-Have Fun & Give a Helping Hand!

Watch our website ([www.childrenofvietnam.org](http://www.childrenofvietnam.org)) for more details

What: **COV's 4th Annual Golf Outing**

When: October 12, 2012

12:00 p.m. Shotgun Start!

Where: Jamestown Park Golf Course, Jamestown, NC

How to register: Call 336-210-2312 or e-mail: [dquinn@netcomces.com](mailto:dquinn@netcomces.com)

What: **The Climbs of Caswell Gran Fondo, 62 and 100 mile bicycle ride**

When: October 20, 2012

7:00 a.m. registration

Where: Yanceyville, Caswell County, NC

How to register: Call 336-766-4077 or e-mail: [jamesdw@triad.rr.com](mailto:jamesdw@triad.rr.com)

**Music afterward Burke Street Band VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

What: **1,000 Item Yard Sale!**

When: October 27, 2012

Where: Sunrise United Methodist Church, 1111 Lewisville-Clemmons Rd., Lewisville, NC

8:00 a.m. to noon

For info: 336-727-1110 or e-mail: [bwilson8202@triad.rr.com](mailto:bwilson8202@triad.rr.com)

**RECEIVING SALE ITEMS NOW!**

---

### Donate your Frequent Flyer Miles!

COV is very conservative about traveling, as the cost is often high; however, during each year travel costs must

be incurred. Your frequent flyer miles would be a very generous gift and highly appreciated!

---

### First House Built, a look back . . .

Imagine being remembered after 15 years with the warmest of welcomes. Ms. Be saw Ben Wilson walk up to her door. She knew him immediately and gave him a huge hug. In 1997 Ms. Be and her mother were very poor living in a structure that could barely be called a house. They were the recipients of COV's first house construction project. Once completed, they move in and have never left. These days, Ms. Be, who

was 18 years old when the house was built, now runs a small day care from her home.

There continue to be many families living in hovels, certainly not safe and healthy for children. The cost to build a modest home is typically about \$2,500, way below costs in the U.S. Give a joint gift of secure housing from all your family members – one family to another.



The first house built by COV 15 years ago is still used by Ms. Be and her mother.

---

### Scholarship Student Report Cards

You should be proud! School officials report that 91% of the children receiving COV scholarships earned average or above grades for the 2011-2012 school year!



Thang's family members outside his home.

Thang is in 7th grade and typical of the children you support. Below is his letter of appreciation.

*Since I have been supported scholarship for education, my mother saved expenses for my learning at the new school year to send my youngest brother to kindergarten and now my mother can go out to work at a hired labour to help my father earnings. For me, with my scholarship I'm equipped new school uniform, text book, note book and school fees at the beginning new school year that different before. Before I have to wear old uniform that mended by mother, I had to ask old textbook of the older friends that my neighbor to use but it never enough a full set and my mother bought some missing*



Thang in required school uniform.

*books for me. My mother used to borrow money with high interest to pay expenses when I came to the new school year. I feel very happy to be support this scholarship because it help me better condition to go to school and it also help reduce the economic heavy burden for my parents. I would like to say thank to the donors.*

Summer, 2012

# Children of Vietnam

www.ChildrenOfVietnam.org

817 West End Boulevard  
Winston Salem, NC 27101 USA



---

## Make a Donation

Your gift transforms the life of a child!

Children of Vietnam aids poor, orphan, homeless, disabled, and vulnerable children in Vietnam. The children we serve are located in Da Nang city, Quang Nam province, and the eight surrounding provinces. The aid provided is the result of donations given by you—our friends and partners.

Please send donatiuons to 817 West End Blvd. Winston-Salem, NC 27101 or online at: [www.childrenofvietnam.org](http://www.childrenofvietnam.org).



A new bike makes all the difference in school attendance. It is a big day when COV distributes bicycles to children.



**Cảm ơn! Thank you!**

---

## A Little Goes a Long Way in Vietnam: Here is How

Provide a nourishing meal for 1,250 children..... \$25

*Vitamin fortified rice and soy mix is making a difference for children in orphanages, homeless shelters, rural kindergartens and hospitals.*

Provide a future for a child with a school scholarship ..... \$55/yr

*Attending school requires mandatory fees equal to family's entire income for a month, leaving little or nothing to buy food or pay for other needs.*

Give a bicycle for a child to travel to school ..... \$70

*With a quick, reliable way to school, children are be less likely to drop out at an early age to assist with family chores or to care for siblings.*

Build a house for a family and give new hope..... \$2,500

*A modest house of about 300 sq. ft. that is sturdy to monsoon winds and with indoor toilet is beyond reach for many families yet is an essential need for children to stay save and healthy.*



Kindergartner enjoying a nutritious meal.

# Children of Vietnam

Vì Trẻ Em Việt Nam

June 18, 2012

Dear Children of Vietnam Friend,

Over 33,000 children lives were made better with your gifts in 2011. We send to you a heartfelt thank you!

Below are a few highlights from last year. After you read our short report, will you make a donation to continue making a difference to these children?

- 4,940 children in orphanages, hospitals, poor rural kindergartens, street children centers, and homeless centers are not hungry and are growing thanks to regular vitamin fortified meals.
- 364 children whose families are too poor to pay the mandatory school fees are attending school thanks to yearly school scholarships.
- 51 children are living in modest but sound new homes with indoor toilets.
- 26,036 children remain healthy without diarrheal disease thanks to twice yearly parasite remediation medicine.
- 50 children and their single mothers are working their way out of poverty thanks to the powerful combination microloans, housing, and healthcare.
- 100 children with disabilities have improved living thanks to critical access to healthcare, housing, education and nutrition.



Credit: Brett Walling



Credit: Brett Walling



No gift is too great to ensure the future of a child. Please consider making a gift today.

With sincere appreciation,

Benjamin C. Wilson  
Founder & President

Nancy F. Letteri  
Executive Director

P.S. Children grow everyday. Their bodies and minds do not wait. Please help them develop to their fullest potential with a tax-deductible gift.