



VIETNAM FOUNDATION
Helping Hands from Australia

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President Annual Report at AGM Zoom Meeting on 20/12/2021

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to affect our lifestyle in 2021 and VNF Board continues to have our regular monthly meeting via Zoom, including the Annual General Meeting. We managed to keep close contact with our charity partners in Vietnam via emails and phones, and have delivered the following projects in 2020-2021:

Recycled Bicycle Project 2020-2021:

We continue to work with Hành Trình Yêu Thương in Saigon and delivered 200 recycled bikes to poor students in the Delta region. Our new collaboration with Recycled Bikes For Kids (RB4K) led by Mr. Trần Quyết Thắng in Hà Tĩnh has proven to be very successful. We delivered another 320 recycled bikes in the North and Central regions of Vietnam, thanks to your support of our yearly Bikes Appeal which raised AUD22,270. RB4K, in particular, has produced an attractive video of the bike renovation process and you are invited to view it from our website.

Rainwater Containers Project 2020-2021:

We continue our collaboration with our local partner Mr. Huỳnh Ngọc Bảo and the local Red Cross and delivered 300 rainwater vats (1000-litre capacity) to Kiên Giang. At the suggestion of Hành Trình Yêu Thương group, we delivered to a village lacking clean water in Bến Tre another 17 rainwater containers (2,500-litre capacity in cement with reinforced steel mesh of 1.5m diameter x 1.5m height).

Bridge Project 2020-2021:

In collaboration with the Buddhist Association of Cà Mau (Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Cà Mau) and with the generous support of several individual donors, we built 6 bridges in the Bình Thới District of Cà Mau Province. These bridges were constructed with reinforced concrete, about 2m wide spanning across small rivers suitable for pedestrians and motorbikes.

(Please note that some projects spread over two financial years so the figures given here for each project might be different from the Treasurer's Financial Report for financial year 2020-2021 only).

VNF Flood Appeal 2020:

In October 2020, VNF launched an urgent appeal for flood victims in Central Vietnam due to heavy rains, and flooding that lasted for many weeks. We were overwhelmed with the generous support of members and the general public and the total donation for VNF Flood Appeal is AUD44,432. VNF worked with four partners to deliver urgent aids: Chung Tay Vì Cộng Đồng in

Saigon, Dr Trần Đức Anh Sơn in Đà Nẵng, Mr Trần Quyết Thắng of RB4K in Hà Tĩnh, and Tuổi Trẻ Newspaper.

VNF Covid Relief Appeal 2021:

In August 2021, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis in and around Saigon, VNF launched an urgent Covid relief appeal and received overwhelming responses from members and supporters. We also created a successful Facebook Covid Fundraiser, which in turn inspired two of our supporters to create their own FB Covid fund raising initiatives on our behalf. In addition, we also received donations totalling \$10,000 from corporate and individual members of the Lions Club of Western Sydney towards our Vietnam Covid relief efforts.

In total, VNF raised and sent \$74,000 to three partner charity groups in Vietnam: Chung Tay Vì Cộng Đồng (Volunteer Together As Community); Hành Trình Yêu Thương (The Journey of Love); and Diêu Giác Orphanage. The funds were used to provide health-grade PPEs, sanitisers, cleaning agents and basic medication to major makeshift hospitals in and around Saigon, supplementary meals for patients, front-line health workers and volunteers in quarantine centres and hospitals, fresh foodstuff, rice, meals, sanitisers, and masks to families hard hit by the Covid lockdown, Covid-safe emergency transport of Covid patients to and from hospitals, and to care for orphans during the Pandemic.

VNF Ambassadors:

In September 2020, VNF Board established the VNF Ambassador program to expand awareness of VNF, especially amongst Gen X and Gen Y. Miss Mai Nguyen-Long has accepted the Board's invitation to be the first Ambassador of VNF and has been successful in raising the profile of Vietnam Foundation via Facebook and her extensive contacts. Early this year, we welcome our second Ambassador Mrs Robin Dinh. Robin brings to VNF her extensive support network and experiences as former Executive Officer and Acting Executive Director for the NSW United Nations Association.

We welcome one new director Dr Ken Khoa Ho-Le. Ken, a CEO of his software company, has a wealth of experience in business and charity volunteering to VN.

We hope you enjoy reading our e-Newsletter prepared by our Director Prof. Binh Tran-Nam and come to you twice a year. Your feedback on its content is most welcome.

It has been a challenging time to live through the Covid pandemic as it is spreading around the world. However, we have managed to continue our charity projects in VN after some short delays. Both our Flood Relief Appeal and Covid-19 Relief Appeal have exceeded our expectation, thanks to your generous supports and donations.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year of 2022.

Dr Lý Gia Nhân

President

20/12/2021