



GREEN CROSS

SAP-VN Quarterly Newsletter No. 71

Fall 2018

A HELPING HAND FOR NEEDY PEOPLE IN VIETNAM

12881 Knott Street, Suite 116
Garden Grove, CA 92841
Phone & Fax (714) 901-1997
Email: info@sap-vn.org
Web: <http://www.sap-vn.org>
Federal EIN 33-0539755
CA Corp. #1838385

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FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- SAP-VN's mission is to improve the quality of life for the poor and the disabled in Vietnam and local communities in Southern California with services mainly in healthcare, education and social welfare.

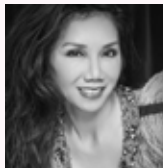
- Funding for SAP-VN programs comes from private donations and fundraising proceeds. All donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.

- To receive a Green Cross newsletter, please email your name and address to SAP-VN.

Email Address: info@sap-vn.org

GIFT OF HOPE 16

CHO EM
NIỀM
HY VỌNG



DATE & TIME

Sunday, Oct. 21, 2018 5 PM

LOCATION

Mon Amour Banquet
3150 W Lincoln Ave.
Suite 134 Anaheim, CA

TICKETS

\$50/regular, \$100/VIP

SINGERS

Nguyễn Khang
Trúc Linh
Vasa Diệu Nga
Mimi Lê

CONTACT SAP-VN FOR TICKETS

sapvntix@gmail.com
(714) 901-1997

or get tickets by visiting...

New View Optometry
10872 Westminster Ave.
Garden Grove, CA
(714) 636-9585

THE GIFT OF HOPE
is a dinner gala that benefits
handicapped Vietnamese
children, and supports other
SAP-VN charitable activities.



Together, we can make a difference.

HỘI ĐỒNG QUẢN TRỊ

ĐẶNG KHANH
ĐOÀN KIẾN TRUNG
HƯƠNG-ANH LONG
NGUYỄN CHI LAN
NGUYỄN THỊNH
NGUYỄN THỦY TRINA
TRẦN TRỌNG HIẾU
TRẦN QUỲNH
TRẦN THUẬN

...

BAN ĐIỀU HÀNH

NGUYỄN NGỌC THÀNH
Chủ Tịch Danh Dự
NGUYỄN CHI-LAN
Thư Ký
ĐOÀN KIẾN TRUNG
Thủ Quỹ

...

CỘNG TÁC VIÊN

(Việt Nam)
NGUYỄN HỮU NGHĨA
KIỀU VĂN ĐỨC
TĂNG NGỌC HUẾ

...

• Social Assistance Program For Vietnam (SAP-VN) là một tổ chức từ thiện được thành lập vào năm 1992 theo qui chế 501(c)3.

• SAP-VN chủ trương trợ giúp người nghèo kém may mắn và trẻ em khuyết tật ở Việt Nam và trong cộng đồng địa phương vùng nam California.

• SAP-VN được quản trị và điều hành bởi các tình nguyện viên làm việc bất vụ lợi và không hưởng lương.

• Tất cả các chương trình trợ giúp của SAP-VN đều được thực hiện trực tiếp với các thiện nguyện viên ở Hoa Kỳ và cộng tác viên ở Việt Nam.

• Ngân quỹ hoạt động của SAP-VN do sự đóng góp tài chánh của mạnh thường quân và những cuộc gây quỹ.

• SAP-VN mong được sự tiếp tay của quý vị hảo tâm để có ngân quỹ hoạt động, để giới thiệu về SAP-VN, và giúp phổ biến bản tin đến thân hữu nhiệt tâm ở các nơi khác.

• Muốn nhận Green Cross, xin vui lòng gửi email tên và địa chỉ về SAP-VN

info@sap-vn.org

• Chi phiếu ủng hộ xin ghi tên

SAP-VN

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SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR VIETNAM (SAP-VN) FINANCIAL STATEMENT (January 1 to December 31, 2017)

REVENUES

Direct Public Contributions	\$99,632	45.29%
CFC Revenue	\$1,999	0.91%
Fundraising Revenue (Net)	\$118,322	53.79%
Bank Interests	\$27	0.01%

TOTAL REVENUES **\$219,980** **100.00%**

EXPENSES

Dues/Fees	\$4,074	1.56%
Office Supplies & Expenses	\$870	0.33%
Postage/Mailing	\$464	0.18%
Telephone/Internet	\$1,604	0.61%
Utilities	\$540	0.21%
Rent	\$12,600	4.81%
Printing	\$1,020	0.39%

Subtotal (Management & General, USA) **\$21,172** **8.09%**

Education Projects	\$11,826	4.52%
Mobile Care Project	\$29,655	11.33%
Orthopedic Surgery Program	\$128,523	49.08%
Cataract Surgery	\$37,894	14.47%
Heart Surgery	\$11,488	4.39%
Bicycles for poor students	\$10,796	4.12%
Administrative Expenses in Vietnam	\$5,212	1.99%
Other Small Projects	\$4,379	1.67%
Conference/Travel (1 trip to VN)	\$905	0.35%

Subtotal (Program Services, Vietnam) **\$240,679** **91.91%**

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$261,850**

REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES **(\$41,871)**

BEGINNING OF 2017 BALANCE **\$334,451**

ENDING BALANCE (Dec. 31, 2017) **\$292,580**

LETTER FROM SAP-VN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Volunteers and Supporters,

SAP-VN would like to express our sincere appreciation for your trust and support to allow us to continue our mission to improve the quality of life of the poor and disabled.

SAP-VN sponsored 463 corrective orthopedic surgeries in 2017 for disabled children in Vietnam to maximize their functional potential, thanks to your generous donations. In 2018 our sponsorship for the Orthopedic Program remains approximately the same. However, if funding permits we would like to expand the program in 2019. Additionally, this year we provided invaluable gifts of life to 5 heart surgery patients and precious gifts of sight to 870 patients in our Cataract Surgery Program. We also donated 200 bicycles to poor students and funded vocational training for over 50 handicapped students. All of these goals would be unachievable without your sponsorship.

SAP-VN charitable activities also include direct volunteer programs both at home and abroad. This past August our 150 plus volunteers of the Mobile Care Program provided medical, dental, and optometry services directly to over 3000 poor villagers in Vietnam. This past March, in partnership with the University of Cần-Thơ Dental School, our volunteers screened, educated, treated, and provided dental hygiene supplies to 1,500 school age kids and their families in our Vietnam Smiles program. Throughout the year in Orange County, we volunteered at homeless shelters and food banks, and brought Vietnamese language games and music to seniors in local nursing homes.

SAP-VN has been operating under the guidance of nine dedicated members of the Board of Directors. In 2018 we welcomed three new members to complete our Board:

1. Hieu Tran - A Business and Technology Executive, he already gave great inputs to improve our operation. He was the Treasurer for Mobile Care 2018 and wants to develop young leaders to continue our work in the future.

2. Ngoc Thuy Trina Nguyen - An Optometrist, she led Mobile

Care 2018 Optometry team. She is in charge of our Cataract Surgery Program. She also has great talent in fundraising and is presently SAP-VN Fundraising Committee Chairperson.

3. Thuan Tran - A Family Practice Physician, he led the Medical Team in this year Mobile Care and is in charge of our Heart Surgery Program.

The rest of the Board of Directors includes:

1. Trung Doan - A Dentist, he has been the leader of Mobile Care for multiple years including the last one this August. He is also our trusted Treasurer.

2. Quynh Tran - A Dentist, he has been the Co-leader of Mobile Care in recent years and is very active in developing services to allow our dental and medical programs to be more sustainable. He is also an energetic leader of the local projects.

3. Chi Lan Nguyen - An Engineer, she is our Secretary and keeps SAP-VN running smoothly. She is also a very active leader of the local projects.

4. Huong Anh Long - A Rehabilitation Physician, She had led Mobile Care Medical Team for many years. She is presently the medical consultant for SAP-VN Orthopedic Program.

5. Khanh Dang - A Pharmacist, he has led pharmacy team for multiple Mobile Care trips including this year.

6. Thinh Nguyen - An Engineer, he was Gift of Hope Chairperson for many years and recently has been assisting with the entertainment for our local nursing home visit.

The Board of Directors of SAP-VN strives to promote a supportive environment where we can celebrate our diversity, communicate our ideas, channel our passion and contribute our individual talents to serve the poor and the vulnerable here and in Vietnam. Our activities however won't be possible without the strong and active support and contributions from so many volunteers and talents of all ages, from retirees, to working professionals, to business owners, to college/high school students, as well as boy & girl scouts. Together, we can make a difference.



HIEU TRAN



TRINA T. NGUYEN



THUAN TRAN



TRUNG DOAN



QUYNH TRAN



CHILAN NGUYEN



HUONGANH LONG



KHANH DANG



THINH NGUYEN

SAP-VN 2017 SUMMARY REPORT -TỔNG KẾT CHƯƠNG TRÌNH TRỢ GIÚP 2017

Location Địa Điểm	Program Chương trình	Beneficiary Đối tượng Thụ hưởng
12 Provinces & Cities Throughout Vietnam	Orthopedic Surgery - mổ Chỉnh Hình	463 patients
Khanh Hoa Province	Free Meals for Handicapped Children - Bữa Cơm Miễn Phí cho Trẻ Em Khuyết Tật	30 children
Sai Gon	Vocational Training for Handicapped Youth - Huấn Nghệ cho Trẻ Em Khuyết Tật	15 students
Sai Gon	Tet Gift of Needy Families - Quà Tết cho Hộ Nghèo	100 families
An Giang Province	Heart Surgery - mổ Tim	5 children
Chau Phu District, An Giang Province	Mobile Care Mission - Y Tế Lưu Động	2530 medical patients 1,577 dental patients 2,005 optometric patients
Can Tho & Tra Vinh Province	Cataract Surgery - mổ Mắt Cườm	870 patients
Dong Thap Province & An Giang Province	Bicycles for Needy Students - Xe Đạp cho Học Sinh Nghèo	200 students

REPORT OF SUMMER 2018 VIETNAM TRIP BY THANH NGUYEN

I. VISIT AND MEET

- Home follow-up visits conducted in 13 big cities and provinces including
 - Orthopedic Patients: 58
 - Cataract Patients: 7
 - Heart Patient: 1
 - Bicycle Recipients: 2
- Visits with patients who were being treated at orthopedic hospitals and centers in Ha Noi, Thai Nguyen, Ninh Binh, Thanh Hoa, Quy Nhon, and Can Tho.
- Work with the Eye Hospital in Can Tho regarding Cataract Surgery project.
- Visit the Vocational Center for Handicapped Youth in Hoc Mon (Ceramic Flower Making class)

II. OBSERVATION

- Most orthopedic patients showed various positive levels of improvement. Some patients with cerebral palsy (CP) are now walking.

- One orthopedic case in Dong Thap was unsatisfactory due to both surgical technique as well as post-op care. The patient's fingers were all fused together before surgery. The first surgery successfully separated the thumb. The second surgery were to separate the middle and the index fingers. However, at the time of visit, the cut is fused back again. I discussed this case with the surgeon and hospital.



- Out of 61 patients who had cataract surgery in June, seven patients came to O Mon district general hospital for follow-up check. All are happy with their corrected eyes. The local hospital took good care of patients.



Cataract surgery patients



Orthopedic surgery children

- The families of two students who got bicycles in An Giang are very poor. Their dwellings are remote.
- The child in An Giang with heart surgery is now healthy and happy.



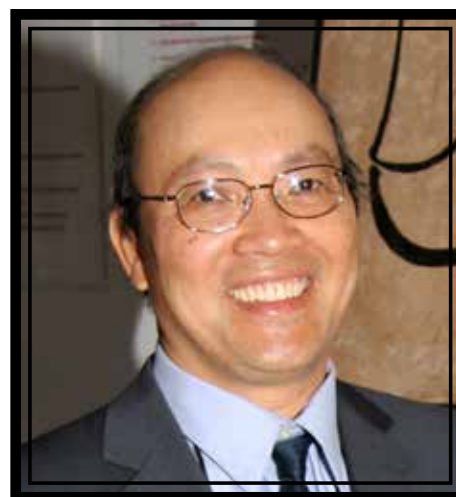
Thanh (L-standing) and Nghia - SAP-VN Associate (R-standing) visited Vocational Center for Handicapped Youth in Hoc Mon

ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY 2017 CHƯƠNG TRÌNH MỔ CHỈNH HÌNH (413 surgery patients + 50 patients wth equipment)

Location Địa Điểm	Number of Patients Số Bệnh Nhân
Hà Nội	35
Ninh Bình	69
Thanh Hóa	79
Tuyên Quang	46
Cao Bằng	42
Thái Nguyên	50
Bình Định	16
Khánh Hòa	6
BV Quy Nhơn	13
An Giang	20
Đồng Tháp	19
Trà Vinh	7
Cần Thơ	11

CATARACT SURGERY 2017 CHƯƠNG TRÌNH MỔ MẮT CƯỜM

Location Địa Điểm	Number of Patients Số Bệnh Nhân
BVĐK Thốt Nốt	174
BVĐK Phong Điền- Cần Thơ	193
BVĐK Ô Môn- Cần Thơ	175
BVĐK TƯ TP Cần Thơ	29
BV Mắt TP Cần Thơ	150
BVĐK Cầu Kè, Trà Vinh	93
BVĐK Cầu Ngang, Trà Vinh	56



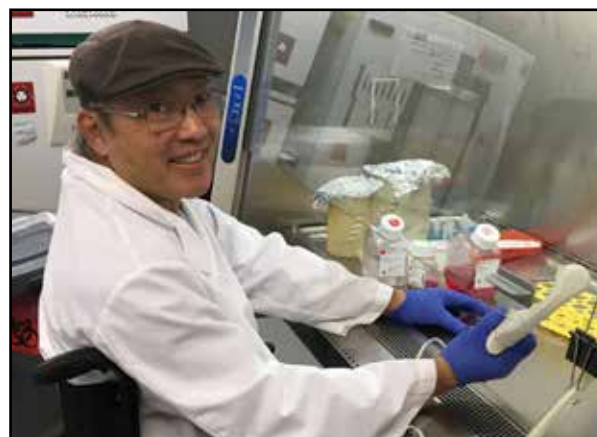
DUONG P. HUYNH 1957 – 2018

Dr. Stefan M. Pulst

Duong Huynh, PhD, passed away in Sai Gon, Vietnam as a result of rapidly progressing septic shock. He had just celebrated his 61st birthday. Duong joined the University of Utah in 2008 as Research Associate Professor. Prior to this, he was an Associate Professor in Medicine at the UCLA School of Medicine.

Duong was born in Hoi An near Da Nang, Vietnam. During the Vietnam war, he was injured as a child, when a bullet severed his thoracic cord during crossfire in an American internment camp where his family had been relocated from their village. This left him paraplegic for life. Undeterred by war and disability and without family, he taught himself reading and English in the hospital and subsequently on a red cross ship that eventually took him to Long Beach, California. There, he rapidly progressed from elementary to high school in 5 years and entered undergraduate studies at UC Riverside. He completed his PhD in biochemistry at UC Riverside in 1991.

From 1991 to 1994, Duong spent his post-doctoral fellowship with my group in Los Angeles starting with work on neurofibromin and schwannomin. He then changed his interests to genes involved in movement disorders working on parkin, ataxin-2, and alpha-synuclein.



Duong at his research lab

Duong was as fearless in science as he was in life. He recognized early on the importance of animal models for the study of neurodegeneration using transgenic and knockout approaches. His observations led to the recognition that intranuclear protein aggregates were not essential for some forms of neurodegeneration. More recently, he was an early adopter of gene editing technology and used this approach to generate cell lines for large-scale compound screening to reduce expression of alpha synuclein. This led to the award of a major grant from the Michael J. Fox Foundation to conduct a compound screen using this cell line.



Duong visiting a disabled child who was sponsored by SAP-VN's orthopedic surgery program

A mission as important as science to Duong was mentorship of students. He leaves a legacy of Vietnamese students who received their first introduction to neuroscience or even science under his tutelage. Many of them are now doctors, scientists, or pharmacists practicing all over the world. He was a leader in the Vietnamese community here in Utah and in Los Angeles and was revered by members of the community. He served on the Board of Directors for Social Assistance Program for Vietnam, a charitable

organization providing health care for children. After reading an article in Science about self-composting toilets and always practically minded, he personally funded the construction of the first public lavatories in his home village. Vietnamese New Year's celebration at his condominium brought together members of the university community from many backgrounds.

Despite bearing such personal scars from the military conflict in Vietnam he saw himself as an ambassador to bridge the past's conflicts, help mentor the next generation and develop institutions that would enable lasting change. He detested ignorance and corruption and was a strong proponent for the freedom of ideas. His plan was to join universities in Saigon and Da Nang with the goal to establish collaborations with the University of Utah.

Last year, Julie and I had the memorable experience to travel with Duong from Saigon to Da Nang and on to Hanoi. One of our most vivid recollections was a seminar that Duong had organized in a book store in Saigon as the universities could not accommodate speakers after 5PM. It was a magical moment for the two of us lecturing with Duong. Instead of a university audience, Duong had invited the Saigon neuroscience Facebook group, a group of young and enthusiastic scientists and clinicians. Duong chaired the session, translated,



Duong visiting a disabled child who was sponsored by SAP-VN's wheelchair program

interpreted, made connections, brought people together, and translated science not only as science but as culture and a way of life. In his frugal and ingenious way, he had created an international symposium that surpassed many of the formal ones Julie and I have attended.

He is survived by his mother, two brothers, and many nieces and nephews. We will establish a memorial fund in the department according to the wishes of the family focused on enhancing US-Vietnamese collaboration for young scientists.

Duong never stopped to dwell on the negative and always pushed forward. He was generous with his time and experience, and always willing to share. We have lost a great colleague and will miss his whimsical smile, his indomitable spirit, and his generous humanity.



In loving Memory of Dr. Duong Huynh!

MOBILE CARE 2018 REPORT

Location: Phong Dien & Thoi Lai districts, Can Tho city

Time: July 30 - August 3, 2018

Volunteers: 140 (13 physicians, 1 physician assistant, 17 dentists, 1 dental hygienist, 6 pharmacists, 1 optometrists, 1 nurse and support volunteers)

Services:

• Total number of patients seen:	3,500
• Number of medical exams and Rx given:	2,670
• Number of eye exams and glasses given:	1,784
• Number of dental fillings and extractions:	504

Funding:

Individual Donors	\$12,616
MAST Cares:	\$20,000
Wal-Mart Global Sourcing-VN:	\$1,000
Ngân Khôi Chorus	\$1,000
Ananda Entertainment	\$2,205
San Diego VN Dental Association	\$14,670
Registration Fees	\$17,250
Total (Cash) Funding	\$68,741

Expenses:

Medicine:	\$11,362
Dental Supplies:	\$8,266
Reading & Custom Glasses:	\$3,547
Transportations:	\$4,511
Food/Water:	\$5,265
Lodging (drivers and local guests):	\$725
Miscellaneous:	\$4,194
Total Expense:	\$37,870

ONE STEP AT A TIME

Thao Nguyen

As I took my first steps into the streets, my adrenaline suddenly increased. Swarms of motorbikes passing in every direction, shops and living spaces condensed into dilapidated narrow streets as diverse collections of aromas arise from the open food market vendors. The culture shock never completely disappears. It was my second time visiting Vietnam, but every turn of the corner I found myself exposed to new experiences that would continually shape my perspective on life, culture, and heritage.

During the preparations leading up to my mission trip with SAP-VN, my anticipation left me with a mix of emotions: excitement, anxiety and uncertainty. Our team leaders had fully informed and prepared us prior as what was to come, especially for the new members of the group like me. I had already known from that point this mission would not be like an ordinary day at the office in America with accustomed familiar surroundings. There would be some adapting to changes in unorthodox settings, but that was what I am prepared for when I first signed up.

As the first day of mission work drew closer, I tried to shake off the nerves and regain a determined mindset. There was

no room for self-doubt, fear, or weakness. I sucked up my courage and faced the trip with my head held high. Upon arrival by buses to our destination site, we were instantly greeted by warm smiles from patients who have been waiting for us. People came in masses and each day the numbers grew by word of mouth. This was it, time to make a difference.

It was difficult not to disregard the adversity in the day to day life of many individuals, especially in the rural areas of Vietnam. It was evident that the underserved community had to endure ruthless living conditions which impacted their health priorities. The laborious and fast-paced working conditions tested my endurance and resilience. Constantly on my feet to accommodate the huge masses that were seeking dental care, both professionals and volunteers tried to maximize their efforts in providing the utmost beneficial services for people with limited health care. When I was dental assisting, I encountered many patients with dental conditions beyond repair as a consequence of neglected dental care. It was inconceivable to hear that so many people in Vietnam were deprived of the basic necessities due to financial constraints or, even worse, no means of accessing healthcare. This mission gave me the opportunity to have more interaction between the patient and I. Throughout the trip my empathy has grown exponentially as I got to see a new side to working in a less fortunate society. Seeing people from all ages and their ranges of health gave me this newfound spark to work my best every day and solidifying why I decided to pursue dentistry in general.

Something as simple as teeth cleaning may not be as significant or taken for granted by some back in the states, but it means the world to these people. Most people may experience

this once in their lifetime where they were treated by U.S medical professionals. This revelation motivated me to keep my momentum and push through to help make an positive impact in the community.

Like I mentioned before, this mission trip has molded my mind into a more diverse perspective of what it is like to serve and weave into my culture from where my roots originated.



Thao and her father, Mr. Bang Nguyen, volunteered at MC 2018



Thao worked as a dental assistant

I am constantly reminded of the rich traditions from what my country exudes, through exploration and discovery. During the day, most people are entrepreneurs of their own businesses whether it be farming or specialty shops. They take great pride in their work and being able to see the craftsmanship put into the process of their products showed the uniqueness and character of the items itself, similar to the people in Vietnam. The city comes to life even at night, when the temperatures are cooler to enjoy the outdoor activities and celebrate with friends and family after a hard day's work. Waking up every day to see the hustle and bustle of the morning risers help set my mood to a productive and hard-working mindset, reminding me of my culture to always push yourself to succeed not only in our profession, but to better ourselves. This was both refreshing and enriching to live in this humble state to give me a chance to have an impact on a person, one at a time no matter what the reason.

My initial fear of surpassing the language barrier, food poisoning, and weak immune system became negligible. As the days progressed towards the end of the mission, that fear was substituted with feelings of gratitude, humbleness, and happiness. Coming together as a community to fulfill a greater purpose for the well-being of others is everything that embodies SAP-VN. It was a privilege and an honor to work alongside the most selfless, kind hearted,



Thao and friends

hard-working people that I consider to be my extended family. This was one of the most eye-opening, unforgettable and humbling experiences that I had the opportunity to participate in. Not only was this trip rewarding and heartfelt, but also a memorable one.

People always tell you stick to what you are comfortable with, but stepping out of your comfort zone is where you start to grow and change. This mission trip was a stepping stone to learning more about the world and learning more about myself. It's challenging when you immerse yourself into a whole new environment, but who does not want a little adventure in their lives. This trip made it in the books for me to not only gain experience in clinical work for my field, but also understand the people and culture as well.

"MỘT MIẾNG KHÍ ĐÓI BẰNG MỘT GÓI KHÍ NO"

Hamilton Tran

After the first day of Mobile Care mission, I enjoyed a good meal with some other college students that I met. We were looking forward to going back to our hotel to refuel for the next day, but as we were about to leave, my dad asked us if we wanted to help a man at a hospital. I couldn't help but think to myself, "Haven't we helped enough today?"

My dad told us the story of this 59-year-old man named Nguyễn Thanh Sơn who cooks rice porridge for people caring for loved ones in a hospital in Cần Thơ. Many of these people live on farms and can't afford to pay medical expenses and for their own food while staying temporarily in the city; so Mr. Sơn decided to do something about this issue. He uses the little money he makes from his day job of fixing flat tires to buy rice to cook for the poor. He has been doing this every single night for 8 years.

After hearing about Mr. Sơn's story, my little sister, Hailey, from Canyon High School, donated the Vietnamese Student Association's club funds of \$73 to help his operation; with the club's help, we went out and bought 50 kg bags of rice. By the time we arrived at the hospital, Mr. Sơn finished serving food because he ran out of rice. My dad approached him and explained why our group came to see him. Mr. Sơn was so surprised, he had nothing to say.

When Mr. Sơn finally spoke, he told us, "Be kind to be kind, and not for anything else." He spent his own money, time, and labor, and didn't want anything in return. He didn't even want the recognition. All he wanted was to help the poor people that get into desperate situation and couldn't help themselves!

Mr. Sơn showed us what real compassion looked like and from then on, I couldn't help but think to myself, "What more can I do to help?"



Hamilton & Ryan carrying a donated bag of rice



Mr. Sơn and his rice porridge pot

A BRIEF REFLECTION

Ethan Le

To be honest I did not expect much from my SAP-VN mission trip. This was my third year participating in the mobile care mission and I expected the same routine experience: work, eat, sleep, repeat. I admit, while there is always gratification in helping others, never did I expect that this experience would be so fun or eventful. This time around, being apart of the dental sterilization team, we did not get much, if any of the glory or recognition. We never got to work with patients, never got pictures with cute children, never got Instagram worthy action shots, and never heard the interesting stories of these people. In fact, on one occasion, these fools actually left to get on the busses without realizing we were still working to finish up the last batch of equipment.

Because of this job, my experience was very different than most people's. In the situation that I was put in, part of me wished that I was a dental assistant like in previous years. I wished that I had a more alluring job that worked with patients. On the first day of the mission, I remember dreading my job. As a team, we were placed in the back of the buildings with nothing to look at other than an old decrepit wall. Over the course of the day, we would sit, wait, wash some tools, and sit again. If you know the song "down by the bay", we basically sung that song on repeat as our entertainment. Anyways, to put it shortly, the first day was terrible; however, when the second day rolled around, as mundane as our job seemed, it became one of the most humbling and gratifying experiences of my life.

With the second day of the trip underway, we decided to plug in a speaker and start playing jams. As we were in the corner washing tools, singing and dancing to music was what kept us energized. While doing our jobs, we had no intentions of



Ethan and Kevin were also among those who helped Mr. Son

drawing attention. However, when a group of young, handsome, vietnamese boys start singing and dancing, it is hard not to watch. As we danced and sung in front of crowds of elderly vietnamese people, we looked very dumb. Regardless, the animated smiles and buoyant laughs were so rewarding. In those moments, it never occurred to me how such small actions can create such a positive reactions on people. Being there and putting myself out there for strangers to see, it helped me realize that there are opportunities to brighten people's day in everything that you do; it showed to me the power of a wave, a smile, and a little bit of singing and dancing can have on a person's day. Now looking back at my time working, I can truly say I wouldn't have it any other way.

Lastly, in addition to the fun and gratification of working, I also had a great time with the people around me. Working with so many like minded people, and seeing so many work towards a single goal was very much inspiring to me. More specifically, in my own personal experience, I enjoyed meeting new people and exploring the city of Can Tho. Over the course of the trip, I befriended so many amazing people, and shared amazing



SAP-VN Mobile Care Team 2018 - Phong Điền & Thới Lai Districts, Cần Thơ City



Ethan worked in the Dental team with his mother, Dr. An Nguyen

experiences with them. We enjoyed many meals, adventures, memories, and even a few drinks together (don't tell my mom). Through the good, the bad, and the ugly (if you know, you know) moments of the trip, there were always great people around me, and I want to thank them for making my experience so great.

So to sum up my trip, it was one of the most thrilling experiences that I have ever had. If you ever wondered what a SAP-VN trip is like, I am here to tell you that it is the experience that you

make it. A SAP-VN mission is about learning and discovery. During my mission, I learned a lot. I learned to always make the most with what you have. I learned to cherish the small moments in life. I learned to put myself out there. I learned to be grateful for what I have. I learned to be proud of being Vietnamese. I learned that anything is fun with great company. Above all, I learned that a SAP-VN mission is not just about witnessing squalor and helping the underprivileged; a SAP-VN mission is about coming together as a community to create memorable moments not only with those that we serve, but also those that we work with.

JOHN CAMPBELL'S ROLE IN THIS TRIP ALWAYS INTERESTED ME.

Benjamin Bui

He was not Vietnamese. He spoke very little Vietnamese. He wasn't one of the team leaders, nor was he a doctor that treated the patients. Even with these considerations, John has been volunteering for SAP-VN mission for several years. Thus, his determination to help the Vietnamese people interested me.

Later, I found out that he took pictures of the locals. At first this surprised me since volunteers could use 3 seconds of their time to capture a heartfelt moment, eventually sharing on social media. However, John took a step further by printing out the images with a small printer he carried. In one instance, I saw him enter the optometry room noticing a young Vietnamese girl wearing a red dress. While waiting for her mother, she danced and twirled in the room, keeping herself occupied. After the mother finished her examination, John



Mr. John Campbell's role as a photographer

approached the two. With a kind smile, he used rudimentary sign language to indicate his camera and small printer.

Before leaving with the picture, the mother smiled and thanked John for his kindness. I commented on his kind efforts, and he replied about how he enjoyed the smiles of the Vietnamese locals that accepted his pictures. Curious, I asked him why he decided to give physical copies. He explained that he initially gave pictures out of generosity; however, one Vietnamese local asked John to take a picture for his altar. This surprised me as it revealed John's deeper level of care and understanding for the Vietnamese people. Not only has he been taking pictures, but also being respectful to the Vietnamese culture.

Before my volunteering interview, I worried whether I qualified to participate in the mission. I spoke mediocre Vietnamese. I was not a doctor. I had no experience in Vietnam. However, after watching John's involvement, I began to think that these factors were not as important as I led them to be. Of course, it would be beneficial and easier, but John was able to make an impact without these aspects. As a result, John demonstrated the heart of volunteering: helping while stepping out of your comfort zone. It is simple to help a person but to be able to challenge yourself to improve and go even further makes the event meaningful.

You don't need to be Vietnamese, be in the medical field, or speak Vietnamese. All you need is the enthusiasm and perseverance to help. Like John, you can inspire others.

I would like to thank the SAP-VN organization and Mr. John Campbell for the inspiration, experience, and ability to make a difference.

TRẦN QUÍ

Tăng Ngọc Huê

Mới đó mà đã 4 năm trôi qua thật nhanh (2015-2018), tôi cũng không nghĩ đã là 4 năm tôi đồng hành cùng SAP-VN. Từ những năm trước 2015, tôi công tác tại một ngân hàng có thể gọi là hàng đầu tại Việt Nam (Sacombank). Nơi đó cũng cho tôi rất nhiều giá trị về cuộc sống, về sự yêu thương và trân quý đồng nghiệp, khách hàng cũng như các hoạt động từ thiện mang quy mô lớn nhỏ khác nhau.

Ở đó công việc của tôi cũng như các bạn đồng nghiệp cùng cấp thì rất thích đi những chuyến từ thiện đến những nơi thật xa, khó khăn và dài ngày. Nhưng vì lý do công việc chúng tôi không có nhiều thời gian mà tôi thì rất thích đi như thế. Có thể nói đó là ước mơ của tôi cứ nghĩ mình sẽ khó có thể thực hiện. Đến khi tôi quá mệt mỏi vì áp lực công việc và đã hoàn tất các thủ tục nghỉ việc tại ngân hàng tôi đã gắn bó 8 năm, tình cờ tôi nhận được lời rủ rê đi từ thiện từ 1 người em gái chơi chung nhóm (Nhưng Lâm) và em ấy đã giới thiệu tôi đến SAP-VN. Thế là ước mơ của tôi đã đến rồi! Từ đó tôi được lời mời cộng tác từ SAP-VN như là cộng tác viên chính thức tại Việt Nam.

Những năm qua trước mỗi chuyến đi đều có những thuận lợi và khó khăn khác nhau, nhưng năm nay có những khó khăn những tưởng đã không thực hiện được vào phút chót. Nhưng Thượng Đế không phụ lòng người tốt vì những điều tốt đẹp mà những năm qua SAP-VN đã gieo hạt tại Việt Nam. Các thủ tục xin phép gần như được các ban, ngành, sở chấp



*Cộng tác viên SAP-VN
ở Việt Nam, Huế Tăng*

thuận, tiền trạm, hậu cần gần như hoàn thành 99%. Đùng một cái còn 1 tuần nữa Mobile Care (MC) 2018 diễn ra, địa điểm của chúng tôi làm việc người ta bắt phải dời địa điểm; tôi nhận được cuộc điện thoại làm tôi không ngủ được cả đêm và sáng hôm sau tôi phải cùng đối tác đi tiền trạm và bắt đầu lại từ đầu kế hoạch; may mắn thay mọi việc đều tốt đẹp như được an bày, mọi việc điều thuận lợi.

Sự thuận lợi đó là nhờ sự giúp đỡ từ Bác sĩ Nguyễn Thanh Liêm cùng Hội Bảo Trợ Bệnh Nhân Nghèo TP Cần Thơ, Hội

Chữ Thập Đỏ huyện Thới Lai và việc tạo điều kiện từ phía nhà trường và các cơ quan chức năng có liên quan.

Một hình ảnh rất hiếm thấy đối với một vị thầy thuốc đáng kính như Bs Liêm, rất chuẩn mực về chuyên môn và tác phong làm việc rất chuyên nghiệp. Lúc nào bác cũng là người đi đầu chuẩn bị mọi điều thuận lợi trước khi đoàn đến, chính vì lẽ đó mà các cấp, ngành rất nể trọng khi bác đến làm việc. Thật đáng trân quý tấm lòng ấy.

Quá trình diễn ra MC, tôi thấy một hình ảnh nữa mà đọng lại trong tôi rất nhiều cảm xúc từ phía địa phương là các em tình nguyện áo xanh, rất nhanh nhẹn và ân cần dịu dặt và chỉ dẫn tất cả mọi người đến đúng vị trí.

Một sự kiện nào đó diễn ra cũng không thể thiếu đội hậu cần, lo cho đoàn từ miếng ăn, giấc ngủ cũng may thay tôi có được các mối quan hệ với các bạn Nhung Lâm, Bích Vân và hai bạn từ Câu Lạc Bộ Vì Trẻ Thơ của Đại học Y dược TP Cần Thơ là Diễm Quỳnh và Dạ Thảo; các bạn hậu thuẫn trong việc này nhiều năm rất nhiệt tình và chu đáo. Các bạn luôn sát cánh cùng tôi từ trước những ngày diễn ra 1 tuần và đến khi MC 2018 hoàn thành tốt đẹp.

Và một điều rất quan trọng của mỗi chuyến đi đó là tài chính. Tôi và tất cả mọi người tại Việt Nam rất lấy làm hạnh phúc và trân quý những tấm lòng của tất cả thành viên SAP-VN, các



*Huế Tăng (ngồi dưới) cùng các thành viên
nhóm được Mobile Care 2018*

anh chị đã đóng góp tiền bạc và giành cả mùa hè cho chuyến đi. Từ những em nhỏ tuổi nhất đến người lớn tuổi cùng làm việc quên đi sự mệt mỏi và đói khát.

Chính vì lẽ đó tôi và SAP-VN rất trân quý và ghi nhận những sự đóng góp ấy với tất cả mọi người. Mong rằng MC luôn nhận được những sự chào đón nhiệt tình trong những năm sắp tới tại mọi nơi như tại Cần Thơ thân yêu, và mong rằng tất cả chúng ta đều đồng hành cùng nhau vì những điều tốt đẹp ấy.

Kính chúc sức khỏe mọi người làm vì những điều tốt đẹp!

IT IS GOOD TO BE HOME...

Marta Philips

It is good to be home where people speak English and have sun damaged skin. I have never seen so many women with flawless skin in my life, from ages 20 to 70 years old. Must be in the water.

The SAP-VN experience was wonderful and extremely well planned. From the preparation to leave, to the work day itself. This was my first time going on the mission and although every work day was utter chaos, it was organized chaos. Getting 500 plus strangers medically checked out, then given the dental/medical/vision and pharmacological care they needed was a daunting task.

I have worked with the poor for much of my adult life, so the condition of the people we saw was not new to me. Being a dental assistant sure was, however. I saw some of the nastiest looking mouths I have ever seen, but the dentists I worked with did not even bat an eye. It was a wonderful experience working next to dentist who put such conscience, love, and caring into working with each and every patient they saw.

One young girl we saw, I am guessing around 12 years old had black, rotten, chipped and missing teeth. She did not have a nice smile at all. The dentist did some extractions and then used a kind of putty on the front teeth, shaping them into beautiful white teeth. This little girl, at an age when how you look means so much, walked away with a beautiful smile of "perfect" teeth. I sure wish we had had a mirror. I would have loved to see her face when she first saw her teeth.

There were numerous other stories of good people being helped during that week. These included procedures ranging from removal of abscessed teeth (can't imagine the pain these people suffer on a daily basis because they can't afford care), to being on their way to seeing again after cataract surgery, and other surgeries to correct arms and leg problems, and even heart issues.

Going on mission leaves you with a real appreciation for what you have and the joy of being able to help those who do not.



Marta and Dr. An Nguyen

SOME THOUGHTS FROM MOBILE CARE 2018

Kính gửi SAP-VN cùng các cô, chú và anh chị,

Con chúc toàn thể trong gia đình SAP-VN được nhiều sức khỏe và thành công, con cảm ơn rất nhiều đã cho con cơ hội được đồng hành cùng SAP-VN. Bên cạnh đó con cũng không quên người cô đã dạy cho con học tiếng Việt, đó chính là cô Tuyết. Cô đã giới thiệu cho con đến với cơ hội này và đây là lần đầu tiên con được làm việc chung với SAP-VN. Chuyến đi này con được học hỏi thêm từ các cô, chú và các anh chị rất nhiều từ tấm lòng hảo tâm và lương thiện yêu thích sự giúp đỡ hướng về quê hương với tinh thần làm việc của Dr. Trina Thủy, với sự nhiệt huyết và yêu nghề của các bác sĩ không ngại đường xa đã đến với các em khuyết tật ở những vùng sâu, vùng xa.



Tina worked in Optometry team

Traveling to Vietnam to volunteer brought me out of my bubble of Oakland, California. I got to visit rural Vietnam where there was a different culture from that in the US. It's an experience that I cannot find in the States. When I was walking one of the elderly people to the pharmacy, I got to talk to them, and they told me about their lives in Vietnam. Some of them had pretty bad health and felt tired standing up for a long time, but they still came to see us. -- Tina Tran

Dear Mr. Doan,

My name is Alexander Pham, and this was my first time in SAP-VN. I was on the pharmacy team, which had the least amount of people. We definitely struggled at first, but after the 1st day I was really happy with how we (pharmacists/pharmacy volunteers) worked flawlessly and quickly to complete our tasks on time. As a current pharmacy student, I am proud to say that I was on SAP-VN's pharmacy team since I was able to experience all sorts of things that other pharmacy students can't get anywhere else. -- Alexander Pham

MOBILE CARE 2018 FOLLOW-UP CARE

Nguyễn Kỳ Châu

Trong chuyến khám bệnh lưu động (Mobile Care) miễn phí 2018 ở Cần Thơ, mặc dù hơn 3.000 lượt bệnh nhân được khám bệnh, khám răng, phát thuốc, phát kính..., tuy vậy vẫn còn một số trường hợp bệnh đã không thể chẩn đoán và điều trị trong điều kiện của một phòng khám lưu động được. Vì vậy, đây là lần đầu tiên hội SAP-VN thực hiện chương trình giới thiệu tái khám (follow-up care) nhằm giúp cho các bệnh nhân được tiếp tục điều trị tại phòng khám hay bệnh viện ở địa phương.

Chương trình này: mang lại niềm hy vọng rất lớn cho bé Đ có thể sinh hoạt bình thường, không còn mặc cảm với bạn bè vì những bướu máu trên mặt; là niềm vui cho cha mẹ các em bị bại não hay não úng thủy; là cơ hội cho chú H, ông A trút được gánh nặng của cái bướu mang trên người nhiều năm; là niềm tin được sống tốt hơn của các bệnh nhân bị dị tật cổ tay, Parkinson, bệnh thần kinh...



Một vài trường hợp được hội SAP-VN giới thiệu và tài trợ để tiếp tục tái khám và điều trị tại địa phương

Tại Mobile Care 2018, các bác sĩ đã đề nghị tiếp tục điều trị cho 31 trường hợp bệnh đặc biệt như kể trên, 35 trường hợp về mắt (phần lớn là phẫu thuật mắt cườm), và 6 trường hợp bệnh răng miệng được chuyển qua Nha sĩ Khởi, người cộng tác với hội SAP-VN trong chương trình Vietnam Smiles.

Sự thành công của chương trình cũng nhờ vào sự ủng hộ và góp sức nhiệt tình của Bác sĩ Nguyễn Quang Liêm và CTV SAP-VN ở Việt Nam, Tăng Ngọc Huế.

Cũng tại Mobile Care 2018, 50 đối tượng có gia cảnh nghèo khó được chọn để tặng xe đạp: từ cậu bé bị bỏ rơi được chùa nhận nuôi thành chú tiểu, đến người cha dù bệnh tật vẫn phải làm lụng gà trống nuôi hai con ăn học và nhiều học sinh nghèo khác.



The eldest and youngest Mobile Care 2018 volunteers
My-Linh CHTN and Calvin Nguyen

VIETNAM SMILES PROGRAM

Vietnam Smiles is a project that aims to reduce tooth decay and oral diseases in underserved communities in Vietnam.

After years of treating dental patients on our Mobile Care missions, the dental team has repeatedly witnessed an epidemic of poor oral health in many rural areas of Vietnam. The overwhelming majority of adult patients treated have some form of adult periodontal disease and more than 75% suffered from tooth loss. The children served have little or no dental care. Most do not own a toothbrush, and decay rate is alarmingly high. Tooth decay and dental diseases in children compromise their ability to eat, sleep, and function well at home and at school.

To help solve the problem, Vietnam Smile was established as a supplemental project to SAP-VN Mobile Care. Our goal is to educate the importance of oral health to school age children. We believe that the program will be most successful when it is integrated with a public school, and is on an ongoing basis. After a year of planning and acquiring proper permits, Vietnam Smiles is excited to be partnering with Binh Chanh Elementary school and Thach My Tay High School in An Giang. With the collaboration of Can Tho University of Dental School lead by Dr. Nguyen Minh Khoi, our project successfully began with a day of discussion and training with all the teachers and educators of the 2 schools.

The objective of the training is to provide the teachers with the knowledge and the tools to elevate the well-being of their students, starting with their oral health. In addition to regular classroom education and activities, SAP-VN will provide these schools with an annual dental screening and treatment. We will also distribute toothbrushes, toothpastes and educational materials on an on going basis to the students, teachers, as well as their families. This year, our hope is to donate 15000 dental kits to the community. We will continue this project for a few years and evaluate the effectiveness of the program. We hope it will reduce the rate of dental cavities and oral diseases that is so prevalent at this province.

VIETNAM SMILES PROGRESS

On 01/27/2018, Dr. Khoi Nguyen led a group of dental students at Can Tho University to meet with 60 teachers from Binh Chanh Elementary School and Thanh My Tay High School. They spent the day discussing the importance of oral health, and provided the teachers with all the tools and knowledge to inspire their students to take better care of their health.

The training seminar was a success. Teachers were attentive and interactive. At the end of the day, both schools agreed on establishing weekly discussion with the students, and they also planned a tentative schedule for the second phase of the project.

On 3/15-3/16/2018, Vietnam Smiles launched a massive two days dental screening and treatments for students at both schools. Lead by Dr. Huan Do and Dr. Khoi Nguyen, a group of 6 dentists, 1 pharmacist, and 40 dental students from Can Tho Dental School were able to screen 1540 students and treated 323 of them. We did restorative works on 135 students, extracted 188 teeth and distributed over 6000 dental kits.

We sincerely thank all of the volunteers and sponsors who have donated their time and resources to this cause. We will continue to do our best with the hope to elevate the well being of the students and their families, starting with a healthy smile.



SAP-VN Associate Hue Tang (4th from left) accompanying volunteers of Can Tho Dental School at Binh Chanh elementary school



Dentists and volunteers of Can Tho Dental School at Thanh My Tay high School

CHƯƠNG TRÌNH NỤ CƯỜI VIỆT



Các Nha sĩ đang khám và điều trị răng cho các cháu học sinh

Nụ Cười Việt là một dự án nhằm mục đích phòng ngừa và giảm thiểu sâu răng và bệnh răng miệng tại những địa phương còn thiếu thốn dịch vụ y tế ở Việt Nam. Sau nhiều năm điều trị bệnh nhân nha khoa qua chương trình Y Tế Lưu Động (Mobile Care) của hội SAP-VN, nhóm nha khoa liên tục chứng kiến dịch bệnh răng miệng do chăm sóc răng miệng kém ở nhiều vùng nông thôn Việt Nam. Phần lớn bệnh nhân bị bệnh nha chu và hơn 75% bị mất răng vĩnh viễn. Trẻ em rất ít hoặc hoàn toàn không được hưởng dịch vụ chăm sóc nha khoa cần thiết. Hầu hết các em không có một bàn chải đánh răng, và tỷ lệ sâu răng ở mức báo động cao. Sâu răng và bệnh răng miệng ở trẻ em làm ảnh hưởng xấu đến việc ăn, ngủ, sinh hoạt, và học tập ở nhà và ở trường của các em.

Để giúp giải quyết vấn đề này, Nụ Cười Việt được thành lập như một dự án bổ sung cho chương trình Mobile Care. Mục tiêu của chúng tôi là giáo dục tầm quan trọng của sức khỏe răng miệng cho trẻ em tuổi đi học. Chúng tôi tin rằng chương trình sẽ thành công nhất khi chương trình được tích hợp với một trường công lập, và được duy trì liên tục. Sau một năm lập kế hoạch và có được giấy phép phù hợp, Nụ Cười Việt rất vui mừng được hợp tác với trường tiểu học Bình Chánh và trường THPT Thạnh Mỹ Tây ở An Giang. Với sự phối hợp của Trường Đại học Nha khoa Cần Thơ do TS. Nguyễn Minh Khởi dẫn đầu, dự án của chúng tôi đã bắt đầu thành công với một ngày thảo luận và đào tạo tất cả giáo viên và học sinh của 2 trường. Mục tiêu của khóa đào tạo là cung cấp cho giáo viên



Đồng thời hướng dẫn cho các cháu cách chăm sóc răng miệng

kiến thức và các công cụ để nâng cao sức khỏe của học sinh, bắt đầu với sức khỏe răng miệng.

Ngoài các hoạt động giáo dục thường xuyên trong lớp học, SAP-VN sẽ cung cấp cho các trường này các buổi khám và điều trị nha khoa hàng năm. Chúng tôi cũng sẽ phân phát bàn chải đánh răng, kem đánh răng và tài liệu giáo dục thường xuyên cho học sinh, giáo viên, cũng như gia đình của họ. Năm nay, chúng tôi hi vọng sẽ tặng được 15000 bộ dụng cụ nha khoa cho cộng đồng. Chúng tôi sẽ tiếp tục dự án này trong một vài năm và đánh giá hiệu quả của chương trình. Chúng tôi hy vọng chương trình sẽ làm giảm tỷ lệ sâu răng và các bệnh về răng miệng rất phổ biến ở tỉnh này.



Ra về mỗi cháu nhận được một gói quà gồm bàn chải, kem đánh răng... và tài liệu hướng dẫn chăm sóc răng miệng

HO THI KIEU

The Dental Team met Ho Thi Kieu during our Mobile Care Mission in August 2016. In one photo, with a placid expression and a closed smile, she could easily pass for a perfectly normal, healthy girl. But she lives a harsh reality afflicted with poverty and medical challenges. Kieu was born with Cerebral Palsy. She could not walk, and the left side of her body was partially paralyzed. Kieu's father carried her four hours in a makeshift strap to arrive at the clinic. With some shame now, Ethan Le, a student volunteer recall gagging as he approached them. Their bodies emitted strong odors from their journey in the severe tropical heat. Kieu in particular smelled of urine and her mouth reeked of decay. Her father expressed that she had chronic dental pain. Upon examination, we found that most of her teeth were rotten with severe infections and exudate. We also learned that Kieu had never before owned a toothbrush. She suffered both from a debilitating genetic condition and a highly preventable disease. Sadly, under the primitive condition of our clinic, all we could give her were palliative treatments to alleviate some of her pain. Upon returning to the States, the dental team continued to talk about Kieu, and wanted to do more for her. Unfortunately, the paperwork were lost and we had no way of contacting her. While we continued the search for this 8 years old, the photo we took of



Kieu and her oral condition motivated many volunteers and dentists in our team. We can truly say that Ho Thi Kieu was the inspiration for Vietnam Smiles, a project aimed to educate children to prevent dental decays and oral diseases.



After a year and a half searching, with the help of Mr. Tung Phan and his team, we finally were able to locate Ho Thi Kieu. It was heartbreaking to witness the living condition of her family; a tiny house with bamboo walls, dirt floor, and no running water nor electricity. Kieu stayed indoors all her life as she was unable to move and she could not attend school. In March of 2018, SAP-VN's board of directors all voted to give Kieu a second chance. We sponsored for Kieu to be treated at Qui

Nhon Hospital. Surgeries were done to improve the left side of her body and she is currently recovering. There is much to do to help this little girl. The next step is to treat all of her dental infections and to have her teeth restored. In the near future, we would like to provide her with a mode of transportation and a better living condition. It would cost \$10,000 to provide Kieu a basic beginning for her future: a wheelchair, a good oral and dental health, and a livable, modest house, of what we called Nhà Tình Thương.

ABOUT SAP-VN LOCAL PROJECT

Since mid-2017, SAP-VN volunteers have participated in different local community services in Orange County. Our volunteers organize monthly visits to the Vietnamese seniors in nursing homes in Westminster and Garden Grove. After playing bingo games, singing, talking to the patients, it has always been very hard for us to leave after each visit! We help out in the kitchen at homeless shelters like Mary's Kitchen in Orange or the Village of Hope in Tustin. Our young volunteers pack hygiene kits and care packages and distribute them at homeless encampments in Santa Ana and LA Skid Row.

When time permits, we drop by the OC Food Bank to help pack food boxes that will be distributed to low income families in Orange County and surrounding areas.



Girls Scouts Troop 1809 made bracelets and headbands

This summer, the girl scouts from Troop 1809, Ấu đoàn Âu Cơ, Liên Đoàn Hướng Việt also joined SAP-VN volunteers at our local projects. The Bronze Award team helped sort

out donated clothes at the Village of Hope in Tustin, made adorable mini succulent arrangements, and offered them to the senior Vietnamese patients at Mission Palms Healthcare Center in Westminster. They visited the patients in their rooms and performed Vietnamese scout songs. SAP-VN would like to congratulate Claire, Andralyn, Kathleen, Breanna, Trish, Chantee, Emily, Sophie, Stephanie, Katlyn, Sydney, Elena, Madison, and Kaite for achieving the Girls Scout Bronze Award.



Claire, Andralyn, Kathleen, Breanna, Trish, Chantee Emily Sophie, Stephanie, Katlyn, Sydney, Elena, Madison, and Kaite.

A HELPING HAND

Every year, our mobile care clinic team collects gently used stuffed animals and small toys to give out to the little patients. This year, the MC team is thrilled to get extra help from local high school clubs and girls scout troops!

Westminster High School's Vietnamese American Cultural Club, Beckman High School's Gift of Hope Club, Canyon High School's Vietnamese Student Association and Crescent Elementary School organized a toy drive for our MC clinic. The girls scouts from Girls Scout Troop 1809, Thiếu Đoàn Mê-Linh and Châu Phong, Liên Đoàn Hướng Việt, Irvine made hundreds of beautiful and colorful bracelets and headbands.

Those special gifts were given out to over 1,000 pediatric patients at Phong Điền and Thới Lai in Cần Thơ. Thanks all students, girl scouts, teachers, scoutmasters, and parents for your valuable support. SAP-VN hopes we can help build a compassion bridge connecting the youth in the US with the underprivileged children in Vietnam through these special and meaningful activities. Together, we can truly make a difference!



Mrs. De'Anna Moore's class at Crescent Elementary donated toy/stuffed animals

SAP-VN SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

SAP-VN Compassion Scholarship will be awarded to 2 high-school seniors or juniors who have demonstrated extraordinary compassion for others and the community. This scholarship is intended to encourage students to continue their service and to volunteer for SAP-VN. Each recipient will receive \$500 and will be required to volunteer over the course of a summer for SAP-VN.

Requirements:

- Current high-school senior or junior
- An essay of up to 400 words about how you have demonstrated compassion
- GPA 3.5 and above

Online application will be opened Dec 15, 2018 at www.sap-vn.org

SAP-VN Mobile Care Clinic Scholarship will sponsor 2 low-income current undergrad/graduate students or recent graduates to join the Mobile Care mission in Vietnam. The mission usually takes place during the last week in July or the first week in August. The estimated cost of the trip is about \$1,500/person, including airfare, hotel, transportation, and meals. Recipients must raise their own funds which SAP-VN will match 1 to 1 for up to \$1,000. Each recipient is required to help prepare for the mission during the 6 months prior to the mission and to take leadership position during the mission to organize and mobilize youth volunteers.

Requirements:

- Current undergrad/graduate student or recent graduate (within 3 years)
- Demonstrate financial need
- An essay of up to 400 words about how you have demonstrated leadership and compassion

Online application will be opened Dec 15, 2018 at www.sap-vn.org

SENIORS COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROJECT

Anh Nguyen

To expand our local community services along with our homeless project, in February 2018, SAP-VN developed activities that focused on local seniors through the Seniors Community Support Project (SCSP). The aim of this project is to visit nursing facilities in Orange County on a monthly basis. Our task was to keep the elderly company through a variety of activities. We serve them snacks, play games and bingo, give them manicures, prepare performances to entertain them, and encourage them to sing along with us.

The SCSP program has routinely visited Garden Grove Convalescent Hospital, Garden Park Heath Care Center, and



SAP-VN volunteers performed at a Senior Nursing Home

Mission Palms Health Care Center. A common element that we have found in these places is the warm welcome that we receive from the elderly every time we visit, which has motivated us to continue to provide more meaningful visits to them. Through regular visits, we are not just a bunch of strangers but have developed a long-term relationship with them. I would never have predicted how resonating the effects of our visits are to the nursing home residents. After each visit, I have been blessed by their appreciation for our visits. The rewards that we have received are their smiles, their joy, and their stories. The seniors bring to us their unique stories and, through these visits, we have found that their health needs care, as does their peace of mind. We will continue to bring peace and joy to the seniors through our company and our music.

I have learned that the rewards from volunteering go both ways. After more than half a year, the project has attracted more attention and participation from a number of volunteers, making SCSP not only a fun activity through which to entertain seniors but also by giving our volunteers an opportunity to develop bonds and connections.



The seniors enjoyed a singing performance by SAP-VN volunteers

HÌNH ẢNH SINH HOẠT GIÚP NGƯỜI VÔ GIA CƯ



*Phát thức ăn miễn phí cho người vô gia cư
tại nhà thờ First Congregational Church
ở thành phố Long Beach*



*Phát thức ăn và đồ dùng cá nhân
tại khu lều trại của người vô gia cư
gần sân vận động Anaheim*



Chuẩn bị thức ăn



*và phát thức ăn cho người vô gia cư
ở Mary's Kitchen Orange County*

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In appreciation for generous support from

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Ngoài ra, hội SAP-VN còn nhận được sự bảo trợ của nhiều vị ân danh
SAP-VN also receives several donations from anonymous sponsors

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

A Gift of Hope 15 raised **\$118,452** for SAP-VN's 2018
Orthopedic Surgery & other humanitarian programs in Vietnam

Together We Can Make a Difference

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 2017 TO DECEMBER 31, 2017

American Online Giving Foundation, Inc, SH, FL	\$32.00	Mrs. Nguyen T Cam-Qui, San Diego, CA	\$100.00
Anonymous, CA	\$100.00	Mrs. Pham Huong, Costa Mesa, CA	\$500.00
Bank Of America Matching Gifts, Charlotte, NC	\$500.00	Mrs. Phung Thi Bach Tuyet, Anaheim, CA	\$50.00
CA Capital Region United Way, Sacto, CA	\$178.78	Mrs. Tran Chu Lan-Anh, Garden Grove, CA	\$50.00
Ms. Chau Diem Linh, Temple City, CA	\$100.00	Mrs. Juliana C. Vossen, Inglewood, CA	\$300.00
Michael Ho Dental Corp, Escondido, CA	\$1,000.00	Ms. Chau Da Lan, Northridge, CA	\$500.00
Mr. Dang M Duc, Anaheim, CA	\$100.00	Ms. CHTN My Linh, Alameda, CA	\$400.00
Doan Ngoc, Westerville, OH	\$237.00	Ms. Michelle Diep, South Pasadena, CA	\$100.00
Dr&Mrs. Pham Van Cao, Huntington Beach, CA	\$100.00	Ms. Dinh Hoa, CA	\$500.00
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Dr. Le Yen, San Diego, CA	\$500.00	Ms. Hoang T. Tuyetsan, Alexandria, VA	\$40.00
Dr. Vincent H. Le, San Diego, CA	\$200.00	Ms. Elaine M. Kane, Westchester, CA	\$100.00
Dr. Le U. Linh, Reseda, CA	\$200.00	Ms. Kieu Thao, Fountain Valley, CA	\$1,005.00
Dr. Nguyen Thi My Hang, Saratoga, CA	\$1,000.00	Ms. Nancy Lam, Las Vegas, NV	\$50.00
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Dr. Nguyen V. Khanh, San Diego, CA	\$500.00	Ms. Le Tam, Costa Mesa, CA	\$400.00
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Dr. Thomas Tri Quach, Westminster, CA	\$200.00	Ms. Nguyen Dam Cuc, Altadena, CA	\$100.00
Dr. Trans Dental, Corona, CA	\$1,000.00	Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich Thuy, Westminster, CA	\$50.00
Dr. Tran Lan, Garden Grove, CA	\$400.00	Ms. Nguyen Thi Minh, Temple City, CA	\$500.00
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Le Dong Minh Hoang & Bichvan, Burbank, CA	\$250.00	Ms. Vu Thi Mui, Garden Grove, CA	\$50.00
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Mr&Mrs. David Hien Vu, Tustin, CA	\$200.00
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Mrs. Vivian Nguyen, Santa Ana, CA	\$300.00

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GC71

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Mr. Le Linh, Fountain Valley, CA	\$100.00	Mr. Nghia Nguyen, Garden Grove, CA	\$425.001
Mr. Nicholas Nguyen, Mission Viejo, CA	\$100.00	Total donations this period:	\$87,455.48
Mr. Ocean Trinh, Canoga Park, CA	\$100.00	THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!	
Ms. Le Quynh Phuong, Lake Forest, CA	\$100.00	<div>NOTICE - THÔNG BÁO SAP-VN's Post Office (PO) Box 1828 at Garden Grove, CA Post Office has been expired as of May 2018. SAP-VN no longer uses this PO Box for mailing purposes. Please direct all future mails to SAP-VN office address below. Hộp thư PO Box 1828 của hội SAP-VN tại bưu điện TP Garden Grove đã hết hạn kể từ tháng năm 2018. Hội hiện không còn sử dụng hộp thư này để nhận thư từ nữa. Xin vui lòng gửi mọi thư từ cho hội SAP-VN trong tương lai trực tiếp đến địa chỉ văn phòng dưới đây SAP-VN 12881 Knott Street, Suite 116 Garden Grove, CA 92841</div>	
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Mr&Mrs. Dang Khanh & KimLien, WMT, CA	\$200.00		
Mr. Nguyen K. Lam, Oceanside, CA	\$100.00		
Ms. Nguyen K Phuong, Irving, TX	\$100.00		
Ms. Tran Uyen, San Diego, CA	\$100.00		
Karen Bui & Kevin Nguyen, San Leandro, CA	\$100.00		
Dr. Nguyen Mai-Phuong, Fountain Valley, CA	\$550.00		
Ms. Christine Lee, Irvine, CA	\$100.00		
Your Cause Corp. Giving, Carrollton, TX	\$200.00		
Dr. Nguyen Thuy An, San Diego, CA	\$200.00		
Ms. Nguyen Thi Thanhthu, Anaheim, CA	\$100.00		
Ms. Ngo Thuy-Tung, Fremont, CA	\$100.00		
Allianz Asset Management LP, NB, CA	\$500.00		
Miss Le Nhu-Quy, Buena Park, CA	\$100.00		
Mr. Richard Nguyen, Garland, TX	\$100.00		