

Betula Asian Aid Foundation

Newsletter June 2021

Dear Friends of Betula,

Hope you and yours are safe and sound. Our activities keep growing and we feel the obligation to inform donors what we do with their money. Therefore you will receive our newsletter a little more often. We hope you keep finding the time to read it. Thank you.



COVID 19 strikes back

Where South East Asian countries as Thailand and Vietnam had a great track record containing COVID 19 they are now hit harder than ever before. Record numbers of infections and deaths. One of the hardest hit places in Vietnam is Bac Giang province where Betula started its activities 17 years ago. We are supporting hospitals here with 2000 N95 masks and 200 food packages for families in quarantine.



In Bangkok with over 40.000 infections in just 3 months we provided 300 meals for hospital staff and patients. Moreover, in cooperation with the Bangkok based Issarachon Foundation we donated 400 meals for homeless and disadvantaged people and distributed 75 “happy bags” filled with masks, hand sanitizer, soap and snacks. The support is ongoing. Help us help.



Healthcare for victims of human trafficking

Our cooperation with Blue Dragon Children Foundation in Hanoi goes back to 2004. During these years we have seen how activities with regard to anti-trafficking have increased and shifted from domestic to cross border trafficking. Over the last few years more than 1000 people, mainly young girls, have been rescued and helped to go back to school, get a job and reunite with their families.

BAAF supports victims of human trafficking where possible with healthcare related problems the victims face. In recent months we helped 2 victims to get an urgent appendix and a kidney operation. For the latter we hope to find support for monthly dialysis cost.



Mushroom update

In 2019 we started in cooperation with Fargreen Hanoi a mushroom growing project for disadvantaged minority people in Gia Lai. Rice straw that is normally burned is put in buckets to grow the mushrooms. That way we help to generate income and protect the environment. Currently 5 families are participating and they generate about 50 euro per month extra income. The production is about 100 buckets. The mushrooms are sold on the local market and online. Moreover dried mushrooms are sold to Fargreen Hanoi.



In June we will add 2 more families to the project and double the buckets to around 250 buckets. We helped to build a bigger storage shed and to buy a humidifier to help increase the quality. We hope COVID lockdowns will not have a big impact on the activities.





New wheelchair for Loan

We met Loan in 2004 in a center for children living with disabilities in Bac Giang. That time we helped her to get her first crutches. When she had to leave the center we helped to build a small shop so she could provide a living for her poor parents. For her mobility she depends on a wheelchair that we gave her almost 10 years ago. It was time for a new one. Loan donated her old one to the center.





Meet Do

Do is 12 years old and has a light mental disability. His father as well as his older sister are also mentally disabled. Do his mother is a farmer. Both Do and his sister stay at the Tam Binh centre, our partner in Hue thanks to your support. Do tried to attend primary school but didn't learn or understand much. Coming to Tam Binh, the teacher taught Do communication skills, writing and how to take care of himself. He is a happy kid.





Baby Nari

Last March we had Nari checked and found that she had a heart condition that needed urgent surgery. Thanks to a generous donation Nari was operated last April. All went very well. The girl was able to sit very soon after and gained 2 kilos in a short time. We will keep an eye on Nari and wish her a happy and healthy future.



Extraordinary support

Many families in remote rural or mountainous areas live far from a city hospital. After the sad event of a family member passing away in such hospital, many families often do not have the money to get the deceased back home. Learning about this problem we created a fund in cooperation

with Hue hospital. It will help to cover transportation expenses for families in need. This so they can have a decent farewell. Over the past 3 months we helped 13 families.



Cool jackets to stay warm

The weather in the mountainous areas in the province of Gia Lai can be quite chilly in the morning and evening. For 35 minority kids we bought jackets last April. We hope it keeps them warm and healthy.



My thoughts are with those who suffer from Covid 19 because they are sick or affected in any other way. I wish you all good health and stay safe!

Kees

Why would you support us? Betula works at grass root level and direct. Your donations are completely used to help the beneficiaries. Thanks!

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