

## **HOPE FOR VIET ORPHANS Project (H4VO)**

**Objective** – Hope for Viet Orphans project is led by Mr. Thang Tran, based in Austin, Texas, and Mrs. Lien Tran, based in Fremont, CA, with the objective to provide long term financial support to orphanages in Vietnam. The emphasis is not only to provide grant for daily need, such as food, shelter and clothes to the orphans, but also to prepare them to be self-reliant, by giving grant for higher education and/or vocational training.

**Implementation** – The focus of H4VO is to continue providing long term financial support to the past supported orphanages. H4VO's team members shall review the application, make recommendation on the sponsorship, and then grant it accordingly to H4VO's fiscal year budget. To ensure the grant is used appropriately, H4VO's team members shall monitor the orphanage via its quarterly status report and/or visit the orphanage by team members reside locally in Vietnam.

### **Orphanage Selection Requirements –**

1. The orphanage must be legally operated in Vietnam and provides necessary documents as required by VNHelp.
2. The care-giver must be devoted and dedicate their life to the children. For instance, besides providing daily need, the care-giver should demonstrate the ability to be a role model, focus on teaching moral values, encourage the orphans to do well in school, and fully support vocational training program.
3. After being selected, the care-givers must provide monthly financial report in detail. Occasionally, VNHelp's staff or H4VO's staff who live locally in Vietnam would make a visit to the selected orphanage.

**Sponsorship Types** – H4VO shall evaluate the orphanage's request and sponsorship shall be granted to be used in the areas, as such:

1. Food, shelter or clothing.
2. Building well for clean water
3. Education fee
4. Misc – e.g. electricity, tools for farming

**Past Supported Orphanages** – The following orphanages have received donation from H4VO's project director prior to the launch of H4VO project. Huyen Trang temple and Thien Binh Catholic church are under evaluation to receive H4VO's 2009-2010 sponsorship. With the tireless fundraising effort in both San Jose and Austin and the generosity of the donors, H4VO would hope to be able to provide sponsorship to the rest of the orphanages in the future.

- Huyen Trang Temple
- Thien Binh Catholic Church
- Pho Huyen Temple (all girls)
- Tu Hanh Temple
- Niet Ban Temple
- Dieu Phap Temple
- La Vang, job training center
- Ngoc Suong orphanage
- Go Vap (government)

#### **H4VO Staff –**

Mr. Thang Tran – Project director and main sponsor

Mrs. Lien Tran – Project manager

Mrs. Anh Pham – Fundraising coordinator based in San Jose

Mrs. Tram Tran – Fundraising coordinator based in Austin

Mrs. Loan Nguyen – Concert coordinator

Ms. Amy Lam, Ms. Pauline Nguyen, Ms. Eileen Nguyen – Garage sales coordinators based in San Jose

TBD – Auditor based in Vietnam

Mrs. Tuyet Hong – Auditor based in Vietnam

#### **Fundraising Activity and Promotion –**

1. 100% matching given by H4VO project director for the 2009-2010 fiscal year
2. Garage sale San Jose – July 4, 2009
3. Concert in San Jose – Dec 22, 2009

### **Mr. Thang Tran's motivation –**

*“Like many Vietnamese living outside of Vietnam, I donated to various orphanages upon my trips back to Vietnam during the last three years. With the launch of the H4VO project, I hope to attract both Vietnamese and non-Vietnamese donors who would like to make a difference in the Viet orphans' lives. The orphans, just like many other children, deserve to have a basic level of living, to be nurtured, and be given the opportunity to reach their dreams. All of these can be achieved by H4VO project with the support from volunteers and donors.”*

### **Mrs. Lien Tran's motivation –**

*“I heard a lot about orphans. I donated here and there to help them occasionally; however, I have never personally visited an orphanage or witnessed the life of an orphan myself. Last year, thanks to the technology, I found my long lost childhood friend, Diem Tram, while connecting with other old friends via email. She shared her Vietnam trips' videos and pictures to us. Boy, I cried the whole time watching them and lost sleep for a few nights. I saw boy and girl orphans who sat and slept in a shelter only covered with metal roof. They looked more like a bunch of cows standing in a barn that I have often seen on the trips to LA or Sacramento and sleeping like sardines in the tin can. They walked barefoot, wearing torn clothes like scarecrows, on the hot dark red ground of Thu Duc. In one of the orphanages, I saw handicapped baby orphans lying in a shared crib without much attention. It was really heart wrenching seeing them living in such horrible condition and in need of many things, but still smiling in front of the camera.*

*I have children of my own. Every day, I prepare them breakfast, lunch, snacks and dinner. There isn't a single night that my children would go to sleep with an empty stomach. They have more clothes, shoes and toys than they need. They receive education from one of the best schools in the area, and go to camps to avoid boredom at home during winter, spring or summer breaks. Every night before going to sleep, my youngest son prays faithfully to God for going to heaven, and I often tease him, “Your wish has been granted since you're already living in 'heaven!'” Yes, my kids are living in heaven, and what world the orphans are living in?? It is just so unfair, and I feel the urgency to help them. This time it will be different from the past. This time, I shall personally help them.”*