Sunshine Social & Medical Center Vietnam Annual Report 2016



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The mission of the Christina Noble Children's Foundation is to give children the necessary protection, care and education for them to sleep in peace, surrounded by love. Our Foundation is committed to helping alleviate child poverty in Vietnam and Mongolia and giving all children the opportunity to experience a happy and safe childhood.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Your donations to our Sunshine Centre allow us to provide an international standard of comprehensive care to orphans and children from extremely poor families who suffer from poverty-related health issues. Your support gives these children the opportunity to enjoy a happy childhood in a safe and secure environment surrounded by love and provides access to medical and nutritional care, physiotherapy, psychosocial care and education.

By providing children the care they so desperately need, their parents or guardians can earn a living and build a sustainable future for their families.

We are deeply grateful to our donors and to all those who visited and interacted with the children at our Sunshine Centre in 2016.

We would also like to acknowledge our government partnerswho make it possible for us to implement our programmes successfully.



ABBREVIATIONS

CNCF	Christina Noble Children's Foundation	
CSADC	Centre of Social Assistance for Disadvantaged Children	
ENT	Ear, Nose, Throat	
IMU	Intensive Monitoring Unit	
нсмс	Ho Chi Minh City	
MOLISA	Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs	



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Established	1991		
Location	38 Tu Xuong Street, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam		
Objectives	To provide orphaned, poor, disabled and disadvantaged children access to high-quality comprehensive care so they can reach their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychological and social functional levels for successful integration into their communities.		
Programme Components	Nutritional care and recovery from malnutrition; physiotherapy-based rehabilitation for disabled children; primary health care and treatment; special inclusive and kindergarten education; psychosocial care to promote social integration; and public health services.		
Beneficiaries	Children ages 0 to 6 years who are abandoned/orphaned, from impoverished families, suffering from malnourishment, cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus and other poverty-related conditions; infants who are physically challenged; and children who do not have access to pre-school education		
Local Partners	The Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA)		
CNCF Involvement	Jointly managed with MOLISA. CNCF is responsible for funding. Because the Centre is run jointly with MOLISA, the CNCF Director of Operations is the Co-Director of the Sunshine Centre along with the Director appointed by MOLISA.		
CNCF Staff	Ms.Son Thu Trinh, Director of Operations - Vietnam, CNCF; Ms. Hoang Tu Uyen – Vice Director; Ms. Diana Redondo – Volunteer Coordinator (Jan – July)		
Monitoring and Evaluation	Daily monitoring visits are conducted by the Vice Director. Information and updates about the children are collected through daily visits, and timely support in different areas is provided where necessary. Meetings between the Director, Sunshine Centre, MOLISA and staff are held to provide project updates and to resolve any issues. CNCF staff have weekly meetings to discuss programme-related issues and updates. Monthly reports and semi- annual reports prepared by our local partners and CNCF staff are sent to MOLISA and the CNCF Board of Management. An Annual Review and Annual Operation Report of the programme are sent to all stakeholders. An annual evaluation of the programme is conducted by our local partner and CNCF staff for future planning of the programme and Sunshine Centre.		
2016 Actual Costs	USD 386,560		
Future Plans	In 2017, we aim to deliver: Check-ups and on-site treatment for 130 children with malnutrition and disabilities Physical care and psychological development support for 130 disadvantaged children Pre-school education for 9 children with disabilities and 40 disadvantaged children Medical treatment for at least 8,000 disadvantaged community children 		
Reporting Period	January 2016 – December 2016		

PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

The Sunshine Centre is where the Christina Noble Children's Foundation (CNCF) started and remains to this day the heart of the foundation.



When Christina Noble arrived in Vietnam in 1989, she was overwhelmed by the plight of the many thousands of destitute children roaming the streets of Ho Chi Minh City. She immediately felt compelled to take action to help the poor and the forgotten street children of post war-torn Vietnam. The Sunshine Social & Medical Centre was her flagship project and to this day remains the very heart of the Foundation at 38 Tu Xuong Street, District 3, HCMC. After many closed doors, in 1991, Christina was finally able to raise the funds necessary to establish the Sunshine Centre, in partnership with Vietnam's Government department MOLISA. The aim of the Centre was and still is to provide care for orphans and children from extremely poor families. At the request of MOLISA, it was renamed the 'Centre for Social Assistance for Disadvantaged Children' in 2004 and in the same year underwent a complete renovation by CNCF. Today, the Sunshine Centre remains a bustling facility providing an international standard of care to children from poor families from Ho Chi Minh City and surrounding provinces. Throughout its 27 years of operation, the Centre has provided full-time residential care for more than 3,000 orphans and children from poor families and over 2,000 children have received early childhood education at our day care kindergarten (Son Ca – Songbird Unit); and

hundreds of thousands of children and adults have received free examinations and treatment at our outpatient clinic.

The Sunshine Centre has received many awards and accolades. In 2015, it also received the highest accolade bestowed by the Vietnamese Government, the prestigious Labour Order Medal. The Centre was recognised for excellence in service and care over its then 25-year history and for providing an integrated programme of services for abandoned babies, street children, sick and malnourished infants and their parents.

International standards of healthcare are provided at our Centre's in the Intensive Monitoring Unit (IMU) and Hoa Mi Unit (Nightingale) for babies and children ages 0 to 6years, and Day Care Son Ca Unit (Songbird) for children ages 4 to 6. The Centre provides high-quality nutritional care and early intervention with physiotherapy-based rehabilitation for orphans and poor children. All children are covered under an annual health scheme that includes a periodic health, dental, and eye examinations. All our children receive regular health assessments and, where needed, treatment and rehabilitative care to address specific medical and social needs. For children requiring more specialised treatment, referrals are made to the two main paediatric hospitals located in Ho Chi Minh City with whom we have close working relationships. In addition, education is provided for children with disabilities through provision of special needs classes and the kindergarten provides early childhood education to children who are orphaned or from impoverished families.



Children are our world's most valuable resource and hope for a brighter future. At the Sunshine Centre, our children are encouraged to explore opportunities and their love of learning for healthy development.

Sunshine Arts and Music Programme and Volunteer Programme

CNCF Administration Office

Outpatient

Son Ca

Hoa Mi

IMU

WELCOME TO THE CENTRE OF SOCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN chảo mừng ngày trung tâm bảo trợ xã hội trẻ em thiệt thời INH THỨC ĐI VÀO HOẠT ĐỘNG

Care is provided over three floors within the building of our Sunshine Centre:

First floor:

ii)

A walk-in outpatient clinic for children under 15 years old from HCMC and nearby provinces, and our Intensive Monitoring Unit (IMU) for babies and infants up to the age of 24 months.

Second floor: Hoa Mi, our residential children between the ages 1 - 6 years.

Care

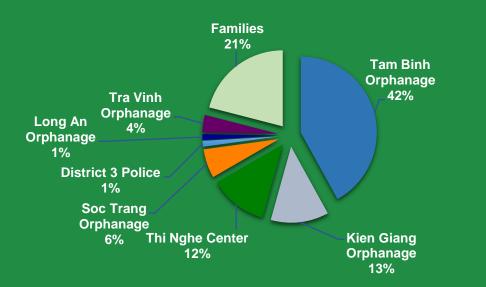
iii) Third floor: Sơn Ca, our Dav kindergarten for children from poor families

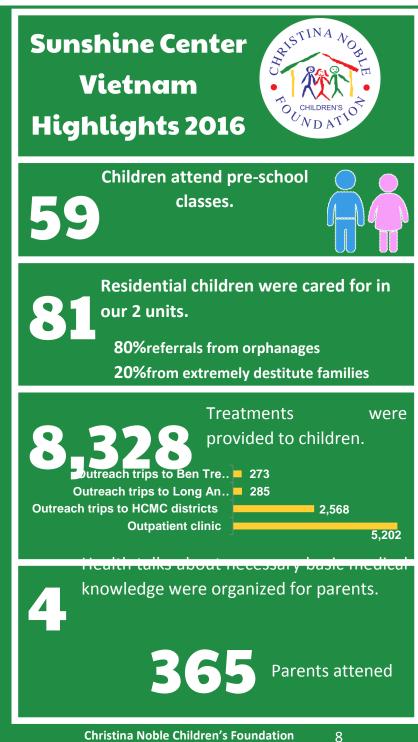
In Vietnamese, Hoa Mi is 'nightingale' and Son Ca is 'songbird'. The sound of happy children is sweet music to our ears and the nursery and kindergarten were thus named.

OUR YEAR

2016 Highlights

In 2016, our Sunshine Centre continued to provide healthcare, nutritional care, physiotherapy-based rehabilitation, psychosocial care, pre-school education and day care services to babies and children who are orphans or come from impoverished families. Since the Centre has a strong medical team (with doctors, nurses, teachers for children with special needs and well trained carers), and equipment (physio-room, class for children with special needs), local orphanages send their children with health conditions/ development conditions to our Centre for rehabilitation and health care. In order to provide a high- standard of health care to children with limited access, we also organized outreach trips in the remote rural provinces. Besides, in the purpose of raising awareness, health talks were organized regularly to provide primary health care information to parents who do not have access to such kind of important information.





Sunshine Social & Medical Centre (CSADC)- Annual report 2016



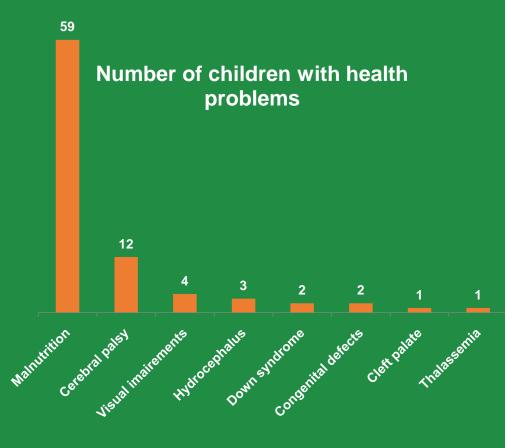
Programme Activities

Medical Care

All our residential children have specific needs. In 2016, we provided on-site specialised and intensive care to children with the following acute conditions:

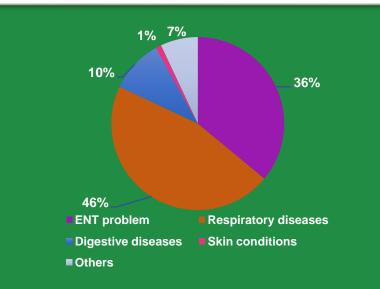
On admission,

our experienced and diligent medical team assumes responsibility for the child. Each child is assessed and provided with a healthcare plan to address their specific needs. Their progress is monitored daily. We provide on-site treatments, such as physiotherapy and medications. If the condition requires surgical intervention or more specific treatment, we refer our children to the appropriate paediatric hospital in Ho Chi Minh City. We hold weekly case conferences where we assess each child's progress over our three areas of care: health, education and social wellbeing. Each child's development is also reviewed on a quarterly basis by the entire medical team, including physiotherapists, speech therapists and our nursing staff.





Annual dental check-ups are provided twice a year for children at our Sunshine Medical Centre.



At the Sunshine Centre, all residential children receive vaccinations in accordance with the Ministry of Health's vaccination schedule. In 2016, 136 children including residential, day care and outpatient children were administered Quinvaxem, MMR and Japanese encephalitis vaccines. 735 out-patient babies were provided with Vitamin A to prevent Xerophthalmia.

Dental and Eye Examinations

Dental check-ups for 88 children were provided by two groups of local dentists. Of those children, 34 required further dental treatment.

32 children also received eye examinations.

Primary Health Care & Disease Management

76 children received treatment for chronic and/or acute diseases, mostly residential children who, due to their young age, disability and malnutrition, are more vulnerable to epidemics. Among those, 15 children were sent to the hospital for treatment.

During the year, 73 medical case conferences were held.

Two outbreaks of Hand Foot and Mouth disease occurred in May and October affecting 18 children. Three children were sent to the hospital for further treatment. During the outbreak periods, strict regulations and procedures were applied to avoid cross-infection and reduce the effects. All staff at the Centre received regular training related to the disease and its treatments.

Physiotherapy

Our Sunshine Centre is well-known among Vietnamese orphanages and other social and medical centres as the leading physiotherapy-based rehabilitation centres in Ho Chi Minh City. The Centre has two full-time physiotherapists who work closely with our medical staff and are included in all case discussions.

In 2016, 34residential children with cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus and developmental delays attended 4,941physiotherapy sessions. We are delighted to report that we have seen remarkable progress in all of these children.

While the children in our residential care are provided with unlimited access to our physiotherapy services, we are unable to provide unlimited services to non-residential children from impoverished families who otherwise have no access to any form of healthcare due to their financial situations.For these families however, our physiotherapists conduct special training sessions for the parents or guardians so they can continue to provide on-going



With two full time physiotherapists on the Hoa Mi ward, our children have daily professional physiotherapy treatment s to help improve their mobility

physiotherapy at home under the guidance and regular monitoring of our physiotherapists.



Nhu (name changed for child protection) is one of our children who lives with us at the Sunshine Centre. She was born in 2013. weighing only 1.8 kilos and suffering from hydrocephalus, she was also born with a clubfoot which does not allow her to walk. Her movement was very slow at the time of being admitted, before she arrived, she had had two operations for meningitis and a hernia. Nhu has been with us for one year and her health has improved significantly. She has treatments everyday with our physiotherapists and our carers look after her in term of nutrition and annual health check ups. Although Nhu is still unable to walk, she is a happy little girl who brings sunshine into the lives of everyone who meet her. After all the physiotherapy, her legs, arms and general mobility are much stronger and allow her to move around and hold and play with her favorite toys.

Nutritional Care

The drop in child malnutrition rate in Vietnam underscores the country's efforts to provide adequate care and nutrition. However, economic disparities and unequal living conditions have resulted in huge variations in nutrition levels across different social groups and geographical regions.

Malnutrition is a very common health condition among children from poor families due to the parents' lack of financial resources and limited knowledge of nutritional care and their inability to provide the appropriate and necessary diets for their children. Many parentsmust work very hard justto make even the most basic ends meet.

Almost all children who arrive at our Centre suffer from malnutrition and related health issues. Thus, the proper nutrition we provide plays a key role in their recovery. To address these high levels of malnutrition, we provide well-balanced meals, nutritional supplements and careful monitoring to ensure the children are gaining weight at an appropriate rate. Each child receives a specific dietary plan from our medical staff, and their weight gain is recorded weekly so that necessary dietary adjustmentscan be made. In 2016, 56% of the children suffering from malnutrition on arrival fully recovered thanks todietary and medical interventions. The remaining children continue to receive treatment for their malnutrition.



We have malnourished children admitted to the Intensive Monitoring Unit for specialist care to build them up to their correct weight.





Each child has a tailor made nutritional meal specific to their needs.



Outpatient Clinic and Community Outreach

Our Outpatient Clinic and Outreach Programme form a two-pronged approach to delivering health services to poor families in Ho Chi Minh City and outlying districts and provinces.

The Outpatient Clinic provides poor children and their families with high-quality paediatric consultancy, treatment and social support. The clinic is located on the first floor of the Centre and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In 2016, we provided 5,202 treatments to children ages 0 to 15 years. In addition to health examinations, medicines and nutritional supplements, we also provided consultations to parents focusing on topics such as malnutrition and physiotherapy treatments.

Because many parents were forced to travel long distances from outlying districts and other provinces to bring their children to our clinic and travel costs have increased remarkably in recent years, we extended our services to the community via our Community Outreach Programme. In 2016, we continued to conduct outreach trips twice a month in District 8. In September, we also initiated outreach trips in Tan Phu District. These are two of the poorest districts in Ho Chi Minh City where very large numbers of migrants from all parts of Vietnam live in great poverty or at best in below average conditions. We provided 5,268 treatments in these two districts in 2016.

Outreach trips to the Mekong Delta helped us reach the poorest communities that have very little access to public health care, especially for infants and children. Malnutrition rates among the children we reached are extremely high compared to the national average (from 26.4% to 49.4% of the total number who visited our clinic). In 2016, we provided 559 treatments during our two trips to Long An and Ben Tre Provinces.





In addition to the treatments and consultations, we organized four health talks to provide basic medical knowledge to parents. The topics of the talks were food safety, traffic safety and first aid, Zika virus prevention and dealing with difficulties in learning (psychological challenges). 365 parents attended these four talks and after each talk we conducted a survey to evaluate the parents' understanding of the information provided.





We hold health awareness sessions for parents focusing on issues as wide-ranging as basic hygiene and food preparation to infectious disease prevention and awareness.



We have an out patient department where children from poor families can come and have regular health checkups.



When children arrive at the out patient clinic they are weighed and registed and records of all incoming children are methodically kept on file.



Understanding the importance of early education, our Son Ca kindergarten provides a full day of playing, studying and social interaction. This enables their parents to go out to work and earn money during the day knowing that there children will be in a safe place whilst being monitored in all areas of development as well as gaing a robust early education.

Educational Services

Son Ca – Kindergarten Day Care

Our Sunshine Centre hosts a day care facility for community children ages4 to 6 years. The kindergarten provides educational, nutritional and emotional development support for preschool children. It also allows parents or guardians to attend or seek out employment comfortable in the knowledge that their children are being provided with much needed early childhood education in a safe and loving environment where their nutrition and health needs are met.

Prior to enrolment, we conduct home visits to assess each family's circumstances and living conditions. This also allows us to understand on a much deeper level the needs and immediate requirements of each child coming into our care. Our aim is to provide these children with an opportunity to participate in mainstream schooling and receive the benefits of social interaction.

After enrolment, each child undergoes an extensive assessment that measures physical well-being, awareness, language, speech development and abilities appropriate to age.

Our classes follow the Vietnam National Curriculum for early childhood education; however, our teaching methods are modified to meet our children's learning needs. We continue to focus on learning through play and fun activities. In 2016, 59childrenwere nurtured at our *Son Ca* kindergarten.

Special Needs Education

We provide special needs educational classes for our residential children with developmental delays. Our main goal is to help the children develop the tools needed to live independently: language and non-verbal communication, fine and gross motor skills and independent decision-making.

A special needs education specialist, assisted by volunteers from our Volunteer Programme, provides daily one-on-one and group sessions to children with severe conditions such as cerebral palsy and hydrocephalus. Across the board the children exhibited marked increases in concentration levels and overall interaction with their caregivers.



One of our children putting a puzzel together testing his mental agility and powers of concentration.

Psychosocial Care

Our Volunteer Programme allows us to provide an additional level of care and support to our children that augment the daily care provided by our local staff. In Vietnamese society, it is not yet a widespread practice for children to receive stimulation, targeted sensory development and educational play. Our dedicated volunteers complement the loving care provided by our local staff through daily interactive play sessions with the children, arts and crafts, sensory activities, music, dance and sport. These interventions help the children develop gross and fine motor skills and verbal and social skills. Volunteers also assist the staff with their daily work duties, maintain a daily record of each child noting personality traits, behavioural issues and achievements and assist with special education classes. Volunteers also assist carers and medical staff with transporting children to medical and dental appointments outside the Centre.

Our volunteers also help organise excursions, which are vital because they provide the children with opportunities to explore outside their home environment and experience activities that their more advantaged peers have access to on a regular basis, such as visits to nearby parks, ice cream shops and other child friendly places.



The children enjoying some outside play time with a student doctor from The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Our volunteers organise painting classes for the children where they get covered in paint and have a wonderful time. These painting activities will help our children to release their creative minds, pent up energy and develop early learning skills.

OLIA RITINAS

In 2016, due to restructuring of the Volunteer Programme, we did not have volunteers until August. From August to December, we had 16volunteers from Ireland, England, Saudi Arabia, the Philippines and France. Three local part-time volunteers also provided additional support. Furthermore, a qualified international play therapist worked with one of our residential children who suffered a deeply traumatic past and exhibited extreme behavioural issues. These caring one-on-one sessions with the play therapist proved very beneficial for the child, who learnt to channel emotions in a safe and secure environment surrounded by love.





Our Sunshine children participated in a number of celebrations during the year including going away parties for children who were leaving the Centre and volunteers ending their two-month stay. There were also birthday parties, a Vietnamese New Year (Tet) celebration, Mid-Autumn Festival, Children's Day and Christmas. The children engaged in a variety of performances during the events. The volunteers helped organise, choreograph and conduct practice sessions, made costumes and participated on stage alongside the children.



OUR STORIES

SUONG (name changed for child protection)

Suong was abandoned by her parents when she was just 6 months old because she had severe health problems. When she came to our Sunshine Centre, Suong weighed only 4kilograms and was diagnosed with Hirschsprung's disease, cleft palate, congenital defects and serious malnutrition. Despite these substantial health problems, Suong is a smiling and courageous baby. In June 2016, after being sent to the hospital twice because of inflammatory bowel disease, the doctors at the Centre decided that Suong needed surgery to build an artificial anus. Following the surgery, Suong's inflammation has improved. Suong has undergone intensive nutritional care and intensive physiotherapy to help improve her mobility and general health. The care and love provided by the Sunshine Centre's medical team has helped Suong make tremendous progress. She now weights 8 kilograms and loves to shake her hands and hug other babies. She had further surgery in November to close her artificial anus. Thanks to the support of our sponsors, we can give Suong the chance to a happy and normal life that she deserves! Suong has started to say her first words and we are all excited to see her progress.





TAY (name changed for child protection)

Tay came to our Centre from a local orphanage in August 2013 when he was just 4 months old and weighed only2.5 kilograms. He was diagnosed with level 3 malnutrition, retardation and suffered with severe respiratory issues. He did not express any emotion during his first year and frequently bumped his head purposely. His significant breathing problems also prevented him from sleeping well. The medical staff recognised that they needed to take urgent actions to bring this young child back to life. Tay needed a lot of love and reassurance, and received immediate intensive all-round care. He was treated with high calorie milk and a special diet and quickly recovered in just under a year. He is still on a special diet for children with malnutrition, but his condition has improved significantly. He also attends classes for children with special needs and physiotherapy sessions to help with motor skills development. Tay can now walk and is beginning to interact better with other children, however the intensive care continues.



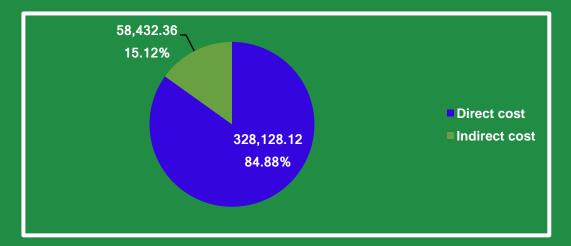
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The total cost of running the Sunshine Social & Medical Centre in 2016was 386,560 USD

Direct costs include the full costs of operating: repairs and maintenance, utilities, food and nutrition, medical and healthcare, education and development activities for the children.

Indirect costs include salaries of all 47 Centre staff, project management staff, stationery, communication, transportation, travel/accommodation, security fees and a portion of CNCF office utilities.





	Sunshine Social & Medical Centre Vietnam - Operating Budget 20	116
No.	Item	Amount (USD)
1	CHILD CARE	80,728.46
1	Medicines – Medical Centre	12,571.24
2	Medicine - Out-Patients Clinic	8,380.22
3	Medical supplies	3,998.85
4	Paediatric Hospital Medical Tests	5,998.85
•	Dental Checks	
5		0.00
6	Food Items & Supplements	35,187.23
7	Food supplement - Out-Patient Clinic	12,849.59
8	Children Clothing	1,404.09
9	Teaching Aids	325.27
10	Kitchen Fuel	996.00
11	Kitchen Equipment	485.11
12	Staff Training	537.73
13	Staff's Medical check-up	1,354.64
14	Staff uniforms	47.05
15	Forms & Medical Records	468.18
16	Raising awareness activity - Out-Patient Clinic	227.77
17	Fee for children's festival	350.30
18	Fee for children's excursion	204.91
19	Contingency (in case of epidemic)	693.48
&	SALARY+ ALLOWANCES x 47 Centre staff	214.350.90
IV	ADMINISTRATION	33,048.75
1	Office supplies	255.36
2	Electricity	13,840.55
3	Water	1,252.80
4	Telephone	824.78
5	Postage	75.52
6	Petrol & transportation	2,181.57
7	Garbage collection	144.55
8	Repair & maintenance (machine)	1,066.98
9	Repair & maintenance (building)	877.26
10	External service provider	6,100.50
11	Travel	2,955.33
12	Fire prevention fee	292.20
13	Official entertainment	440.96
14	Miscellaneous	1,982.20
15	Communist Party expense	758.18
V	PROJECT MANAGEMENT	58,432.36
1	Salary + Allowance CNCF Project Managers full time staff x 3	34,566.84
2	Management fee + office supplies	23,865.52
	TOTAL	386,560.48

It is only through the kind generosity of our sponsors that we can continue our work on behalf of Vietnam's most vulnerable children. Thank you for helping us give children back their childhood! 2016 Audit is available upon request.



"Childhood is the foundation of life. Help us make it a good one!" - Christina Noble Each of us is only one person. But by joining all the ones together, we can accomplish greatness. If you and your organisation are interested in supporting us in 2017/2018 please contact our Foundation. It is only through the kind generosity of others that we are able to continue our work with some of the world's most vulnerable children.

Christina Noble Children's Foundation - Vietnam www.cncf.org | international@cncf.org | vietnam@cncf.org