

NG TIỂU HỌC ÁNH SÁNG

NĂM HỌC 2017 - 2018

ô Chí Minh, ngày 29 tháng 5 năm 2018



ANNUAL REPORT 2017  
**EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAMME VIETNAM**





*When children are educated they possess something which cannot be lost or taken away from them and which offers them some protection from exploitation and abuse. They will have more power in the employment market; they will be better equipped to provide for themselves in a way which protects their integrity and their dignity and where they are finally free from the poverty they were born into.*

**Christina Noble OBE**



# APPENDIX

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## ABBREVIATIONS

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>CNCF</b>   | Christina Noble Children's Foundation            |
| <b>CSP</b>    | Child Sponsorship Programme                      |
| <b>DOLISA</b> | Department of Labour Invalids and Social Affairs |
| <b>ESP</b>    | Education Scholarship Programme                  |
| <b>HCMC</b>   | Ho Chi Minh City                                 |
| <b>MOLISA</b> | Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs  |



# OUR VISION, MISSION, VALUES

**Vision:** A united world where children are free from suffering, poverty, exploitation, fear, and oppression. Where children are aware of their fundamental human rights.

**Mission:** The Christina Noble Children's Foundation is dedicated to serving the emotional, physical, medical and educational needs of vulnerable children. We believe that every child deserves love, respect and freedom from all forms of exploitation. We establish long-term relationships with the children we support and empower them to live happy, emotionally rich, and independent lives.

**Values:** Our values represent our beliefs and guide how we behave. They are: Love, Compassion, Respect, Honesty, and integrity.





# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2017, the Education Scholarship Programme (ESP) in Vietnam continued to provide financial support to children and young adults, allowing them to continue their educations at the primary, secondary, high school, college, university, or vocational level.

This year, 292 students received scholarships. In addition to scholarships, extra support was provided in the form of bicycle kits, holiday gifts, and counselling.

In 2018, the ESP will continue to provide crucial support to students in desperate need so they can stay in school and build a brighter future. In addition, we aim to strengthen partnerships with local partners, enhance parental involvement, and improve our internal database management.

In 2017 - 292 students received scholarships

**2017 Operating Costs:**    **USD \$45,749.67**





# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## ESTABLISHED

2002

## LOCATION

Ho Chi Minh City, Kien Giang, and Long An provinces

## OBJECTIVES

To provide scholarships to children so they can remain in the educational system; to bring these children into our Foundation’s community and provide access to other services such as career counselling and life skills training and support through other programmes; to help recipient families break the cycle of poverty; and to enhance family and community awareness of the importance of education to the futures of their children

## PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

Financial assistance in the form of scholarships; life skills training; counselling; and support through other CNCF programmes

## BENEFICIARIES

Children from disadvantaged backgrounds who are enrolled in school. These children are orphans or street children living with relatives, children from large families with parents who are disabled, children from low-income households (under 100 USD per person per month for HCMC or under 50 USD per person per month in the provinces), or children whose families are affected by acute financial hardships caused by divorce, bankruptcy, or a serious accident or illness to the primary income earner. Many are children in other CNCF Programmes such as the Sunshine School who want to pursue higher education, but require support.

## LOCAL PARTNERS

**HCMC:** Thao Dan Social Protection Centre, Tuong Lai Project, Women Union of Cau Ong Lanh Ward, Study Promotion Association of Tan Dinh Ward

**Long An:** People’s Committee of Tan Tru District

**Kien Giang:** Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs

## CNCF INVOLVEMENT

Fully responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring, and evaluation



# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## CNCF STAFF

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Director of Operations: Ms. Son Thu Trinh; Vice Director: Ms. Hoang Tu Uyen; Sponsorship Programme and Education Scholarship Programme Manager: Ms. Vo Thi Nu Chau; Education Scholarship Programme Officer: Ms. Phan Thi Que Khanh

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

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Because CNCF is directly responsible for funding and programme management, we conduct regular monitoring and evaluation activities. Regular updates of children's progress in school and college are collected and timely support is provided when necessary. Prior to enrolment and as issues arise, our social worker and programme manager conduct home visits. Weekly internal meetings are conducted for CNCF staff to discuss programme-related issues and updates. Monthly reports and semi-annual reports are sent by CNCF staff to the Board of Management and an Annual Review of the programme is sent to all stakeholders.

## 2017 ACTUAL COST

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USD \$45,749.68

## PRIMARY DONOR

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CNCF Mongolia

## FUTURE PLANS

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In 2018, we will continue to provide financial support for education and complementary support (e.g., career counselling and life skills training), continue to strengthen partnerships with local partners, enhance parental involvement through inclusive activities that help increase awareness and build capacity so they can support us in achieving our goal of child development, and improve our internal database management

## REPORTING PERIOD

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January - December 2017







# PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

We believe education is crucial to the growth and development of every child and is a key factor that can help break the poverty cycle. Without education, children cannot transcend the social sphere into which they are born. Education gives children a chance, a sense of worth, hope, and an opportunity for change. In the short-term, school provides a refuge from danger and poverty; in the long-term, it is how a child can permanently overcome barriers.

Accessing affordable education remains an obstacle for many of Vietnam's poorest families. By law, students are not required to pay tuition fees at the primary school level in public schools; however, other costs, such as transportation, uniforms, and learning materials, and informal fees set by schools or communes at the local level can make even primary education prohibitively expensive. Many children from poor households cannot go to school or complete their education due to economic constraints. Instead, many must work to help support their families. Often, families are unaware of the long-term value of education, and thus, children do not get the support they need to stay in school.

We established the Child Sponsorship Programme in 1996 to help children stay in school. Recognising that more support was needed to ensure that children continue their education, we established the Education Scholarship Programme (ESP) in 2002 to provide scholarships to children whose families are unable to afford schooling with the aim of ensuring that children can remain in the educational system. The financial support we provide to our children covers school fees. The ESP offers scholarships to eligible students from Ho Chi Minh City and several rural provinces in the Mekong Delta region. We also provide additional support when appropriate in the form of career counselling, life skills training, and provision of computers, laptops, and bicycles. To date, ESP has provided financial support to more than 3,000 disadvantaged students.





**ĐẢNG CỘNG SẢN VIỆT NAM QUANG VINH MUÔN NĂM!**



SỞ LAO ĐỘNG - THƯƠNG BINH  
VÀ XÃ HỘI

**LỄ TRAO HỌC BỔNG  
CHO TRẺ EM CÓ TÀI NĂNG CẢNH KHI  
QUÝ NĂM 2018**





# OUR YEAR

In 2017, 292 students received scholarships through the Education Support Programme. All ESP students received fixed scholarships. The amount is fixed based on education level and province. All disbursement activities were completed on schedule.

In addition to scholarships, extra support was provided in the form of bicycle kits (2 students), holiday gifts (12 students), and counselling (32 students).

## 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

In 2017,  
**292 STUDENTS**  
received scholarships

**2 STUDENTS**  
were provided bicycle kits

**12 STUDENTS**  
received holiday gifts

**32 STUDENTS**  
were provided counseling









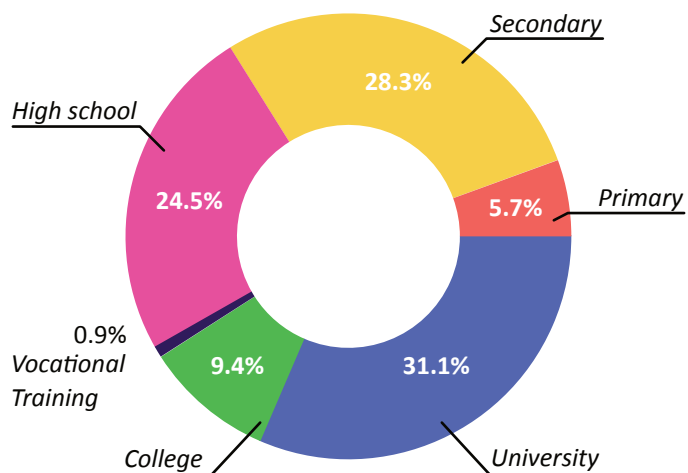
# PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

## EDUCATION SUPPORT

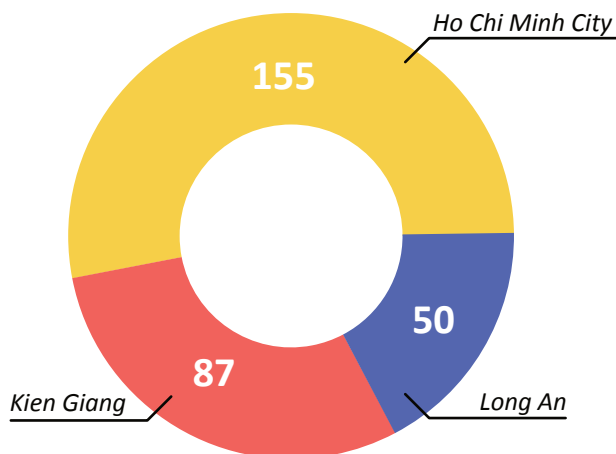
Providing financial assistance for education is the main activity of the ESP.

In 2017, 292 children from Ho Chi Minh City and two provinces in the Mekong Delta—Kien Giang and Long An—were enrolled. Children attending primary, secondary, and high school as well as those attending university, college, and vocational training received scholarships.

### Education Level of ESP Students



### Geographical Distribution of ESP Students





## SCHOLARSHIP DISBURSEMENT

In 2017, all ESP students received fixed scholarships based on education level and the province in which they attend school.

ESP staff in cooperation with the officers of local partners organised scholarship disbursement ceremonies for all children enrolled in the programme. This gave the team the opportunity to meet the students and their parents/guardians, to talk, to listen, to gain valuable insights into the difficulties the families face, and offer timely help and advice.

Furthermore, some networking and team-building activities were included in the scholarship disbursement ceremonies for students attending college, university, or vocational training with the aim of building a network for these students to enable them to improve their soft skills, especially their communication and team work skills.





## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The ESP team monitors the family situation, social environment, and economic conditions of each programme beneficiary. They also assess any risks the children might face. Based on this information, intervention and support plans are put in place. The team tries to arrange frequent meetings with parents, phone calls, and other means of communication to follow-up regularly with all ESP scholars. The team also conducts home visits when financially feasible.

Another important aspect of programme monitoring is regular follow-up with schools and families for updates on academic performance. Our staff work closely with local partners and students to collect school reports.

In 2017, over 80% of ESP students achieved academic marks of average or above. It is important to note that our children come from homes that do not provide a conducive learning environment. In cases of poor academic performance, our staff attempts to ascertain the reasons and offer additional support.

**80% of ESP students**  
achieved academic marks of average or above





## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

### ***Bicycles***

Children enrolled in the ESP also benefit from other CNCF programmes. In 2017, our Bicycle Support Programme provided bicycles to two children in the ESP who faced difficulties getting to and from school.

### ***Holiday Gifts***

Additional support during the Vietnamese New Year, Tet, was provided to 12 children whose families were facing extreme financial hardship.

### ***Counselling***

This year, 32 students received counselling from our programme staff.





# OUR STORIES

## *Doctor in Training*

Bich\* was in our Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) from 2004 to 2016. Thanks to the support of her parents, her sister, her sponsor, and CNCF, Bich performed very well in school. After completing ninth grade, she passed the entrance exam to one of the most prestigious high schools in Vietnam. In 2013, she passed the difficult entrance exam to get into university to study medicine. Her CSP sponsor was very proud of all her accomplishments, but due to personal reasons, was unable to continue supporting her.

Bich's parents were also unable to finance the final year of her university education. Because of her stellar academic record and personal hardships, we transferred Bich to the ESP so she could focus on her studies during her senior year. Immediately after her graduation in 2017, she was recruited to work at one of the biggest children's hospitals in Vietnam!

### Long-Term Commitment Pays Off

Thanh\* has been in ESP since 2006 when he was in fifth grade. When we first met Thanh, he and his family were in a difficult situation because his father had passed away four years prior. Thanh and his brother were at high risk of dropping out of school. Their mother was an unskilled worker and she had to juggle numerous jobs to keep the family afloat. The ESP allowed Thanh to stay in school.

Thanh has excelled in school and became the only member of his family to attend university. After four years of hard work, he graduated with a degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technology. After graduation, Thanh was recruited to work for a foreign company. His career is off to a great start and he will undoubtedly be able to provide for himself and his family.





## Overcoming Obstacles

Nhu\* and her family lived on the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City. Nhu's father worked as a motorbike-taxi driver and her mother was a babysitter. Their incomes from these jobs were low and unstable. As a result, it was extremely difficult for them to provide for their three children. Their lives became even more difficult when they were forced to move to make way for a government construction project. Nhu's parents came to CNCF in search of financial support to help their children stay in school.

Since 2004, Nhu has received support from the ESP. She recently graduated from university where she studied banking. She secured a job with a foreign bank in Ho Chi Minh City. Nhu's success would not have been possible without her hard work and the financial support provided by the Education Scholarship Programme.





# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

Thanks to our supporters, we have been able to realise our founder's mission of providing the children in our care educational opportunities that help them break the cycle of poverty and achieve a brighter future.

### **Primary Donors**

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**Argon Masking - USA**

**Lynda Charlton Memorial Fund**

### **Secondary Donors**

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Anonymous - Hong Kong

CNCF UK

Thank you to our local government partners who make it possible for us to run our Education Scholarship Programme successfully:

Thao Dan Social Protection Centre, HCMC

Tuong Lai Project, HCMC

Women Union of Cau Ong Lanh Ward, HCMC

Study Promotion Association of Tan Dinh Ward, HCMC

Union of Friendship Organization, Long An Province

People's Committee of Tan Tru District, Long An Province

Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs, Kien Giang Province





# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

| Items                         | FY2017 in USD           |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 292 Scholarships              | 19,832.40               |
| Project management salary x2  | 13,734.61               |
| Management fee indirect costs | 12,112.37               |
| <b><u>TOTAL COST</u></b>      | <b><u>45,749.68</u></b> |

The operational cost of the Education Scholarship Programme was USD45,749.68.

The direct costs include the actual costs of scholarships. The indirect costs include salaries of project staff, stationery, communications, transportation for home visits, security fees, and utility costs allocated to the project

**\*2017 Audit available upon request or online [www.cncf.org](http://www.cncf.org)**





If you are interested in supporting our humanitarian efforts please contact us:

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