ANNUAL REPORT 2020
SUNSHINE HOMES
VIETNAM
"I believe that all children have the right to a childhood."

- Christina Noble OBE -
ABBREVIATIONS

CNCF  Christina Noble Children’s Foundation
SSH   Sunshine Home for Boys & Girls
DOLISA Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
DOET  Department of Education and Training
HCMC  Ho Chi Minh City
MOET  Ministry of Education and Training
UNICEF United Nations Children’s Fund
VND   Vietnamese Dong (currency)
USD   US Dollar (currency)
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 (CNCF) is dedicated to serving the physical, medical, educational and emotional needs of vulnerable children. We believe that every child is an individual who deserves love, respect and freedom from all forms of abuse and 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.
PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

ESTABLISHED

1994 (Sunshine Home for Boys)
1997 (Sunshine Home for Girls)

LOCATION

District 10, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

OBJECTIVES

To provide a safe and caring environment for boys and girls who are either from very poor families, living on the streets or at high risk of commercial and sexual exploitation, drug trafficking and violence. The Sunshine Homes aim to provide a safe haven where the children are cared for in a nurturing environment and able to receive psychological support, healthcare, education and vocational training to develop themselves and become self-sufficient individuals

BENEFICIARIES

Children (ages 5 to 20 years) from disadvantaged backgrounds including children from poor families whose parents/guardians cannot support them, orphans, abandoned children, children living on the streets and those who have faced or are at high risk of commercial and sexual exploitation, drug trafficking and violence

LOCAL PARTNERS

The Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (DOLISA), District 10, HCMC

CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is directly responsible for funding and financial management and co-management of the Homes with our local partners; CNCF also provides technical support to implement the project and facilitate recreational activities as well as facilitating extra-curricular activities, vocational and life skills training.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Sunshine Homes Programme Manager conducts official site monitoring visits at least every two weeks. Children in the Homes also participate in other CNCF programmes such as the Sunshine Arts & Music and Sports Programmes and Programme Managers receive regular updates about the children through their project activities. In addition, information and updates about the children are collected through project visits (scheduled and unscheduled) and timely support in different areas is provided when necessary. Meetings with local partners and staff at the Homes are held to provide project updates and resolve any issues. Weekly internal meetings are conducted for CNCF staff for programme discussion. Monthly, quarterly and semi-annual reports are sent to CNCF Board of Management. An end of year evaluation is conducted by DOLISA and CNCF to assess project results and an Annual Report is sent to all stakeholders.

ACTUAL COST 2020

USD $98,625.72 (Sunshine Home for Boys: USD $52,475.28 & Sunshine Home for Girls: USD $46,150.45)

REPORTING PERIOD

January – December 2020

2021 OBJECTIVES

- To continue to provide protection for up to 20 girls and 25 boys, ensuring a safe and healthy living environment for children
- To maintain quality of existing services and facilities
- To continue to provide additional support for children, if necessary
- To improve the working environment for SSH staff
The Sunshine Home for Boys was established by CNCF Founder Christina Noble in 1994, followed by the establishment of the Sunshine Home for Girls in 1997. To date, the Sunshine Homes continue to provide a safe and nurturing home for vulnerable boys and girls, who come from disadvantaged families, and/or are orphaned, abandoned living on the street or subjected to abuse, exploitation and trafficking.

During these unprecedented times, our top priority remains the wellbeing and safety of our children. The team at CNCF’s Sunshine Homes ensured the quality delivery of critical services, enabling our young people to flourish in a productive and caring environment with indoor learning and recreational activities facilitated. During the children’s temporary return to their homes, we remained in close contact with their families to monitor the children’s health and progress, and to offer timely support when necessary. Home visits to distribute much needed emergency relief packages were conducted, whilst essential equipment such as masks, hygiene products, cleaning kits were also delivered. We frequently organised sharing sessions and in-house health talks to keep children and their families informed of the situation. The Sunshine Home children continued to gain stability through accessing healthcare, social and educational support to achieve their goals and aim towards brighter futures.

Since inception, 1,216 children have been provided with long-term residential care, education, healthcare, and a sustainable future by the Sunshine Homes. 503 girls and 713 boys resided at the Sunshine Homes at the end of 2020.

- 37 children enrolled in local schools and vocational programmes
- 38 children received annual health check-ups at a government hospital
- 10 children graduated from Primary School and Secondary School
- 03 children completed vocational training and have secured stable jobs
- 40 children resided at the Sunshine Homes at the end of 2020
- 50 children (ages 6 to 22) received holistic care at the Sunshine Homes this year
- 22 girls
- 28 boys
- 16 girls
- 24 boys
By ensuring children's needs are met in a safe and nurturing environment, the Sunshine Homes provide our young people with opportunities to reach their fullest potential through the exposure to varied learning and self-development activities. Children are the future of our world, and to CNCF, a sustainable future for all starts with a well-rounded childhood.

50 CHILDREN (ages 6 to 22) received holistic care at the Sunshine Homes this year

07 CHILDREN (06 Boys & 01 Girl) arrived at the Sunshine Homes

10 CHILDREN (06 Boys & 04 Girls) transitioned from the Sunshine Homes, returning to their homes or having found stable jobs and becoming self-sufficient

03 CHILDREN relocated to other housing and continued to receive support from the Sunshine Homes staff

40 CHILDREN resided at the Sunshine Homes at the end of 2020

22 GIRLS
28 BOYS

24 BOYS
16 GIRLS
Education

**Education Level**

- **Primary School**
  - 18 CHILDREN (12 Boys & 06 Girls)

- **Secondary School**
  - 14 CHILDREN (09 Boys & 05 Girls)

- **High School**
  - 02 CHILDREN (Girls)

- **College**
  - 02 CHILDREN (01 Boy & 01 Girl)

- **Vocational Programmes**
  - 04 CHILDREN (02 Boys & 02 Girls)

**Education Outcomes**

- **CHILD (Boy)** achieved - Excellent Performance
  - 01 CHILD (Boy)

- **CHILDREN** (05 Boys & 01 Girl) achieved - Good Performance
  - 06 CHILDREN (05 Boys & 01 Girl)

- **CHILDREN** (15 Boys & 12 Girls) achieved - Average Performance
  - 27 CHILDREN (15 Boys & 12 Girls)

- **CHILDREN** (01 Boy & 03 Girls) graduated from Primary School
  - 04 CHILDREN (01 Boy & 03 Girls)

- **CHILDREN** (03 Boys & 03 Girls) graduated from Secondary School
  - 06 CHILDREN (03 Boys & 03 Girls)

- **CHILDREN** (02 Boys & 01 Girl) completed Vocational Training and have secured stable jobs
  - 03 CHILDREN (02 Boys & 01 Girl)

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**Our Year**

**Education**

- **37 CHILDREN** enrolled in academic and vocational education in the school year

  - **21 BOYS**
  - **16 GIRLS**

- **34 CHILDREN** received additional home tutoring

  - **21 BOYS**
  - **13 GIRLS**

- **01 CHILD (Boy)** was unable to enrol in education due to health conditions and remains under medical oversight

- **02 CHILDREN** (Boys) were home schooled due to academic challenges

- **10 CHILDREN** (08 Boys & 02 Girls) attended evening classes as they were unable to attend daily mainstream school due to being over the enrollment age
Extracurricular Activities

- **26** CHILDREN (17 Boys & 09 Girls) attended Judo class
- **20** CHILDREN (12 Boys & 08 Girls) attended Swimming class
- **11** GIRLS attended Arts class
- **10** GIRLS attended Dance class
- **15** BOYS attended Football
**Healthcare**

- **100%** CHILDREN received medical insurance, and were provided with face masks, sanitisers and COVID-19 prevention hygiene products.
- **38** CHILDREN (22 Boys & 16 Girls) received annual health check-ups at a government hospital.
- **09** CHILDREN (07 Boys & 02 Girls) received further medical treatments.
- **36** CHILDREN (22 Boys & 14 Girls) were vaccinated against Diphtheria.
- **37** CHILDREN (22 Boys & 15 Girls) were dewormed.

**Social Development**

- **08** EXCURSIONS, EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS were facilitated for children at Sunshine Boys' Home.
- **05** TRAININGS AND SHARING SESSIONS were organised for children at Sunshine Boys' Home.
- **08** EXCURSIONS, EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS were facilitated for children at Sunshine Girls' Home.
- **31** TRAININGS AND SHARING SESSIONS were organised for children at Sunshine Girls' Home.
- **10** CHILDREN (05 Boys & 05 Girls) attended the annual "Giving Wings to Your Dreams" camp organised by DELISA HCMC. The girls were rewarded with a bicycle and an award.
- **03** BOYS were selected to be representatives in the online seminar "Listen to the children's voice" organised by SCI and District 10 Authorities.
OUR YEAR

Social Development

**20** CHILDREN (10 Boys & 10 Girls) attended online English classes conducted by Mahrberg Foundation volunteers.

**14** CHILDREN (08 Boys & 06 Girls) who were in the final year of secondary education, received vocational and career guidance.

**01** GIRL attended psychological sessions facilitated by CNCF’s Psychologist.

Home Visits

**15** HOME VISITS were conducted to the families of 16 boys.

**11** HOME VISITS were conducted to the families of 05 girls.

Additional Support

**31** FAMILIES IN NEED received COVID-19 emergency relief support.

**43** CHRISTMAS GIFTS were distributed to children.

**08** LAPTOPS AND 10 IPADS were distributed to children and staff as learning tools.

Staff Training & Workshops

**05** TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS were organised for Sunshine Boys’ Home staff.

**06** TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS were organised for Sunshine Girls’ Home staff.
This photo was taken of our children performing at CNCF’s 30th Anniversary Gala Celebration.
Christina Noble founded the Sunshine Home for Boys in 1994, in response to a growing need of a safe shelter for vulnerable boys living on the streets, and/or those at risk of violence. In 1997, the Sunshine Home for Girls was established in partnership with the Women’s Association of HCMC, for girls who were at constant risk of starvation and sexual and commercial exploitation.

The Sunshine Homes work to provide a safe and caring home environment where the children receive holistic support through residential care, education, healthcare, nutrition, social and life skills development. We also encourage the children to engage in a variety of extracurricular activities as part of CNCF’s Arts, Music and Sports Programme.

In our care, the children are empowered to develop crucial knowledge and skills to improve their lives, whilst being able to gain confidence and adaptability through exposure in varied social development activities. The Sunshine Home for Boys can accommodate up to 25 boys at a time and the Sunshine Home for Girls can accommodate up to 20 girls.
Very often the children arriving at the Sunshine Homes have not been enrolled in schools or had disrupted education due to financial difficulties. Education is the pathway to future independence and success and CNCF’s Sunshine Homes provide our young people with access to school and/or vocational training, depending on their age and learning capacity. For children who enter the Homes in the middle of an academic year, we provide support to enrol them into school for the next academic year. As children wish to pursue tertiary academic education or vocational programmes, CNCF provides them with the necessary study information and career guidance.

As most of the schools are located close to the Homes, children can walk or ride bikes to school when safety is ensured. Private home tutoring and educational support are provided to all children, catering to the needs of children with learning difficulties. We also facilitate English language classes with support from volunteers. Through this experience, the children develop their English speaking and listening skills whilst building self-confidence.
Engaging in extracurricular activities brings opportunities for children’s comprehensive development, where they can discover and pursue passions, as well as gaining new skills and interests. Our weekly extracurricular classes and seasonal activities were organised and easily accessible to all children. Children are also taught computer skills such as Word, Excel and safe internet research. All boys and girls continue to have access to in-house services including the well-equipped library.

Children are also encouraged to participate in CNCF’s Arts, Music and Sports Programme which helps to create a safe and nourishing environment for our Sunshine Homes children to learn self-expression, channel their feelings and most importantly, experience an enjoyable childhood. For full details about this programme, see the Arts, Music & Sports Programme Annual Report.
**PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION**

**Healthcare**

Children at the Sunshine Homes are covered under a national healthcare scheme that includes annual health check-ups at a government hospital, recording of medical conditions, regular monitoring and timely medical care as well as general health and hygiene training and sharing sessions. The Homes staff closely monitor the children’s health and wellbeing for timely intervention and appropriate care.

Every child receives a nutrient-rich diet with milk supplements given to those with special dietary needs. Vaccinations are provided for children in accordance with the Ministry of Health's vaccination schedule.

Sharing sessions are crucial in ensuring our children are equipped with basic knowledge on health practices to maintain healthy routines. Frequent health talks are conducted by the Homes staff for the children to discuss their opinions, concerns with others and to bring awareness and knowledge on health matters. This year, the topics covered included personal hygiene, reproductive health care, seasonal changes, petechial fever, food safety, COVID-19 prevention and adolescent psychology.
CNCF recognises the importance of personal and social skills in a child’s overall development. We work to foster a socially and emotionally sound learning environment where children are empowered to develop greater social competence and ensure positive achievements. During play and organised activities with other children as well as local and international visitors, the children proactively improve their confidence, motor and communication skills and teamwork. In addition to developing their social skills, the boys and girls are able to gain more knowledge and learn to set and achieve individual goals and persistence, which is essential for their successful transition into adulthood.

Celebrations on special occasions such as Children’s Day, Mid-Autumn Festival, Teachers’ Day, Women’s Day, End-of-School Year and Christmas, were organised for our children, where they participated in interactive activities and joined together for a performance.

Sunshine Homes children are empowered to take part in a number of children’s camps, competitions and festivals to develop social skills and gain self-confidence. Outdoor excursions to museums and the city’s book streets were also facilitated providing children with important knowledge on history and promoting reading habits, which remained one of the children’s favourite activities.
Report 2020

Programme Description

Life Skills Training

Frequent life skills training and sharing sessions focusing on children’s behavioural and attitudinal development, and modern social issues, are organised by CNCF and Sunshine Homes staff. This year, our children participated in varied workshops and training sessions on topics such as the importance of education, confidence strengthening, self-planning, self-studying, information technology, communications and personal development.

Staff Training

Sunshine Homes staff participate in varied training sessions and workshops on topics including children’s rights, active education, social work and consulting, providing the staff with updated knowledge on working and supporting children in education and social development. Staff training is important to our programme delivery ensuring all children who arrive at the Sunshine Homes, are provided with much needed and professional assistance to overcome their challenges and flourish in a well-rounded environment.
Despite the positive strides in Vietnam’s developing economy, increasing immunisation coverage, access to safe drinking water, sanitation and efforts to tackle poverty, in 2020 communities were faced with unprecedented challenges. As the COVID-19 pandemic heightens financial strains on those already living in truly unimaginable circumstances, the provision of basic necessities, education and healthcare for children, particularly those with disabilities who remain isolated, have been disrupted, or even destroyed. Without timely and appropriate intervention and assistance, these children could be at greater risk of exploitation and trafficking where they are deprived of a childhood and a chance of a better future.

1 in 5 children (nearly 5.5 million) in Vietnam experience at least two deprivations in education, health, nutrition, shelter, water and sanitation, or social inclusion [1]

8.1% of girls and boys aged 11-14 years old were out of school [2]

3% of surveyed rural households reported they stopped sending children to school due to reduced incomes as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic’s economic impacts [3]

[3] Institute for Policy and Strategies for Agriculture and Rural Development, 2020
More Than Just A Home

Born into an ethnic group in the Central Highlands of Vietnam, Ka* spent his early childhood with his parents and siblings in a stilt house lacking basic facilities. The meagre income of a farmer had left Ka’s parents struggling most days to put food on the table. Education for their children was simply beyond their reach at the time. Devastatingly for the family, they had no other option but to send Ka and his siblings to a shelter for better childcare. Ka then arrived to us at the Sunshine Boys’ Home to the heart-warming welcome of all the children and teachers.

Upon Ka’s first days, the Home’s staff worked incredibly hard to support the young boy in adjusting into his new home and overcoming his language barrier. Over the course of a few months, Ka has made gradual progress in his social skills as well as adapting healthy learning routines. With the encouragement from other children at the Home, Ka has also started catching up on all activities and has become more fluent in Vietnamese.

Ka is now attending classes at the district’s Continuing Education Centre, whilst participating in tutoring sessions organised by the Home’s educator. Recently his determination and diligence throughout the 7th grade school year was acknowledged with a merit certificate for outstanding performance, Ka was thrilled. We are immensely proud of Ka and his achievements as our Sunshine Boys’ Home children and staff continue to support Ka in his development.

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy
"The last six years at the Girls’ Home has been the happiest time of my childhood. Born without a birth certificate or any identification to allow us to receive an education, my sister and I did not know what kindergartens or schools looked like. Our father, despite his absence from most of our childhood for work, was unable to provide us with much needed essentials. Going to school was just a dream to us. Right at our darkest hour, CNCF took us into the care of the Sunshine Home for Girls.

Upon our arrival, the teachers and caregivers immediately helped to obtain identification papers so that my sister and I, for the first time in our lives, were able to receive an education. Not only are we able to go to school and enjoy daily nutritious meals, but we are also encouraged to take part in many activities, workshops and extracurricular classes such as Swimming, Art, Music and English. Here we have learned, grown, and developed ourselves in a nurturing environment. We are now stronger from the inside out - all thanks to the dedication, patience, and great care from all the teachers and caregivers at the Sunshine Homes. They have transformed our lives for the better and for that, we are eternally grateful."

- A Sunshine Girls’ Home Child –
“Travelling from the North of Vietnam to Ho Chi Minh City in the South in search of a better life, my brother and I still struggled to make ends meet in this very bustling city. With the sole income generated from my brother’s labour job, we would consider it a lucky month if his earnings were just enough to cover the costs of basic necessities. The day I came to live at CNCF’s Sunshine Boys’ Home was when a new chapter of my life had begun. A chapter of hope, happiness and laughter.

Here I have my own bed, my own study corner, and delicious meals every day. The boys and I also get to join in varied excursions and participate in a number of life skills trainings and workshops for our development and social engagement. My education is closely supported by the Home’s staff, who are always willing to help with my questions and homework.

My brother is very happy and can focus on his employment, knowing that I am loved and well taken care of at the Boys’ Home. I’m grateful to CNCF and all the teachers at the Home for inspiring and enabling me to seek my potential. I also would like to say thank you to our teacher Tuan for his patience and support that has helped me gain great achievements in this school year.”

- A Sunshine Boys’ Home Child -

*Identity changed to protect privacy*
"Lan* was abandoned by her parents when she was very young. Since then, we had tried and done everything we could to provide Lan with the necessary care. Having retired with eyesight impairments, the family’s income relies on our limited retirement allowances, which are only able to afford family’s living expenses, not Lan’s education. We were devastated that we are now unable to look after our granddaughter, but we believe she would have a much better future arriving at the Sunshine Girls’ Home.

We were full of joy to see that our dear granddaughter has grown into such a delightful and active girl. We love to see her smiles during her visits back home and listen to her stories about living at the Home, about her excitement joining in English class, Dance, Art and Swimming classes. Lan even performed what she had learnt for us. We are elated that our granddaughter is now surrounded by the safety, love, care and support of the Home.

I am grateful to the Girls’ Home and the Christina Noble Children’s Foundation in taking care of Lan with dedication and giving her a chance to look forward to a brighter future. Thank you very much.”

– Grandparents of a Sunshine Girls’ Home Child –

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy
The operational costs of both the Sunshine Homes was:

USD $98,625.72

The operational cost of the Sunshine Boys' Home was:

USD $52,475.28

The operational cost of the Sunshine Girls' Home was:

USD $46,150.45

Heartfelt thanks to our kind donors who enable CNCF to keep this project operating and also to those who generously support with gift and time in-kind which enables us to keep our costs down.

Audit in progress at time of reporting.
Our audits can be found at:
www.cnf.org/finance-policies/
## SUNSHINE BOYS’ HOME EXPENDITURES IN 2020

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Upon our arrival, the teachers and caregivers immediately helped to obtain identification papers so that my sister and I, for the first time in our lives, were able to receive an education. Not only are we able to go to school and enjoy daily nutritious meals, but we are also encouraged to take part in many activities, workshops and extracurricular classes such as Swimming, Art, Music and English. Here we have learned, grown, and developed ourselves in a nurturing environment. We are now stronger from the inside out - all thanks to the dedication, patience, and great care from all the teachers and caregivers at the Sunshine Homes. They have transformed our lives for the better and for that, we are eternally grateful.''

-A Sunshine Girls' Home Child –

*Identity changed for child protection*

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Only with your vital support and donations is CNCF able to continue in our mission of giving every child back their childhood, by providing vulnerable children and young adults with a safe haven where they are surrounded with love and care, along with access to life-saving education, healthcare services and opportunities to develop and thrive.

Heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to our primary project donor Wednesday Afternoon Golf Society Hong Kong (WAGS) for funding this project and providing a safe and supportive environment for our Sunshine Children. A very special thank you also to St James’s Place Foundation (HK) for matching funds raised at the WAGS Annual Golf event. Thank you to CNCF Italy (IT), Eli Moss and Brian Moss (HK), UPS (USA) and the many kind individuals not mentioned for their additional support in ensuring our children receive the caring and supportive childhood that they so deserve and thus remaining true to our Founder’s philosophy.

We also take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to our local partner the Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (DOLISA) of Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), who makes it possible for us to implement the programme successfully.
For more information on this report and our CNCF projects in Vietnam and Mongolia please contact:

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Infographics: flaticon.com