



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

**MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
& MEDICAL EXCHANGE
PROGRAMME VIETNAM**

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

ESTABLISHED

1999

LOCATION

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

OBJECTIVES

CNCF's Medical Assistance Programme (MAP) was established in 1999, in response to an urgent need of emergency medical assistance for children living in extreme hardship and deprivation. The programme provides financial support to help children cover the costs of life-saving surgical procedures, post-operative care, basic medical treatments, social support and health insurance. In 2004, CNCF's Medical Exchange Programme (MEP) was established as a sub-project of the MAP, in partnership with Professor Martin Corbally, Operation ChildLife and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, with an aim to bring world-class medical expertise to Vietnam in the form of medical delegations that assess difficult medical cases, and perform surgeries that are otherwise unavailable in Vietnam. In 2012 the programme expanded its partnership to include the Royal College of Surgeons Bahrain. The programme also brings key local Vietnamese medical staff to Ireland for intensive surgical training that they can apply in their home hospitals. This programme encourages sustainable development and higher learning capabilities in the medical field in the country, in turn providing access to greater medical support to the people of Vietnam.

BENEFICIARIES

Children (up to age 16) in need of urgent medical care but lacking the means to afford, children coming from poverty-stricken backgrounds living in different provinces in the South East, Mekong River Delta, Central Highlands, Central Coast of Vietnam but travel to Ho Chi Minh City for medical treatments; Vietnamese paediatric doctors (mainly doctors at Children's Hospital No. 2 - CH2)

LOCAL PARTNERS

Children's Hospital No. 2, Eye Hospital

CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is responsible for the funding, programme management, monitoring and evaluation of this programme.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Frequent monitoring and evaluation processes are conducted by the Medical Assistance Team. Regular meetings with the families and the children are organised to follow up on the child's health and to offer additional support. Monthly meetings are held with local partners. Monthly reports and semi-annual reports are sent to CNCF Board of Management and an Annual Review of the programme is made available to all stakeholders. An annual evaluation is conducted at the end of the year that covers all areas of the programme implementation including human resources, finance, management, activities, database management and future planning.

OUR YEAR

In 2021, CNCF's Medical Assistance Programme (MAP) continued to provide life-saving financial support to children living in poverty and in need of urgent medical care and treatments at our partner hospitals. Due to pandemic restrictions and safety measures, CNCF's Medical Assistance Programme Team conducted case interviews via phone calls to children and their families at the hospitals, and remained in close contact for case management and follow-ups with the children's health progress. Through CNCF's Emergency Relief Funds, we provided children and families in urgent need with timely financial aid and essential packages to help alleviate some of their hardships.

Since inception,



2,393
CHILDREN

have been supported by
CNCF's Medical Assistance Programme



In 2021,

35 CHILDREN
received financial support
for emergency surgeries and
medical treatments



21
BOYS



14
GIRLS



93%
OF ALL REFERRED CASES
were enrolled onto CNCF's Medical
Assistance Programme



34
CHILDREN
were from the wider community



01
CHILD
was from CNCF's Child Sponsorship
Programme

Demographic Data

06 CHILDREN
come from extremely
destitute families in Ho Chi Minh city

29 CHILDREN
reside in the surrounding
provinces

09 CHILDREN
come from ethnic minorities

17 CHILDREN
come from single-income
households

Age Group

08
CHILDREN
Under 6 years old

14
CHILDREN
6 – 10 years old

08
CHILDREN
11 – 14 years old

05
CHILDREN
15 – 17 years old



OUR YEAR

Education Level

01

Child

enrolled in
Kindergarten

08

Children

enrolled in
Primary School

05

Children

enrolled in
Secondary School

03

Children

enrolled in
High School

05

Children

were under
school
enrolment age

12

Children

were unable to enrol
in education due to
health conditions,
academic challenges
and family hardships

Medical Assistance Cases

15

CHILDREN

received assistance for general disease treatments

07

CHILDREN

received assistance for cardiovascular treatments

13

CHILDREN

received assistance for trauma and injury treatments

Recovery Rate In 2021

13

Children

have
completely
recovered

12

Children

have
improved

01

Child

has slightly
improved

01

Child

has not yet
recovered

07

Children

were unable to be assessed
due to loss of contact from
child's parent/guardian
changing contact number or
families relocating to a new
province and not updating CNCF

01

Child

passed away
two months
after meningitis
treatment

Additional Family Support



35

FAMILIES

received health
guidance and
counselling



01

GIFT
PACKAGE

was delivered to
a child in need
during Lunar New
Year Celebration



54

CHILDREN
IN NEED

were supported with
emergency relief
financial aid packages
to cover their daily
essentials and rental
fees whilst receiving
medical treatments
at the hospital

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OUR YEAR

Medical Exchange Programme

This year, CNCF's Medical Exchange Programme (MEP), a sub-project of the Medical Assistance Programme could not take place due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions on global movements. Delegations of paediatric surgeons were scheduled but unable to travel to Vietnam to train Vietnamese medical teams, provide children with medical consultations and perform complex life-saving paediatric surgeries ordinarily unavailable in the country.

Since inception,

1,028 CHILDREN have been supported by

CNCF's Medical Exchange Programme, of which, **535 CHILDREN** have been provided with life-saving surgeries giving them another chance at life. **28 DOCTORS** from Children's Hospital No. 2 have also been facilitated to travel to Ireland for intensive surgical training at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Dublin.



OUR STORIES

Transforming Not Only A Child's Life But An Entire Family's Life

12-year-old Trong* lived with his mother and siblings in dire circumstances in Ho Chi Minh City. Trong's mother was a street vendor and also took on varied cleaning jobs to make ends meet. Due to their meagre income, Trong's younger siblings were sent to live with his aunt whilst Trong stayed with his mother and often went with her to work.

Earlier this year, Trong and his mother were diagnosed with traumatic brain injury following a severe traffic accident. The family struggled to afford the emergency medical costs as they did not have national health insurance, and Trong's mother, as the main breadwinner, was unable to work at the time. The family had to borrow money from their relatives, but it was not enough. The timely financial support provided by CNCF's Medical Assistance Programme enabled Trong to receive the medical treatment he desperately needed.

As Trong made steady progress on his recovery, his mother unfortunately became unemployed due to the pandemic lockdown and movement restrictions. The family relied on food items donated by their neighbours and were constantly moving from one place to another to save on rental fees as much as they could. Upon our follow-up appointments, CNCF learnt of the living conditions of Trong's family and immediately provided emergency financial assistance helping to cover the costs of their daily expenses and alleviating their hardships. Trong's mother expressed her immense gratitude for the timely and critical support of CNCF, not only enabling Trong's quick recovery but empowering the family to get through the difficult times and rebuild their lives.

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy





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OUR STORIES

Providing Life-Saving Support

Gia* is an active young boy, who lives with his family in Ba Ria-Vung Tau Province approximately 100 kilometres from Ho Chi Minh City. Gia's mother worked as a part-time caregiver looking after the neighbours' children. In April, Gia suffered from a high fever but showed no signs of improvement upon treatment. Gia was then transferred to Children's Hospital No.2 (CH2) in Ho Chi Minh City with a diagnosis of Bradycardia Arrhythmia (a slow heartbeat), and in critical need of a pacemaker placement.

Gia's partial hospital fees were supported by his relatives and his school but the remaining was still beyond the family's reach. The family had to rely on daily charity meals to get through. Upon the referral of CH2, CNCF's Medical Assistance Programme provided financial support that ensured Gia was able to receive the life-saving medical procedure. Following the surgery in May, Gia was prescribed with antibiotics and other medications.

When Gia was diagnosed with Bronchitis a few months later, Gia's grandparents were able to help cover the costs of his treatment whilst his mother had to take out a loan to afford their monthly rental fees. Understanding the devastating impacts of the pandemic on their livelihoods, CNCF delivered essential financial aid to help Gia's family cover their basic necessities and overcome the challenging times. Our team was delighted to learn of Gia's complete recovery in a short amount of time, and that the young boy was able to return to his studies whilst his mother was able to secure employment when movement restrictions were lifted.

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy

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FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The total cost of the Medical Assistance
Programme Vietnam in 2021 was:

\$15,563 USD

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.

Our audits can be found [here](#).



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME VIETNAM EXPENDITURES IN 2021

Description	Expenditure 2021
Children's Treatment Costs	8,804
CNCF Project Management Staff Salary	6,677
Others	82
TOTAL COST	15,563



For more information on this report and our CNCF projects in Vietnam please contact:

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Infographics: flaticon.com