



# BICYCLE SUPPORT PROGRAMME

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CNCF</b>	Christina Noble Children's Foundation
<b>DOLISA</b>	Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
<b>HCMC</b>	Ho Chi Minh City



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# 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 physical, medical, educational and emotional needs of vulnerable children. We believe that every child deserves love, respect and freedom from all forms of exploitation.

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





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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

By giving a bicycle to some of the poorest and most disadvantaged children we work with, you change their lives. Thank you for giving children the opportunity to get to and from school safely and helping their families break the cycle of poverty.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Bicycle Support Programme in 2018.

William Fox,  
Adrian Ferguson,  
Mark and Camel Smith,  
Frank Blaney,  
Mary and Martyn Daniels,  
Jonathan Turner,  
Sue and Pauline,  
and friends

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# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

<b>ESTABLISHED</b>	2004.
<b>LOCATION</b>	Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) and Ben Tre, Soc Trang, and Can Gio provinces.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	Provide children with bicycles so they have better educational outcomes (by increasing access to school and school attendance and reducing dropout rates); improve child safety during the commute to and from school; and improve economic outcomes (by reducing transportation costs for families).
<b>PROGRAMME COMPONENTS</b>	Provision of bicycle kits (bicycle and safety helmet) and safety training for beneficiaries.
<b>BENEFICIARIES</b>	Children in need of a reliable means of transportation to and from school. Some beneficiaries are enrolled in other CNCF Programmes including the Child Sponsorship Programme and Sunshine School.
<b>LOCAL PARTNERS</b>	Provincial local partners including DOLISA.
<b>CNCF INVOLVEMENT</b>	Fully responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring, and evaluation.
<b>CNCF MANAGEMENT</b>	Helenita Noble, CEO; Son Thu Trinh, Director of Operations Vietnam.



**CNCF STAFF**

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Nguyen Hong Nhung, Programme Coordinator.

Because CNCF is directly responsible for funding and programme management, we conduct regular monitoring and evaluation activities. The programme coordinator conducts monitoring visits during programme activities. The programme coordinator identifies children most in need of bicycles and follows up with all recipients after one year to evaluate the impact on the child and family and review the condition of the bicycle and helmet. Internal staff hold weekly meetings to discuss programme related issues and updates. CNCF staff send monthly reports and semi-annual reports to the Board of Management and an Annual Review of the programme is sent to all stakeholders.

## 2018 ACTUAL COSTS

Because this is a supply driven programme, the budgets and number of bicycles distributed are dependent on funds received. In 2018, this was USD \$3,163 for 24 bicycle kits (USD \$130/bicycle kit) and one bicycle kit as gift-in-kind.

## FUTURE PLANS

In 2019, in addition to maintaining our current activities we hope to increase the number of bicycle kits provided to disadvantaged children and expand the programme to include remote rural provinces and hard-to-reach communes.



**REPORTING PERIOD**

January – December 2018

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018, the Bicycle Support Programme continued to provide disadvantaged children from impoverished backgrounds bicycles and safety equipment that allows them to get to and from school safely. Without these bicycles, many of the children would be unable to stay in school.

In 2019, we hope to increase the number of bicycles distributed and expand the programme to reach remote rural provinces and hard-to-reach communes.



2018



25

SAFETY  
HELMETS

45

BICYCLES

Were distributed to children at-risk of dropping out of school because they lacked reliable transportation.

Beneficiaries also received road safety training. The programme benefited children in HCMC and Can Gio, Ben Tre, and Soc Trang provinces.

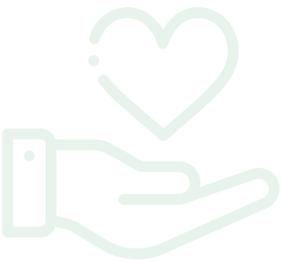
Since its inception  
in 2004

1,931

BICYCLES

Has been distributed to  
children in need.





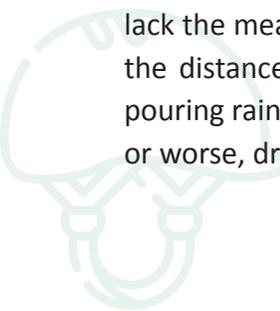
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# PROGRAMME BACKGROUND



The Bicycle Support Programme was established in 2004 to provide bicycles to children whose families face financial hardship. Studies indicate providing transportation can dramatically increase income for families in developing countries who live outside of urban areas. Without transportation, many children living in rural areas can not go to school.

UNICEF's Out-of-School Children: Viet Nam Country Study 2016 identified several barriers for access to the educational system including poverty (the primary barrier) and lack of safe and reliable transportation.



Many schools are located too far away for children to walk and their families lack the means to pay for public transportation. For those who must walk, the distance and extreme elements (scorching sun in the dry season or pouring rain in the rainy season) often result in them arriving late for class, or worse, dropping out of school altogether.



Distance is an important factor in the cost of education for children in remote communes. This contributes to a cycle of poverty and prevents children from using education to break this cycle. The bicycle, with its low-cost to high-benefit ratio, is one of the best tools to fight poverty.

In the Bicycle Support Programme's fifteen years, we have learned bicycles are not just a means of transportation for children, but a lifeline for the entire family. The children and their siblings use the bicycles to travel to and from school and their parents use it to carry out daily tasks. Parents save money on bus fares, but the bicycle is more than just a cost-saving tool, it is a tool of social mobilisation for the whole family. Transportation allows children to pursue their education, which increases their chances of breaking the cycle of poverty, not only for themselves but for their entire family.



# OUR YEAR

In 2018, the Bicycle Support Programme held three distribution days in HCMC and the Can Gio and Ben Tre provinces. Prior to receiving a bicycle kit, each child and at least one parent must attend a 'Safety on the Road' information session, which takes place on the bicycle distribution days. In total, we distributed 45 bicycles and 25 helmets to poor and disadvantaged children.

## 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

DISTRIBUTED BICYCLES TO



**25** CHILDREN who received bicycles were involved in other CNCF programmes.

**20** CHILDREN who received bicycles were from HCMC and the local community.

### Project

### Number of Beneficiaries

### Number of Bicycles Received

### Number of Helmets Received

Child Sponsorship Programme	13	13	13
Sunshine School	11	11	11
Medical Assistance Programme	1	1	1
Community (HCMC and Can Gio province)	20	20	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>25</b>



“

The bicycle received from CNCF has helped our family enormously. Before, my father spent most of his time taking my son back and forth to school. Now, my son rides his new bike to school by himself. Since receiving the bike, my son has become more independent and grown up. He loves his new-found independence and he also enjoys running errands for his grandmother. My son appreciates the bike and takes great care of it. In fact, he cleans the bike every day and puts it in the house after school.

- Parent of Bicycle Support Programme beneficiary -

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# PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

The Bicycle Support Programme provides bicycle kits including a bicycle, safety helmet, and road safety training to children in need. We select high-quality, well-known brand bicycles and helmets to ensure durability and long-term use. Road safety training is provided for every child and at least one parent/guardian. Beneficiaries are typically 10 to 18 years old.



## DIRECT BENEFICIARIES

**Poor and disadvantaged children in need of safe and affordable transportation to and from school. These children can be:**

- ◆ Beneficiaries of other CNCF projects (these children are given priority)
- ◆ Other disadvantaged children from the community (CNCF's local partners refer children to the programme)

## INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES

**Family members who benefit directly or indirectly from the bicycle.**

- ◆ Family/relatives who take children to school
- ◆ Siblings who also use the bicycle
- ◆ Other family members who use the bicycle

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

**Family members who benefit directly or indirectly from the bicycle.**

- ◆ Child must live at least 2 kilometres from school
- ◆ Child's family must demonstrate financial need
- ◆ Child identified as at risk of dropping out of school because of lack of transportation
- ◆ Child must be over 8 years old

# OUR STORIES

## Mai\*

Mai is the oldest of two children in his family. His father works as a hired porter loading heavy tree roots and his mother works in a factory. The family lives on an unsteady monthly income of around \$230 USD. The family of four live in a 30-square-meter house on a relative's land and an old motorbike was their primary means of transportation.

We first encountered Mai in 2012 when he was being treated at Children's Hospital No. 1 in HCMC for a medical condition. His mother sought financial support for his medical costs and CNCF was able to assist the family through our Medical Assistance Programme. Thankfully, Mai has recovered from his illness and is now in ninth grade. To support his education and ease the financial burden on his family, Mai received a bicycle and helmet from the Bicycle Support Programme. Now, he is able to ride his bike to school (3 kilometers) and his parents no longer have to take time away from work to get him to and from school.

Thanks to generous donations by Bicycle Support Programme donors, Mai can continue his education and Mai's family is working hard to build a brighter future!

## Nguyen\*

"My name is Nguyen. In September 2018, I received a new bicycle from CNCF that has helped me greatly in my daily activities and studies. Before receiving the bicycle, my grandmother and I used buses to get around, but it took a great deal of time because of all the waiting at bus stations. The new bike has helped my schoolwork greatly! In addition, I often cycle to the market to buy food for my grandmother."

## Xuan\*

Xuan is the daughter of a single mom who has struggled for years to support her family. Her mom's greatest wish for her children is that they be able to attend school, complete their education, and build a brighter future for themselves. However, Xuan and her siblings must travel 18 kilometres to reach their school and previously only had an old, broken-down motorbike as transportation. In addition, they often did not have enough money to buy petrol and the children had to miss class.

Xuan received a bicycle from the Bicycle Support Programme and she and her younger sister share the bike to get to and from school together. Thanks to the bicycle, Xuan and her sister's educational future is secure and they have more time to concentrate on their school work. Their mother can now focus on providing for their family. The Bicycle Support Programme has transformed the lives of Xuan's entire family and their future is bright!

\*Names changed to protect privacy.

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# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The operational cost of the Bicycle Support Programme in 2018 was:

**USD \$3,163**

The direct costs of the bicycle kits include the cost of the bicycle and safety helmet.

The administration costs include delivery of bicycles to the provinces, bicycle distribution days, road safety awareness training, and monitoring visits to the homes of children in the programme as well as visits to check eligibility criteria of prospective beneficiaries.

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 2018 audits are available online  
<https://www.cncf.org/finance-policies>





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

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