

HIV care saves lives



Background

HIV has become an increasing problem in Viet Nam. Mothers can transfer the infection to children and the disease is often clinically silent for many years. These families may have difficulty in living long time in a place because HIV has created a significant social stigma in rural Viet Nam.

These families are often isolated and their children are unable to attend school. It is because other parents don't want their healthy children being in the same school with HIV infected children. Due to this stigma, these families often move around regularly and do not seek medical care or often don't seek HIV testing for their children. The majority of the HIV infected children are orphans and are living with their grandparents. The children with HIV don't get meds free, have no social support, and live in low condition of life.

VNHIP has been working with families to help them in both areas, 1) to financially support in case not having steady income and 2) to reduce the associated social stigma through working on community raising awareness and school education. We support the children to get medication for their disease and to travel to Ho Chi Minh City for treatment when necessary.

VNHIP supports more than 300 HIV/AIDS-Infected/affected Children and adults in Da Nang city and Quang Nam Province.



**Vietnam
Health
Improvement
Project**



Dental care for the children living with HIV



Distributing leaflets about HIV to ethnic minorities

Goal

Our main purpose is to improve the health and well-being of the children and adults living with HIV in Quang Nam province and Da Nang city

Our approach

VNHIP's project raises public awareness and provides a comprehensive development of the kids, including health, education, life-skill development and livelihood/ economic development. We focus on the following four areas:

Organize behavior change communication and campaigns on awareness raising and stigma reduction for children living with HIV. Organize 4 special events for HIV/AIDS-IC: The Lunar New Year, International Children's day, summer holiday trip and Mid-Autumn festival

Work with health services and other organizations to detect HIV early in children at risk, provide health and improve access to medication and health service through offer health insurance cards, and support children without relatives to stay in the orphanage centers.

Improve the accessibility to education for the children living with HIV by working with school teachers and parents of other children to increase their acceptance at school and provide the needed financial support (to cover scholarship, books, study desk, book shelf, desk lamp, bags, clothes, bikes, food at school, etc.). VNHIP also organize social events and training to improve the social and life-skills of the HIV/AIDS-Infected Children.

Provide grants for basic needs and livelihood improvement (food, clean water, safe house, clothes, hygienic toilet), and provide a small grant for HIV/AIDS-Infected Children's families to run IGA or small businesses to increase their income

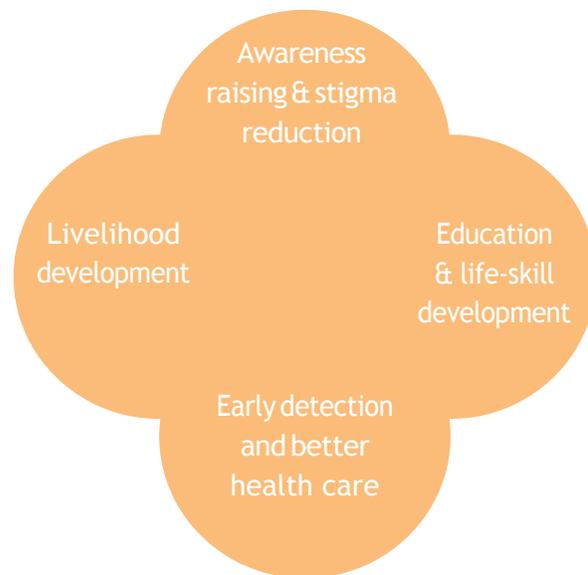


Shadow-drama for life skill development

Target group

The project focuses on children and youth living with HIV under 25 years old. They are often orphans living with grandparents.

Four areas of the project on "HIV Care Saves Lives"



You Can Help!

- ✓ \$19,200/year to cover basic needs of food and health care services for 40 HIV/AIDS infected babies.
- ✓ \$10,000 /year to provide the support on education for 50 HIV/AIDS-IC.
- ✓ \$15,000/year to support 25 very poor families of HIV/AIDS-IC to earn their living and 05 HIV/AIDS-youth to continue their study in university/vocational training.
- ✓ \$ 10,000 /year to organize four special events on occasion of The Lunar New Year, International Children's Day, summer holiday trip and Mid-Autumn festival for 150 HIV/AIDS-IC.
- ✓ \$ 10,000/year to conduct 12 sessions/year on life skills for 30 HIV/AIDS-IC.
- ✓ \$40,500/3 years to implement the project on HIV/AIDS prevention for teenagers studying in 6 senior high schools with the participation of 161 teachers and 6,054 pupils.