

DucSonChild

#2024

Annual Report

A new year, and new challenges

Interview

Meet our students

Summer 2024

Field Work in Thua Thien Hue

27
PAGES



Ces enfants qui sont notre raison d'être

Cường est notre 55^{ème} étudiant diplômé



Sa nouvelle blouse blanche taille un peu grand : en octobre, lorsqu'il aura son diplôme en poche, Cường sẽ là un beau et fier pharmacien, dans le très prestigieux hôpital central de Huế. L'histoire de Cường fut d'abord celle d'une tragédie, hélas trop fréquente dans les régions les plus pauvres du Vietnam. Les deux parents de Cường, dans le très pauvre district de Quảng Điền, sont malades et infirmes ; ils ne travaillent pas, et ne disposent de quasi aucune aide de l'état pour subsister ou nourrir leurs enfants. Dans la fratrie, ils sont six frères et sœurs, Cường est le troisième. Le frère aîné et la grande sœur ont arrêté leurs études en primaire. A huit ans, les deux travaillent déjà, et ont la dure charge de ramener le maigre pécule pour subvenir aux besoins de la famille. Ils sont travailleurs saisonniers, précaires, sans contrat, comme du reste une majorité de travailleurs vietnamiens dans les régions pauvres ; ils subsistent au gré des besoins

d'employeurs de la région, dans les rizières, dans les plantations, ou sur les chantiers. Un destin similaire attend Cường, qui veut lui aussi, à l'issue du primaire, arrêter l'école et commencer à travailler. Mais Cường est un élève très doué ; ses professeurs remarquent ses qualités, exceptionnelles pour le district ; « tu peux et tu dois aller à l'université », lui commande l'un de ses professeurs. Cường, aussi, dès le collège, rejoint notre foyer. C'était il y a maintenant quatorze ans.

Cường n'a fort heureusement pas arrêté l'école ; il y a même excellé. Il est premier

de classe au collège comme au lycée ; pour le diplôme d'entrée à la très prestigieuse université de Médecine de Huế', lorsqu'il passe le concours, Cường est vice major, il obtient le score d'entrée de 29/30. Les responsables de Phu Thung pestent encore aujourd'hui : pour elles, Cường aurait dû cette année-là être le major si certains très bons élèves de Hanoi n'avaient pas choisi de s'expatrier à Huế pour passer le concours.



DucSonChild

L'association DucSonChild, fondée le 31 janvier 2011 en France, œuvre pour améliorer la vie des orphelins au Vietnam. Reconnue d'intérêt général par l'État français, notre mission est de donner à chaque enfant la chance de s'épanouir et de tracer son propre chemin vers l'autonomie. Pour en savoir plus et soutenir notre action, rendez-vous sur www.ducsonchild.com.

Qu'importe, Cường intègre l'université de Médecine, spécialité Pharma ; il en sort diplômé cette année, après sept ans de longues études. Entre temps, dans son peu de temps libre, Cường a aidé au centre de Phu Thuong, où jadis il fut nourri, logé et pris en charge. Cường aide les plus jeunes du centre, donne de son temps pour aider nos responsables. Il aide aux devoirs, ou à l'entretien et à la gestion du centre. L'une des responsables dû passer quelques jours à l'hôpital, il y a peu ; Cường a veillé en son absence sur le centre et sur les enfants. Nous exigeons, dans notre programme, que les jeunes boursiers s'engagent ensuite, une fois diplômés, à rendre un peu, en retour, au programme. Cường n'a pas attendu d'être diplômé pour payer sa dette. Pour les enfants du foyer, pendant sept ans, Cường a été le grand frère du foyer. Dans le sillage de Cường, d'autres jeunes de son village ont rejoint notre

programme. A commencer par son plus jeune frère, Tuan Em, qui après avoir passé plusieurs années dans notre foyer, intègrera cette année la prestigieuse université des hautes technologies de Saigon.

Cường est un exemple : c'est pour des destins comme lui que notre association existe. L'école lui a permis d'échapper à l'extrême pauvreté ; dans son sillage, d'autres enfants de son village ont pris goût aux études, et se prennent à rêver d'un diplôme universitaire, qui leur permettrait une vraie ascension sociale. Ceux-là savent que des programmes comme le nôtre existe, pour des enfants comme eux modestes mais travailleurs. Cường, dans son ascension, n'en a pas pour autant oublié ses origines ; il a redonné, beaucoup, au programme qui l'avait aidé depuis le collège. Cường est un exemple, d'abord d'une solidarité des anciens du programme envers les plus jeunes boursiers et enfants du foyers, ensuite d'un destin qui permet dans son sillage de tirer vers le haut plusieurs générations d'enfants dans les villages les plus pauvres du Vietnam. C'est pour des histoires comme la sienne que notre association existe. Nous te remercions, Cường, et te souhaitons le meilleur pour la suite.

Des enfants comme Cường, nous voudrions en aider plus. Nous célébrerons cette année

nos soixantième diplômés d'université, en treize ans d'existence. C'est hélas beaucoup trop peu : cette année encore, nous avons dû refuser certains enfants, pourtant méritants, faute de moyens. Cette année encore, face à l'augmentation très regrettable des frais de scolarité à l'université (certaines, bien que publiques, ont procédé cette année à une augmentation de plus de 30% des frais d'inscription – il s'agit là d'une charge hélas insupportable pour beaucoup de foyers au Vietnam), nous devons faire de douloureux choix, et restreindre la portée de notre programme. Notre budget est très serré, trop serré, pour nos quarante étudiants boursiers. Cette année, plus que jamais, nous avons besoin de votre aide. Nous n'existerions pas sans les efforts de nos bénévoles, sans le soutien de nos loyaux et généreux donateurs. Ce rapport annuel est d'abord pour vous, pour rappeler que votre soutien sur le long terme permet des résultats plus qu'encourageants. Nous remercions en particulier pour cette année nos généreux partenaires Bowery et CBTW (Collaboration Betters The World). Votre confiance nous oblige.

These Children are Our Purpose

Cường, our 55th graduating student



Dear Friends and
Supporters,

We are proud to introduce you to Cường, our 55th graduating student. His journey from a struggling child in rural Vietnam to a soon-to-be pharmacist at the prestigious central hospital in Huế is nothing short of remarkable. This October, when he dons his white coat, it will not just be a personal triumph—it will be a testament to years of hard work, perseverance, and the support of individuals like you.

Cường's story began in the district of Quảng Điền, one of the poorest areas in Vietnam. Both of his parents are sick and unable to work, leaving him and his five siblings to fend for themselves. His older brother and sister, at the age of eight, were forced to leave school to work in the rice fields or on construction sites to help support the family. The same fate seemed inevitable for Cường—until something remarkable

happened.

Cường was an exceptional student, and his teachers took notice. "You must go to university," one teacher urged him, recognizing his incredible potential. Thanks to our scholarship program, Cường did not abandon his education. He excelled in middle and high school, consistently ranking at the top of his class. For the entrance exam to the prestigious University of Medicine in Huế, Cường earned a remarkable score of 29 out of 30, placing him second in his cohort—only narrowly missing the top spot to a student from Hanoi who had come to Huế

specifically for the exam.

In 2017, Cường began his studies at the University of Medicine, and after seven rigorous years, he will graduate this year. However, his story does not end with academic success. Throughout his time in university, Cường remained deeply connected to our center, where he had once been cared for and supported. Even with his demanding academic schedule, Cường



DucSonChild

DucSonChild, founded on January 31, 2011, in France, is dedicated to improving the lives of orphans in Vietnam. Recognized as a public-interest organization by the French government, our mission is to give every child the opportunity to thrive and carve their own path towards independence. Follow us and support our cause at www.ducsonchild.com.

consistently gave back to the center. He mentored younger students, helped them with their homework, and assisted the staff with the day-to-day maintenance and management of the center. When one of our key staff members fell ill and had to spend time in the hospital, Cường stepped up to take care of the center and the children during her absence.

We encourage all our scholarship recipients to give back to the program after they graduate, but Cường did not wait until graduation to repay his debt of gratitude. For the past seven years, he has acted as a big brother to the younger children at the center, guiding them and helping them succeed, just as others once helped him. His dedication has created a ripple effect—other young people from his village, including his younger brother, Tuấn Em, have followed in his footsteps. Tuấn Em will soon be attending the prestigious University of Technology in

Saigon, continuing the cycle of success that Cường has inspired.

Cường's story is a perfect example of why we do what we do. He has not only transformed his own life through education but has also lifted up those around him. He has inspired a generation of students in his village to pursue their studies, knowing that hard work and support can lead to success. His journey reminds us that education is not just an individual achievement; it has the power to change families, communities, and entire futures.

However, Cường's story is just one of many. Each year, we meet more children with the same potential, but our resources are limited. This year, university tuition fees in Vietnam have increased by over 30%, making it even harder for children from poor families to access higher education. Our budget, which supports 40 scholarship students, is stretched thin, and we are at risk of turning away deserving students.

This is where you come in. By supporting us, you are giving more children like Cường the opportunity to achieve their dreams and rise above their circumstances. Every donation, no matter the size, can make a profound difference. Your generosity helps not only one student, but entire families and

communities who benefit from their success.

We are incredibly grateful to our corporate partners, Bowery and CBTW (Collaboration Better The World), for their continued support, but we need more partners like you to expand our reach. Together, we can ensure that no child is left behind simply because of financial barriers. Please consider making a donation today. Your contribution can be the reason another child like Cường can graduate, fulfill their potential, and continue to give back to their community. Thank you for your ongoing trust and support in our mission. Together, we can change lives.

Những Đứa Trẻ Là Lý Do Chúng Tôi Tồn Tại

học sinh tốt nghiệp thứ 55 của chúng tôi

Kính gửi Quý Mạnh Thường Quân và Các Nhà Tài Trợ, Chúng tôi rất vinh hạnh được giới thiệu đến Quý Mạnh thường quân về em Cường, học sinh tốt nghiệp thứ 55 của chúng tôi. Hành trình của Cường từ một đứa trẻ nghèo khó ở vùng nông thôn Việt Nam đến vị trí được sĩ tương lai tại bệnh viện trung ương danh tiếng ở Huế thực sự là một câu chuyện truyền cảm hứng. Vào tháng 10 này, khi Cường khoác lên mình chiếc áo blouse trắng, đó sẽ không chỉ là niềm tự hào cá nhân mà còn là thành quả của nhiều năm nỗ lực, kiên trì, và đặc biệt là sự hỗ trợ quý giá từ những người như Quý Mạnh thường quân.

Cường sinh ra và lớn lên tại Quảng Điền, một trong những huyện nghèo nhất Việt Nam. Cha mẹ em đều bệnh tật và không thể lao động, để lại Cường và năm anh chị em tự xoay xở. Anh trai và chị gái của Cường, khi mới tám tuổi, đã phải nghỉ học để đi làm đồng và lao động trên các công trường xây dựng nhằm giúp

đỡ gia đình. Tương lai của Cường dường như cũng sẽ đi theo con đường đó—cho đến khi một điều kỳ diệu xảy ra.

Cường là một học sinh xuất sắc và các thầy cô đã nhận ra tiềm năng của em. "Em phải vào đại học," một giáo viên đã khuyến khích em, nhìn thấy khả năng đặc biệt của em. Nhờ vào chương trình học bổng của chúng tôi, Cường đã có cơ hội tiếp tục con đường học tập. Em đã đạt thành tích xuất sắc cả ở cấp trung học cơ sở lẫn trung học phổ thông, luôn nằm trong nhóm học sinh đứng đầu lớp. Trong kỳ thi tuyển sinh vào Đại học Y Dược Huế danh

tiếng, Cường đã đạt số điểm 29/30, xếp hạng nhì trong kỳ thi tuyển—chỉ kém một chút so với một học sinh từ Hà Nội đã đến Huế để thi.

Năm 2017, Cường bắt đầu theo học tại Đại học Y Dược Huế và sau bảy năm học tập chăm chỉ, năm nay em sẽ tốt nghiệp. Tuy nhiên, câu chuyện của Cường không dừng lại ở những thành tích học tập. Trong suốt thời gian học đại học, Cường vẫn gắn bó mật thiết với trung tâm của chúng tôi, nơi em đã từng được



DucSonChild

DucSonChild, được thành lập vào ngày 31 tháng 1 năm 2011 tại Pháp, hoạt động với mục tiêu cải thiện cuộc sống của trẻ em mồ côi tại Việt Nam. Được nhà nước Pháp công nhận là tổ chức vì lợi ích công cộng, sứ mệnh của chúng tôi là mang đến cho mỗi trẻ em cơ hội phát triển và tự định hướng con đường đến sự tự do của mình. Hãy theo dõi và ủng hộ chúng tôi tại www.ducsonchild.com.

chăm sóc và hỗ trợ. Dù lịch học của em rất bận rộn, Cường luôn dành thời gian quay lại trung tâm để giúp đỡ mọi người. Em đã hướng dẫn các em nhỏ hơn, giúp các em làm bài tập và hỗ trợ các nhân viên trung tâm trong việc quản lý và duy trì hoạt động. Khi một trong những nhân viên quan trọng của trung tâm phải nằm viện, Cường đã đứng ra quản lý trung tâm và chăm sóc các em nhỏ trong thời gian cô vắng mặt.

Chúng tôi khuyến khích các em học sinh nhận học bổng sau khi tốt nghiệp hãy quay lại đóng góp cho chương trình, nhưng Cường không đợi đến ngày tốt nghiệp để trả ơn. Trong suốt bảy năm qua, Cường đã làm tròn vai trò của một người anh lớn, luôn hướng dẫn và giúp đỡ các em nhỏ tại trung tâm, giống như cách mà em đã từng được giúp đỡ. Sự cống hiến của Cường đã tạo ra một hiệu ứng lan tỏa, khi nhiều thanh niên khác từ làng của em, bao gồm

cả em trai Tuấn Em, cũng noi theo gương anh. Tuấn Em sắp tới sẽ theo học tại Đại học Công nghệ Sài Gòn, tiếp tục hành trình thành công mà Cường đã truyền cảm hứng.

Câu chuyện của Cường là minh chứng rõ ràng cho lý do tại sao chúng tôi tồn tại. Cường không chỉ thay đổi cuộc đời mình thông qua giáo dục mà còn nâng đỡ những người xung quanh. Em đã truyền cảm hứng cho cả một thế hệ học sinh trong làng của mình, khuyến khích các em theo đuổi con đường học vấn và tin rằng nỗ lực cùng sự hỗ trợ có thể dẫn đến thành công. Hành trình của em nhắc nhở chúng ta rằng giáo dục không chỉ là thành tựu cá nhân mà còn có sức mạnh thay đổi cả gia đình, cộng đồng và tương lai của họ.

Tuy nhiên, câu chuyện của Cường chỉ là một trong số rất nhiều câu chuyện khác. Mỗi năm, chúng tôi gặp nhiều em nhỏ có tiềm năng tương tự, nhưng nguồn lực của chúng tôi có hạn. Năm nay, học phí đại học tại Việt Nam đã tăng hơn 30%, khiến cho việc tiếp cận giáo dục đại học càng trở nên khó khăn hơn đối với các gia đình nghèo. Ngân sách của chúng tôi, vốn hỗ trợ cho 40 học sinh nhận học bổng, hiện đang rất eo hẹp, và chúng tôi có nguy cơ phải từ chối những học sinh xứng đáng.

Đây chính là lúc chúng tôi cần đến sự hỗ trợ của Quý Mạnh thường quân. Bằng cách đóng

góp, Quý Mạnh thường quân đang giúp cho nhiều em nhỏ như Cường có cơ hội đạt được ước mơ của mình và vươn lên khỏi hoàn cảnh khó khăn. Mỗi khoản đóng góp, dù lớn hay nhỏ, đều có thể tạo ra sự khác biệt sâu sắc. Sự hào phóng của Quý Mạnh thường quân không chỉ giúp đỡ một học sinh mà còn mang lại lợi ích cho cả gia đình và cộng đồng của các em.

Chúng tôi vô cùng biết ơn các đối tác doanh nghiệp của mình, Bowery và CBTW (Collaboration Betters The World), vì luôn sát cánh cùng chúng tôi trong suốt thời gian qua. Tuy nhiên, chúng tôi cần thêm những đối tác như vậy để mở rộng chương trình và tiếp tục giúp đỡ thêm nhiều em học sinh. Cùng nhau, chúng ta có thể đảm bảo rằng không một đứa trẻ nào bị bỏ lại phía sau chỉ vì lý do tài chính.

Hãy cân nhắc việc đóng góp ngay hôm nay. Sự đóng góp của Quý Mạnh thường quân có thể là lý do giúp một đứa trẻ như Cường tốt nghiệp, đạt được tiềm năng của mình và tiếp tục cống hiến cho cộng đồng.

Chúng tôi xin chân thành cảm ơn sự tin tưởng và ủng hộ của Quý Mạnh thường quân đối với sứ mệnh của chúng tôi. Cùng nhau, chúng ta có thể thay đổi cuộc đời của các trẻ em nghèo hiếu học.

Annual report

our actions during the previous year (FY2023-24) and our plan for this year (FY2024-25)

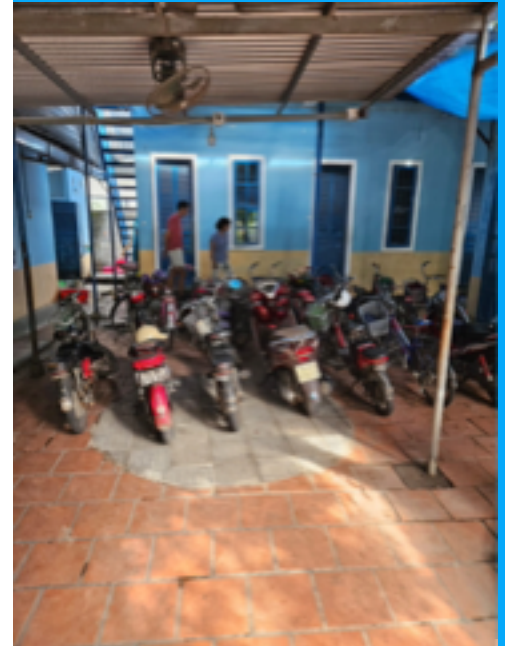
I. Life in Duc Son, Phu Thuong and Uu Dam

2024 has been a positive year for Hue. Tourism has been slowly recovering, and we are happy to see Hue and the central province again lively and dynamic. Last May, the city hosted its annual festival, which has been a big success with several groups of dancers and musicians coming from all over the world. For all our centers and orphanages, this is a positive sign, as tourist flow helps boost the economy. The central region enters a period of economic recovery, though we are still not yet at pre-COVID dynamics. This means better job prospects for our students graduating from university, as well as better standards of living for a poor province that still relies heavily on tourism and foreign investment.

However this year, the sudden increase in tuition fees, for university and for high school, is putting a considerable threat to poor kids from our program. We are planning to increase the sponsorship, but the fee

increase is a substantial amount questioning the rationale for our kids to continue to study. We learned, in August 2024, that a few of our kids from Phu Thuong, from Uu Dam, from Duc Son, have gave up schools or universities due to the increase in the tuition fees. Some schools or universities have increased more than 30% their tuition fees for the new 2024-25 year.

This year, Duc Son, Phu Thuong and Uu Dam all need substantial financial support and aid to function daily. Our three centers fulfill an essential social and humanitarian function in the poor city of Hue and its vicinity and will more than ever need financing to continue to do so.



Our actions : in Phu Thuong

As for the previous years, our activities with Phu Thuong center have been one of the key highlights of this year. Phu Thuong center, which last year was home to 31 kids, from 12 to 18 years old, from very poor background and / or orphans in the region of Thua Thien Hue. Phu Thuong center is fully managed by our association since 2019. It is one of the few independent and non-religious centers for poor kids and orphanages in Hue.

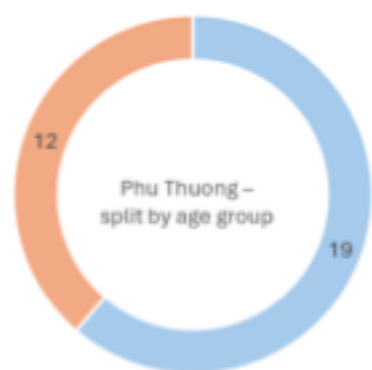
This year again, we are extremely proud of the results of our kids in Phu Thuong. From its creation, in 2007, Phu Thuong philosophy has been to offer a chance for deserving kids from very poor areas and / or very difficult family background a chance to get a university diploma. A number

of kids at Phu Thuong center are orphans, living mainly thanks to the support they receive at the center. From the inception, most kids have been hard working, earning excellent grades and with a stunning 100% success rate at the highly selective university exams.

This year, all of our 31 kids at the center earned academic awards from their school. 14 of them got the highest award (labelled “giỏi”, i.e. “great results” or “excellent”, award normally granted to top 3-4 students of a class), and the rest of them (17) got the second highest award (labelled “khá”, i.e. “satisfactory”). 10 of these students have graduated from high school this year, and again all of them have successfully pass the exams to the university. As they graduate from high school, these 9 students will leave Phu Thuong center (to join our university scholarship program). We will replace them with new high school / junior high school

students. Our staffs from Phu Thuong have finalized the field work to recruit new potential students last August and we are happy to host 6 new kids in our Phu Thuong center (see our field visit in the next article for more details).

This year, 5 of our high school graduates managed to get over 25/30 in the final high school exams, graduating among the first in their respective universities. Among the notable successes: one of our graduates, Huy, was among the top score for the Polytechnic university of Da Nang. Nhung, another (you can read her interview in this report) will join the University of International Relationship, which is the one training Vietnamese diplomat. We are incredibly proud of all of them, and wish them the best as they start their university journey.



■ Junior High School ■ High school



■ Excellent ■ Satisfactory



■ Girls ■ Boys

True Way

We work closely with our homes, and our long-standing presence on the ground has fostered a strong bond between the children, the home managers, and ourselves. We are convinced that through transparency, humility, and hard work, our efforts will bear fruit for the next generation—an investment in the future of these young Vietnamese children



Full name	University	Total scholarship-euros / year commitment
Trần Quốc Bảo	University of Sciences and Technology – Hue	700
Văn Thị Hồng Cẩm	University of Economy – Da Nang	800
Lê Văn Tuấn em	University of Information and Tech – HCMC	1000
Nguyễn Thị Nhật Hằng	University for Teacher training – Maths – Hue	700
Trần Ngọc Huy	University of Economy and Tourism – Hue	700
Lê Quang Mỹ	Polytechnic University of Da Nang	800
Hồ Minh Nguyên	University of Pharmacy of Hue	700
Nguyễn Đức Trí	University of Information and Tech – Danang	800
Nguyễn Thị Tuyết Nhung	University of International Relation - Hue	700



Annual report

our actions during the previous year (FY2023-24) and our plan for this year (FY2024-25)

At our centers: in Ưu Đàm

The pagoda is still being very well managed by sư cô Phước Thiện and her team. They are doing a tremendous work caring for the 32 kids living at the orphanage. The number of students at university joining our scholarship program and sponsored by our association has been growing. We are very happy to see one more student able to pass the exams for higher education this year. Lua managed to pass the exam for the university of teacher training. Lua would like to become a kindergarten teacher. We welcome the young Lua to our scholarship program.



Ưu Đàm



Annual report

our actions during the previous year (FY2023-24) and our plan for this year (FY2024-25)

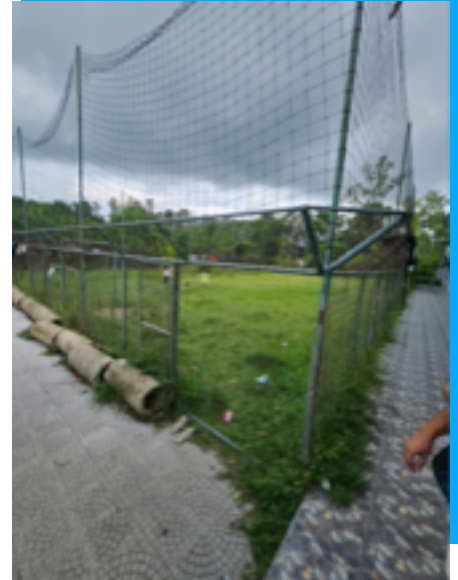
At our centers: Duc Son pagoda and orphanage

Duc Son pagoda remains the largest orphanage in central Vietnam. This year, more than 100 orphans and kids live in the center, taken in charge by the 10 nuns of the pagoda. We are very happy to see several new graduates, from university and from high school this year.

With Duc Son pagoda, this year we have continued this year to focus our actions on the ad-hoc support and funding, to help the pagoda in their daily management. Our operation this year include the following:

- Financial aid, from our individual donors in France (thank you to our donors this year for your precious support)
- Delivery of first support, clothes, toys (big thanks to our Vietnamese sponsors giving us all these)

This year, we are very happy to year that 8 kids from Duc Son have graduated from high school. They will start vocational schools, colleges, or specialized tourists schools, starting this year. We are very happy to see the success for this year. All of them will be taken in charge by our sponsorship program, starting this year. We hope them all the best for the new scholar



Duc Son



Full name	University	Total scholarship-euros / year
Cù Thiện Nhật Anh	Vocational art school Hue	100
Hoàng Cù Bảo Trí	Vocational and training "Street art" Hoi An	100
Kiều Thiện Bảo Hòa	Vocational and training "Street art" Hoi An	100
Kiều Thiện Bảo Minh	Vocational and training "Street art" Hoi An	100
Kiều Thiện Bảo Tâm	University of Art - Hue	200
Kiều Thiện Như Nguyễn	College of Medecine - nursing specialty - Hue	150
Nguyễn Hưng Quân	University of Economy of Hue	200
Phan Ngọc Hồi	College of Industrial and automotive - Hue	150

Annual report

our actions during the previous year (FY2023-24) and our plan for this year (FY2024-25)

Our university scholarship program

Our university scholarship program remains our key and flagship initiative. Since the implementation of the program, 10 years ago, we have been providing financial aid (between 100 to 1500 euro per annum, per student depending on their school and their situation) for our students under our program. For every student from each of the 3 centers we have been working with, we guarantee that any and every student graduating from high school and entering university will be eligible to our scholarship program.

This year, our program provided financial support to 45 students, disbursing close to 28,000 euros. This year, we are extremely proud to announce that 7 students have successfully graduated. In total, our program now have, at the beginning of this new year, a network of close to 60 alumni. Building a strong alumni network, to continue to build solidarity

after our students graduate, is one of our ambitious objective in the short term. Our initial project was to create a solidarity community network, where successful graduates would give back to their community and hometown once they were successfully set. This ambition remains, and as our number of alumni grows this is our next big milestone.

This year, the increase in the tuition fees from most public universities is something we want to point out. This makes it incredibly difficult for poor families to send a kid in university. Our scholarship is no longer sufficient for a lot of these kids to sustain. We have decided, where possible to increase up to 40% our support to the kids, to try to

match the increase in the tuition fees.

We have to admit that in recent years, we have seen more dropouts, from kids who could no longer afford the increasing tuition fees. We regret this, as we still believe that university is the best way out of extreme poverty. This year, more than ever, we need your support to make this

Name	Date of birth	University	Joined program since	Graduated in
Lê Văn Cường	10/10/1999	Uni of Medicine / pharma Hue	2018-19	September 24
Nguyen Van Quyen	04/10/2000	Uni of agriculture Hue	2021-22	December 24
Vo Thi Ngoc Trinh	6/23/00	Uni of pharma	2018-19	March 24
Le Thi Minh Tien	18/01/2002	Uni of Economy Hue	2020-21	June 24
Phan Nguyen Thi Lai	06/06/2002	Uni of Economy Hue	2020-21	June 24
Nguyen Thi My Linh	11/10/2001	Uni of Pharma Hue	2019-20	July 24

Our Financing and buget

We have disbursed, in total, 62,000 euros to support our three centers and to finance our scholarship program, in FY23-24. This is an important increase vis-à-vis previous year, mainly due to increased costs of living, and inflation for our Phu Thuong center. This year, we project a strong increase of the university scholarship program, mainly to follow the increased costs of university tuition fees. Our required spending for our

students and kids is expected to reach a new high, at 69,000 euros.

We would like to thank again all our donors and sponsors, without whom none of the activities above would be possible. We would like to warmly thank Bowery Europe, and PwC Vietnam, our top corporate sponsors for last year. For this year 2024-25, we address a warm thank you to Bowery, CBTW and all our individual donors.

For this upcoming 24-25 year, we are again calling for donors and sponsors. Our operations

will continue to require substantial funding, and we do hope we will be able to count on your continuous and invaluable support this year. This year more than ever, we need your support. We would be very keen to enroll more students, but we would need more donors to do so. None of this would be possible without your support.

Financials - in Euro	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25 (p)
Spending					
Scholarship program - Phu Thuong	31 200,00 €	23 650,00 €	23 350,00 €	19 121,32 €	26 520,00 €
Scholarship program - Uu Dam	1 351,81 €	900,00 €	900,00 €	450,00 €	450,00 €
Scholarship program - Duc Son			500,00 €	500,00 €	1 100,00 €
Full management of Phu Thuong	27 877,77 €	27 202,85 €	31 309,54 €	40 330,64 €	40 330,64 €
Buying land - Duc Son (1)					
Other operation to DSC		1 500,00 €		1 000,00 €	1 000,00 €
Other operation to Uu Dam	1 000,00 €	1 000,00 €			
Other fees	246,98 €	246,98 €	246,98 €	246,98 €	
Total	61 676,56 €	54 499,83 €	56 306,52 €	61 648,94 €	69 400,64 €
Revenues					
Individual donors - france - sponsors	4 500,00 €	4 900,00 €	4 900,00 €	4 900,00 €	4 900,00 €
Donors - France - DSC				2 000,00 €	2 000,00 €
Operations in France (déjeuner Lognes)			4 700,00 €	4 500,00 €	4 500,00 €
Donors - US	4 500,00 €	4 500,00 €	4 500,00 €	4 500,00 €	4 500,00 €
Individual donors - Vietnam	30 000,00 €	31 000,00 €	24 000,00 €	13 000,00 €	15 000,00 €
Individual donors - Australia	1 000,00 €	1 000,00 €		1 000,00 €	1 000,00 €
Fund raising for land purchase					
Donation from Association "Avenir"	12 000,00 €	11 000,00 €	12 000,00 €	12 000,00 €	12 000,00 €
Sponsoring Boverly			4 500,00 €	15 000,00 €	15 000,00 €
Other donations		1 500,00 €	1 000,00 €		
Donation for "Uu Dam"					
Sponsoring CTBW					6 000,00 €
Sponsoring PwC				5 100,00 €	
Sponsorship Linkbynet	7 500,00 €				
Total	52 000,00 €	53 900,00 €	55 600,00 €	62 000,00 €	64 900,00 €

Interviews

Meet our kids! A few of them have agreed to answer to a few questions. We would like to introduce you to Cam, Nhung, new joiners of the program, Thao, a student entering her final year, and Cuong, one of our graduate for this year.

Van thi Hong Cam, new joiner to our university program in FY24-25

1) Can you introduce yourself? When did you join Phu Thuong?

My name is Van Thi Hong Cam. I'm 18 years old. During high school, I was a student at Phu Thuong. Now, I am a freshman at Da Nang University of Economics, my major is Data Science & Business Analytics. I joined Phu Thuong center in September 2022.

2) Can you describe your experience in Phu Thuong?

In the first weeks I lived in Phu Thuong, I felt really homesick. However, when I went to school, I made new friends, and my teachers supported me. I felt so happy and grateful because I could go to school and study my favorite subject – Mathematics.

3) What university will you join this year? What do you want to become later?

This year, I will be a freshman at the University of Economics, Da Nang. I want to excel in my field of expertise and experience many new things during my university journey, while building the necessary skills for my future career. I want to develop my communication skills, teamwork skills, and more.

4) How do you plan to help other kids from Phu Thuong when you graduate?

After I graduate, I want to return to visit the children in Phu Thuong, talk to them, and encourage them. My classmates and I will work together to raise funds to provide them with good meals and help them go to school.

5) Any last words for the donors from DucSonChild?

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the donors in France and around the



world for helping us during this time. I am always very happy whenever I receive the gifts sent by you. Wishing you good health and peace.

Nguyen Thi Tuyet Nhung, new joiner to our university program in FY24-25

1) Can you introduce yourself? When did you join Phu Thuong?

My name is Nhung. This year I am 18 years old. Currently I am a first year student at the university of International Relations in Hue.

2) Can you describe your experience in Phu Thuong?

I have been in Phu Thuong for four years, from Grade 8 to Grade 12. There, thanks to Ms. Duong's help, I benefited from good living and learning environment, I had the opportunity to continue going to school and live with many friends from

many places.

3) What university will you join this year? What do you want to become later?

I am studying at Hue University - Faculty of International Relations. Later I would like to become a good diplomat.

4) How do you plan to help other kids from Phu Thuong when you graduate?

After graduating from college and having a stable job, I want to set aside some money to support other poor children.



5) Any last words for the donors from DucSonChild?

I would like to sincerely thank our sponsors for their interest and support throughout the years. I promise to always try my best to study well so as not to disappoint my sponsors.



Nguyễn Thị Ngọc Thảo, 3rd year student from our scholarship program

1) Can you introduce yourself? When did you join Phu Thuong?

My name is Nguyen Thi Ngoc Thao. I am 22 years old. I am a 4th- year student of Hue university of foreign languages.

I joined Phu Thuong center, in 2016 when I was in grade 8, in junior high school.

2) Can you describe your experience in Phu Thuong?

As a member of Phu Thuong, I had a very new and great experience in the center, where Miss Duong

Interviews

Meet our kids! A few of them have agreed to answer to a few questions. We would like to introduce you to Cam, Nhung, new joiners of the program, Thao, a student entering her final year, and Cuong, one of our graduate for this year.

nurtured me and helped me to study well in a very good environment. She always encouraged me to study well for a bright future.

At the same time, I can live with other students with similar background. They are very friendly and nice. Some of them are older than me, so they often helped me in some subjects such as Maths and Chemistry. We had great memories together.

3)What are you studying now? What would you like to do when you graduate?

I am studying English and my major is related to teaching English for high school students.

After my graduation, I would like to become an English teacher. If possible, I want to enrich my knowledge and seek new experiences in the field of tourism.

4) How do you plan to help the kids from Phu Thuong, once

you graduate?

Within my own ability, I would use my strengths to help other students from Phu Thuong to learn English better. I plan to hold small classes as an English tutor in Phu Thuong center.

5) Any words for our donors?

I want to express my gratitude and respect for your support, for everything that you have done over the last few years to help me and other students from the program to pursue our studies. With your support, I built confidence in y capability and motivate myself to make effort every single day.

I hope that all of you will be always healthy and happy. Also, I really hope that I can meet all of you soon in the future at the center in Phu Thuong.



Le Van Cuong, one of our fresh university graduate, from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy

1) Can you introduce yourself? When did you join Phu Thuong?

My name is Le Van Cuong, I was born in 1999, I come from a rural area of Thua Thien Hue province, I have just graduated with a degree in Medicine and Pharmacy.

I started living and being raised in Phu Thuong since 2010, when I was 12 years old.

2) Can you describe your experience in Phu Thuong?

During my time in Phu Thuong, I was taken care of and educated by the staff, in all aspects of life and study. The following was a normal day for me at Phu Thuong:

- We usually get up at 5am to prepare for lessons before going to school (when I prepare for exams, I get up earlier), I arrive at school at 6:30 and leave school at 11:30. Afternoons are usually extracurricular sessions or activities at school, refresher classes, etc.

- When we have a dayoff, I and my friends often help the staff at Phu Thuong to cook and clean up.

- In the evening, we typically participate in sports activities, jumping rope, badminton, football, etc. We will eat meals and talk together, etc.

- After dinner time, all kids from Phu Thuong will help each other clean up and start studying time. Normally, I will go to bed at 11 pm.

3) What are you studying now? What would you like to do when you graduate?

Currently, I am learning the practical experience of the Pharmacy industry to serve the job, I am also working at a local pharmacy while waiting for my job to start at Hue Central Hospital.

I want to be a hospital pharmacist and I am learning more about R&D profession of a pharmaceutical company.

4) How do you plan to help the kids from Phu Thuong, once you graduate?

I have been helping Ms. Duong, the person in charge in Phu Thuong, in taking care and teaching children in Phu Thuong, and I am a pharmacist so I can help them with the role of taking care of



their health. In the future, if I can, I promise to support Phu Thuong as much as I can. In addition, I am currently participating in many charity activities with Ms. Duong and other volunteers to support children, people in mountainous areas from poor neighbourhood.

5) Any words for our donors?

I don't know what to say but thank you, really thank you. With great gratitude, I wish all the best will come to all our donors. I always wish you and your family good health, peace and happiness.

Summer 2024

Visit and field work in Thua Thien Hue

A group from DSC went to field work, this summer, in the poor districts of Thua Thien Hue (Phu Loc and Phong Dien), two hours driving distance from Hue.



We met families and young kids that requested to join Phu Thuong and being taken in charge by our program. This year, we met 3 families. Next year, from September 2024, our center in Phu Thuong will host 8 new kids. A summary of the family visit in this annual report.

Visit in Phú Lộc

Phu Loc, in the Southern part of Thua Thien Hue province, is one of the very poor districts of the province. Among the new children that will be admitted in the Phu Thuong center next year, three kids, from two families are currently from this district. Most people in Phu Loc are poor farmers, seasonal

workers paid on a daily basis for farmer works. Some grows rice, fruits, that they try to sell occasionally at the traditional market. A household there, with two working adults, rarely earns more than 500 dollars a month. They mainly work when there are needs for

seasonal workers, to cultivate a land or to collect some woods in the forest. As a seasonal worker, you typically get paid 200,000 to 250,000 VND, i.e. 10 dollars a day. If you are lucky, you can get called for work 10 to 15 times a month. A lot of kids from Phu Loc drop out of school either in junior high or high school.



Summer 2024

Visit and field work in Thua Thien Hue

Phu Thuong center historically admit kids when they join junior high school (in 6th grade, in Vietnam). Tuan is a shy kid. We can see he might be scared about leaving his family to join the center. He is an excellent student, hard worker tells his mom, who is in the family the breadwinner. Her husband, who is sick, rarely works, only a few days a month.

Her mom tries to cope with the situation as best as possible; she is a seasonal worker and grow water melon as well, but tells us the last rain has seriously hampered her investment, she has now limited hope to get something from the market. She definitely cannot handle the cost of sending the kid to junior high school. Even in this district, in the public sector, intuition fees for school can go to 200 dollars a year, a hefty sum for her. She would like the kid to continue to study, he is gifted, and she believes that at Phu Thuong her kid will get the proper help. Her elder son is already studying in Phu Thuong, he is a high school kid that just earn honor from his high school.



Đặng Phát Tài (17/9/2012), 5th grade



*Trần Văn Minh Phúc and
Trần Văn Minh Toàn
(08/03/2013), 5th Grade*

At another house close by, two identical twins, from the same class as Tuan, very gifted as well, are about to join Phu Thuong. Their story is a tragedy, unfortunately too common in Vietnam. Their father, who was the breadwinner, died suddenly from a cancer, at the age of 43. He finished before his death the building of the small house for his family. The mom has a few health issues. However since the passing of her husband, we are told her situation has considerably worsened. She tells us straight she does not think she can have the capacity to pay for the two kids as they go to junior high. We are told she rarely works, sometimes gets called for some seasonal work, but her health issues are definitely not putting her on top of the list when people in the area need workers. Her eyes are wet, as she speaks, probably sad about her family situation. The two twins appear very scared of leaving their family. They are shy, which is normal for their age, and very understandable



given the tragedy they are living. We will do our best to tell them they will be in good place and will come back often to spend time with their mom.

Summer 2024

Visit and field work in Thua Thien Hue

Visit in Phú Lộc



At the extreme north of the province, Phong Dien is poor province, home of a few of our kids. Economic situation in here is a bit brighter than for Phu Loc. A new industrial zone has opened recently, giving better job prospects to the district. The recent infrastructure work and the new roads show the effort and the investment recently flowing to the district. We are told the Phong Dien industrial park will employ around 10,000 workers, from various provinces when at full speed. The opportunity to work as a factory worker is a much better prospect than that of seasonal worker, though,

salary remains quite low. A factory worker can earn up to 500 dollars a month, and the salary is more regular and guaranteed.

Anh Lai, who is a friend of the founder from the Phu Thuong

Center and of our current director, has introduced us to three very bright kids, that he believe would benefit greatly from the program.



Nguyễn Thị Phương Uyên (2006), Nguyễn Thị Phương Nhi (02/01/2008), and Nguyễn Thị Phương Thảo (09/05/2012)



The three sisters are respectively in grade 12, grade 10 and grade 6. On the wall, their father proudly shows the honors the kids have received from their schools. Their mother passed away a few months ago from a long malady. The father is a gardener at the industrial park, earning a very minimal salary. Since the passing of his wife, taking care of the three kids has become a very difficult task for him. He tells us that knowing the three would be taken care of is for

him a bit relief, though of course he is sad to have the kids leaving the house that young. Our local contact tells us that these three kids, consistently, have been the best students from the small and poor provinces. He wants them to succeed, to be role models and examples after for other kids.

The eldest one tells us she would like to study at the Economics university. Hue or Danang, and if possible, maybe join the more prestigious Saigon university of economics. This

would be an amazing achievement, to pass the exam of such a top school from Vietnam, given the situation of her family. The second, Nhi, is both the most shy and the most outstanding. With three siblings joining at the same time, we hope the integration for these three new children will be smooth.

Inspire your Life

Un immense merci pour votre générosité et votre engagement !
Grâce à vous, nous pouvons offrir aux enfants un avenir plus lumineux. Votre aide fait une réelle différence, et nous sommes profondément reconnaissants de vous avoir à nos côtés

Avez toute notre gratitude
L' équipe de l' association

