

Dec 17, 2003



Dear Sir / Madam,

Natural disasters such as flood, drought, and typhoons frequently befall the already impoverished region of Thua Thien, Hue (Vietnam). Every year thousands of families face severe shortages of food, money, and medicine. Local hospitals have very limited capacity, making it nearly impossible for the poor to get proper medical care. Tue Tinh Duong Free Clinic is often their only source of medical assistance. The clinic's service includes Western medicine, herbal medicine, and acupunctural treatment. In the past 15 years, Tue Tinh Duong has served almost a million patients (currently about 250-300 patients a day, about 28% of whom are children).

Tue Tinh Duong Clinic is located on Dieu De Pagoda's ground, which has recently been declared a national monument by the Vietnamese government. Because of this, the clinic will have to be relocated, and a new facility to be built. Land for the new site has been acquired through a donation from Hai Duc temple. The Venerable Thich Hai An, Abbot of Tu Dam Pagoda and Executive Director of Tue Tinh Duong, is asking for support from concerned donors to help build the new facility, so that Tue Tinh Duong may continue to serve the poor families and children. A physician by training, a devout Buddhist, and a true philanthropist, the Ven. Thich Hai An has dedicated his whole life to the mission of Tue Tinh Duong.

In response to his plea, ICAN has been organizing campaigns and activities to inform the community and generate funding for the new clinic. Our upcoming function is the Hat Cho Tuoi Tho 2 concert in Feb 2004. We would appreciate any support you can give to this project, either by making monetary donations, buying tickets or sponsoring the concert. All fundraising totals, receipts and disbursements will be published in local newspapers and on ICAN's website; thus our progress will be reviewable by all of our donors.

On behalf of ICAN Board members and volunteers, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for your support and assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or any member of ICAN, should you have any question or need additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Jonathan Nguyen, D.D.S.
Chairman, Fundraising Committee

International Children Assistance Network

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