

August Newsletter 2018

Volume 15 Issue 8

Contact & Donation Information

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2018 Fundraiser: We're counting on you!



August kicks off our annual Fundraising Challenge, when your donations are matched, dollar for dollar, up to \$21,500. FVSO is again fortunate to have a number of benefactors (see page 4) who have made the matching funds program possible. If we match their contributions, the combined total of \$43,000 will certainly help us reach our operating budget of \$160,000. The Matching Challenge is the key to meeting our commitment to the kids.

Matching Fund Donation Challenge (Part 1)

Beginning in August, every dollar donated to FVSO will be **MATCHED**
up to **\$21,500**

Getting a Bigger Bang for your Buck

Several of our donors have used tax efficient methods to donate to FVSO. We would like to share those methods with you. The caveat, of course, is to talk to your tax or financial advisor first.

You can donate shares of stock that have appreciated. Donors get the appreciated value of the donated stock as their tax deduction for the contribution, but they do not pay capital gains tax on the appreciated value of the stock shares donated. The donor gets a tax write off win for them and the recipient gets a stock to sell. Selling stock doesn't cost much for us, so even a few shares stretches dollars a long way for the kids. Since you will need some account information from FVSO to use this method, please contact us.

You can make charitable donations from your IRA. If you have reached the age of 70 ½, you can arrange to have up to \$100,000 of otherwise taxable IRA money paid directly to a specified tax-exempt charity. These Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) are federal-income-tax free to you but you do not get to claim this as an itemized deduction on your Form 1040. However, tax-free treatment equates to a 100% write-off and you don't have to itemize your deductions to get it. Furthermore, you can count the distribution as part of your required minimum distribution that you'd otherwise be forced to receive and pay taxes on this year. Be careful though - to qualify for this tax break, the funds must go directly between your IRA and the charity. Your IRA trustee will have a form for us to complete with bank details.

Please contact your tax advisor and IRA Trustee to confirm details.

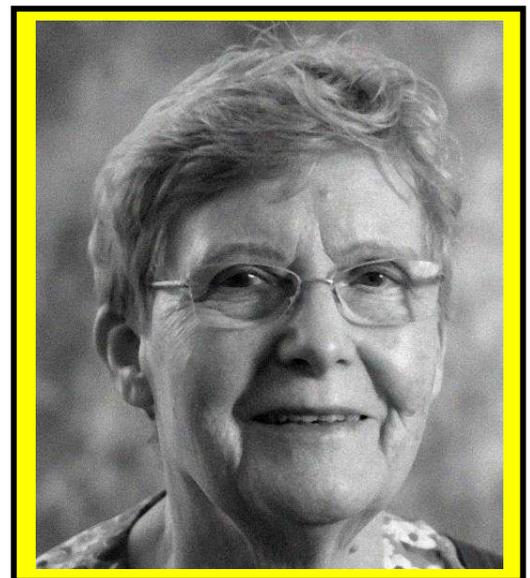
Saying Goodbye to Diny Jansen

President, Orphans of Kontum, the Netherlands

Diny's organization (SWKV), headquartered in The Hague Netherlands, was focused on primary education and was highly respected throughout the Vinh Son universe. FVSO was privileged to partner with her group whenever possible. Commenting on joint projects, Diny wrote, ***"We appreciate the cooperation with all of you very much."***

But after 17 years of devotion to the children of Vinh Son, Diny Jansen is retiring. In her words: ***"Last week we have had a meeting with our supervisors about whether to continue or finish our foundation. I am 81 years old and the burden of all work I have to do has become too much for me. So we decided to finish our Foundation at the end of this year, but I could continue helping the orphans with vocational education."***

On behalf of the children..... **God Bless You!**



A Viet (far right) poses with his music teacher and other aspiring singers

A Viet is studying Music during his summer off In order to help teach singing to people in remote villages

Hello!

A month has passed and I have the opportunity to write a letter to inquire about your health. I also do not know how to connect with you and everyone tied more closely. I have not been home to visit my parents and family. The children in the Saigon city are unfamiliar with music school so I go to help young people in the remote areas, practice singing. I would also like to thank you and your benefactors for helping me to have the money to go to school, I thank you thank you and many benefactors work will be shared. I sincerely thank you.

Paul a Viet (scholarship student)

FVSO always allocates funds for Special Projects



Tractor trailer for Vinh Son 1

Dear FVSO,

We would like to let you know we have already received the funds of 1,800 USD that you sent to our Vinh Son 1 orphanage to help us to repair our tractor and to replace a new trailer. Our tractor and trailer were very old, broken, rusty and rotten. We needed them to be repaired and replaced. Now, the mechanics start to repair the tractor and then they will replace with a new trailer behind. Thanks to FVSO and Derek's group from Australia.

Motorbike for Sao Mai

Sister Kim. of Sao Mai orphanage in Pleiku, requested a motorbike for use by Sao Mai. In a separate letter, she says it will be used by high school students, by the nuns and by older kids to run errands, make medical appointments, and other transportation needs. She is asking for \$635 at current exchange rates for the gas powered vehicle. FVSO has already approved the expenditure.



This \$5,000 land purchase for VS-6 was made possible by 3 American families who were moved by a recent visit to Vinh Son. Their generosity will have a positive influence on the lives of the children and their caregivers, for a long time.

**Join us in thanking Dave & Claire,
Jerry & Peggy, Roger & Maria**



Land purchase for VS-6

June 4th, 2018

Dear Mr. Dave and FVSO Board

Today is a happy day, or, rather to say, it is a miracle. Today, Sr Kham has transferred money to Vinh Son-6. The children at Vinh Son-6 and I are very grateful for your kindness.

I will soon buy the land, and take pictures of the land to send to you, so that you can join the happiness with Vinh Son-6. Then, the happiness will be doubled. I do not know what to say but thanks, thanks and thanks. Even though we are geographically far apart, your heart is always close to Vinh Son.

Thank God, thank you. You are God's extended arms to connect to Vinh Son. Once again, the children at Vinh Son-6 and I sincerely thank you very, very, very much.

May God bless you.

Sr Kham, Sr Nhun and Sr Josie

Matching Fund Benefactors (part 1)

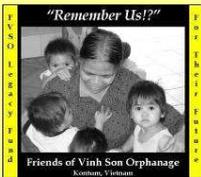
- Father Tom Relihan's Parish, Lone, CA
- Hanson McClain Financial Advisors, Sacramento, CA
- Arts and Kids, Auburn, CA
- VVA Chapter 535, Nevada County, CA
- Dave and Claire Christensen
- Jerry Sherburne
- Peggy Siminich
- Roger and Maria Cwiak

Enlisting new benefactors

We can help you connect with potential new supporters of the Vinh Son and Sao Mai orphanages.



- Board Members are available to speak at military reunions or to local civilian groups.
- Distribute copies of the monthly FVSO newsletter to your friends and interested groups. Forward the on-line versions and website information via e-mail.
- A Power Point presentation, detailing the FVSO story, is available for your use.
- Tell your personal story. Why are you a member of this team? What would you tell a potential supporter about FVSO? Your history might prompt others to reach out to the children of FVSO.

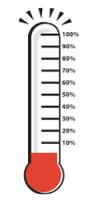


Legacy Fund Update

Target is \$2.0m in 10 years

Total contributions to date
\$521,821

% achieved = 26.1%



Legacy Contributors

- Jim & Jane Gardner
- Henry Huddleston
- Glen Smith
- William Higbee
- Corps Detachment 711

Legacy Contributors

- VVA Chapter 535
- Jim McCauley

Long-term supporting organizations

- 189th & 155th Assault Helicopter Companies
- 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion (A and D Companies)
- VN Veterans of America, Chapter 535, Nevada Cnty, CA
- Marine Corps League Detachment 711, Salinas, CA
- Counterparts Association
- 14th Combat Engineer Btn. Association
- MilSpec Tours (800-953-5812)
- Fr. Luke Tran (VN-SHEP) Social Health Education Projects
- Fr. Relihan, Sacred Heart Church, Lone, CA
- Rotary Club of San Juan Capistrano, CA

amazonsmile

Support FVSO by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com

Words of Wisdom

Where I was born and how I have lived is unimportant. It is what I have done with where I have been that should be of interest.

-- Georgia O'Keefe

Vinh Son & Sao Mai Orphanage Facts

- About 830 Montagnard children live in seven orphanage facilities in the Kontum/Pleiku area, Vietnam
- FVSO is a humanitarian, Non-Profit organization approved by IRS Code 501(c)3. Donations are tax deductible.
- Orphanages run by Sisters of the Miraculous Medal & St Paul Chartres

Officers

President – Pat Leary
Secretary - Nga Wynne
Treasurer – Ken Tokutomi
Senior VP - Pat McKee
1st VP - Open
2nd VP - Michael Little

Board of Directors

Hank Gonzales
 Rich Lahey
 Clyde Lewandowski
 Bart Ruud
 Dave Chaix
 Colleen Sands
Social Media Advisor
 Sean Game

Donation Information

Please make checks payable to FVSO or Friends of Vinh Son
 \$12 per month provides each child one nutritious meal every day.
 Donations are accepted year round