

September Newsletter 2020 Volume 17 Issue 9

Contact & Donation Information

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2020 Fund Drive Target

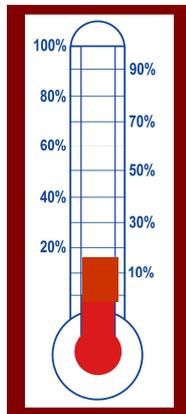
\$150,000

Donations To Date (8/31)

\$21,644

Needed To Reach Target

\$128,356



Percent Achieved Through August =14%

For The Kids Progress Report

It is early September, one month into our annual fund raising program. Four months to go and we are 14% towards our goal. Thanks so much for a solid start. When FVSO began 15 years ago, we developed a mission statement with the ultimate goal of helping the nuns become self-sufficient. Income stability is the key to self-sufficiency. Over the years, we have been blessed by your generosity and have been able to develop a financial plan where this year's donations become next years budget. This guarantees a year of income stability.

On page 3 you will be introduced to the chicken ranch! What an amazing story. It's an excellent example of foresight and planning by the nuns because of the stability you provide. With that fundamental security, Sr Kham was able to launch the revenue producing chicken ranch. This was only possible because of your continued support.

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For The Kids

Friends of Vinh Son Montagnard Orphanages
2020 Fundraising Appeal



Because of our contributor's generosity, these kids have a lot to be happy for.



The cute little boy with sad eyes is A Wale, a 2-yr old living at Vinh Son 1



One of the FVSO scholarship students is doing her nursing rotations at the hospital and we asked her to tell us more about what they are doing. Here is her response....

Thank you for the good words that you have sent to me, and I am really happy. Since last Monday, my class has been practicing, actually going to the hospital at first feeling anxious that I make the patient uncomfortable, dissatisfied, but after doing the last week I felt a sense of relief, because I had access to patients and nursing sisters. When I go to clinic, I am in group 1 and will be with General Internal Medicine first and then next week my group will switch to the Cardiology Department, The first day, the nurses will let us receive the patient and take the vital signs for them, then delivered and drew blood in the Department of Hematology, Microbiology and Biochemistry for testing.

In the morning, we start working at 7:30 and leave at 11:00, in the afternoon from 1:30 and finish at 4:30. The first day made me feel tired because I don't get used to it, then slowly from the second day, three, four, five, we also started to get used to it. We acknowledge that working in this profession is really hard but it's also very fun, just doing our best out of love makes me feel very happy. I also pumped drugs, injected, took the patient's blood, measured the signs of survival. At first I was scared, afraid that the patient would be hurt when I injected and took their blood, but fortunately they also had a little pain but they still try to bear to let us learn from experience. Oh! I did it and it was something that made me feel extremely happy because I was a person who was afraid of blood and pain, but I did what I thought I couldn't do.



Uncle, I feel very sorry for the patients, so I can only see with my own eyes all kinds of different diseases that hurt the sick people, it is very painful.



THE BAR-B-Q CHICKEN RANCH AT VS-5

Earlier this year, FVSO funded the purchase of 1,000 chickens and the construction of a chicken coop at Vinh Son 5. Because the chickens have multiplied so well, the idea was hatched: "let's sell our chickens!" They soon found out that fresh birds could not be sold, but all was not lost; **Bar-B-Q!!** With financial help from VNO (Vietnam Orphans) a non-profit group from Winchester, England, the biggest Bar-B-Q they could find was purchased, and a new pathway to self sustainability was opened up...selling BBQ chicken in the Kontum area...as Martha explains below:

There are five children who run the organization and amongst them is the chief. One kid has the duty to deliver the grilled chickens, that were ordered by phone, to customers' homes. The chief is responsible for the hygiene and the cleanliness of the grilling area. He is also responsible for checking safety and hygiene in the killing of each bird, as well as overseeing the actual grilling. The birds are seasoned and oiled before grilling. The team must learn how to grill so that the chickens are not scorched. At the same time, all the young men and girls must also follow the Coronavirus safety measures.

Above is the actual Bar-B-Q purchased by the non-profit group from England (VNO). It looks like 8 birds can be grilled at the same time.

Many tourists & visitors come to Kontum to taste and enjoy the grilled chicken together with sticky rice cooked and grilled in bamboo tubes.

Here are three special reasons to buy the best grilled chicken in Kontum

1. The chickens were raised naturally and freely so their meat is thick, flavored and sweet. They were fed natural foods such as insects, vegetables and herbs, fruit and corn.
2. The recipe for seasoning chicken with spices available from nature to create a rich flavor permeating from inside to outside. The chickens were roasted on embers so their skin has golden color with good flavor.
3. Spices for seasoning include: lemongrass, purple onion, garlic, five flavor powder, honey, pepper, fish sauce, salt and leaves from the forest.



Excerpt from a note received from Oliver Myers, FVSO supporter

"Thank you for sending the picture (right) of the sweetheart and the angel she had in her arms. I no longer have a computer server so I am not available on line so this letter is most welcome. Thank the sisters that wrote me, I really appreciate their prayers, and please continue to pray for me. Being able to give to these children is medicine for my soul. I am committed to you and what you are doing..."

Thank you, Oliver, for joining our family!





You shop. Amazon gives.

Spread the word

Board Members are available to speak at military reunions or to local civilian groups. Please distribute copies of the monthly FVSO newsletter to your friends and interested groups. Forward the on-line versions and website information via e-mail.



August 'decisive' in containing Coronavirus

HANOI (Reuters) - Vietnam is in the midst of a "decisive" fight against the novel Coronavirus, focusing on the city of Danang Vietnam, widely praised for its mitigation efforts since the Coronavirus appeared in late January, is battling several new clusters of infection linked to Danang.

From Martha: The pandemic has changed and affected badly the lives of the orphans' living at the six Vinh Son orphanages. Covid 19 has come back to Vietnam for the second time and it has spread more strongly and more quickly in the community. This time, they did not know what caused the spread and infection of Coronavirus. So, there are many cases of infection and twenty-five deaths. There are 15 cities and provinces which have the cases infected by Coronavirus and they became pandemic zones. At right is the educational billboard found throughout Vietnam.

Covid 19 has made life more difficult for Vinh Son. Since the second pandemic outbreak, tourists and charity groups from abroad have not visited Vietnam, and cannot bring help to the orphanages. Some markets have closed, causing the orphanages to run low on food. They also don't have the money to supplement their diet. They needed to find a way to earn money. **Chicken story is on the previous page.**



Legacy Fund Update

The goals are:

\$1.0m by Dec 2020

\$2.0m by Dec 2025

Total Contributions

\$768,273

Nothing you do for children is ever wasted.
Gregorian Kallias



We Thank You!!



Orphanage Facts

About 830 Montagnard children live in 7 orphanage facilities in the Kontum/Pleiku areas of Vietnam.

\$12 per month provides each child one nutritious meal every day.

Orphanages are run by the Sisters of Miraculous Medal and St. Paul Chartres.

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Donation Information

Checks should be payable to FVSO or Friends of Vinh Son.

FVSO is a humanitarian, non-profit organization approved by IRS code 501©(3). Donations are tax deductible.

Donations are accepted year round and are also available on-line.