



# LOTUS

Humanitarian Aid Foundation

A BIENNIAL NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2011

## How Everyone Benefits

Mass communication is changing the world. Today, like no other time in history, people are witness to tragedies from around the globe on their computers or in the media. These overwhelming and heartbreaking crisis call out for financial help. It's difficult to decide where and how to make a meaningful contribution.

You, the concerned donor can choose to make a difference in saving lives of those in peril. Since 2006, LOTUS Humanitarian Aid Foundation has made a difference when time is of the essence, dollars are in short supply, and lives are at risk.

LOTUS is a small, results-oriented organization that not only saves lives but does so with the minimum amount of expense. LOTUS provides immediate financial support to at-risk children in Viet Nam whose lives are threatened by heart disease. There are hospitals and well-trained doctors in Viet Nam that perform life-saving open- and closed-heart surgeries, but it is not free to these poor and desperate children.

LOTUS is a resourceful and time proven option for donors like you, those who like to know where their contributions are being spent and want immediate results for their giving.

LOTUS is managed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors, each of whom has experience in Viet Nam. We are men, women, combat veterans and Vietnamese nationals.

In 2010, working in three different provinces in central Viet Nam, LOTUS

conducted seventy-eight family assessments, paid for one hundred and eleven heart examinations, and helped provide funding for sixty-two successful children's heart surgeries.

*Here's the good part:* LOTUS, with your support, contributed \$26,425 towards those sixty-two successful surgeries with an additional \$92,222 contributed towards those same surgeries by five other international and domestic "partner organizations" that we cooperate with.

### YOUR DONATIONS GO TO:

1. Determining which children are at risk for heart disease.
2. Life-saving open- and closed-heart surgeries when the need exists.

"Leveraging" your donations with other non-profit organizations is not only beneficial for our donors, but also for the at-risk children who need these life-saving operations, and for the families of these children.

Please consider making your donation to LOTUS. Our results are tangible, immediate and successful. LOTUS is proud of our reputation in Viet Nam. We appreciate your consideration and your thoughtful

giving.

Ha Tinh, Quang Tri, and Thua-Thien Hue Provinces are preparing to send more young children with suspected heart disease to Hue Hospital for their 'free' definitive examination next month.

*Please use the enclosed envelope to make your contribution today and help us save more childrens lives.*

You can find a comprehensive list of our board members and beneficiaries on our web page at [www.lhaf.org](http://www.lhaf.org).

## A NOTE *from the President*

Dear Friends,

Last year was a year in transition, during which we terminated our sewing and embroidery programs and expanded our heart surgery program into 2 additional provinces and almost doubled the number of heart surgery beneficiaries. We were able to assist 62 Vietnamese children in having life saving surgery.

This year we recently received approval from the government to provide our heart services in an additional province (Quang Binh) and already have a list of children waiting for surgery and your help.

Thanks to all of you donors we can and are making a valuable contribution to humanity.

*-John Ward*



*A recent heart surgery recipient— See page 3 for more smiling faces.*

## Kindergarten Program

LOTUS has continued its cooperation with two veteran's organizations that funded kindergartens in Quang Tri several years ago. Members of both organizations periodically return to Viet Nam to supply and refurbish the kindergartens they originally helped fund.

In 2002, the LZ Russell Association, a group of Marine veterans, returned to Viet Nam and built a kindergarten in the Village of Hau Vien, Cam Lo District. To maintain their on-going relationship with the Hau Vien Kindergarten they return frequently to upgrade the building and re-supply the children with school supplies.

The NorthLand Vietnam Veteran's Association (NVVA) has a membership that flourishes in Northeastern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin. In 2003, the NVVA provided funding to build a kindergarten in Hai Thai Commune, Gio Linh District. Representatives from the organization visited Hai Thai in 2010 to bring school supplies. They saw that the school needed some repairs and will provide funding again this year to address some of those needs.

The continuing relationship with these veterans is one of the high points of John's work in Quang Tri.



*Top: Hau Vien Kindergarten.  
Bottom: Hai Thai Kindergarten.*

## LOTUS

Humanitarian Aid Foundation

### DIRECTORS

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LOTUS Humanitarian Aid Foundation is a publicly supported 501 C 3 non-profit organization. Our tax identification number is 35-2267166. Financial contributions to LOTUS Humanitarian Aid Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. LOTUS Humanitarian Aid Foundation has offices in Ketchum, Idaho and Dong Ha, Vietnam. For contact details and volunteer opportunities, please visit [www.lhaf.org](http://www.lhaf.org).

## LOTUS Moves in to New Offices

On March 30, 2011, LOTUS moved their offices to a new house in a new subdivision of Dong Ha. We had been operating out of offices at Kids First Village for five years. A

two-story building, the new house will serve as the LOTUS office and a residence for John. Everyone is quite pleased to have our own special location.



*At left: LOTUS President, John Ward with Chau and Tuyet.  
Above: Chau and Tuyet.*

# Take a look at some of our more recent beneficiaries

Ha Tinh, Quang Tri, and Thua-Thien Hue Provinces are preparing to send more young children with suspected heart disease to Hue Hospital for a definitive examination next

month. We are now in the process of expanding into Quang Binh Province.



Nguyen Thi Tra My  
Female - 6 years old  
1st grade student.  
Lao Bao Township, Huong Hoa District, Quang Tri Province.  
My had successful surgery at Hue Hospital on November 10, 2010. She is now healthy and doing well.



Nguyen Van Tu  
Male, 5 years old  
Attends kindergarten.  
Quarter 1B, Dong Le Ward, Dong Ha City, Quang Tri Province.  
Tu had successful surgery on February 22, 2011. He is now healthy and doing well.



Nguyen Van Nhat  
Male, 4 years old  
Attends kindergarten.  
Trung Hoa Village, Thach Tan Commune, Thach Ha District, Ha Tinh Province.  
Nhat had successful surgery on February 25, 2011 and is now healthy and doing well.



Doan Thi Lan Huong  
Female, 2 months old  
Dau Kenh Village, Trieu Long Commune, Trieu Phong District, Quang Tri Province. Huong had successful surgery at Hue Hospital in July 2010.  
Her health is now good and she continues to take prescribed medicine to maintain her health.



Pham Thi Ha  
Female, 16 years old  
10th grade student  
Tan Thanh Village, Huong Trach Commune, Huong Khe Province, Ha Tinh Province.  
Ha had a successful surgery in February 2011 and she is now healthy.

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY AND HELP US SAVE MORE CHILDREN LIKE THESE.**



## THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON YOU

Our Open-Heart Surgery Program is our core program and has been expanded, this year, to include an additional province in Vietnam. We are now operating in four provinces.

The opportunity for these children to realize a life-saving heart surgery flows from the open hearts of our donors and the diligent work of our staff. On behalf of LOTUS, we thank all of you for your interest and support.

*Open your heart, reach out and touch someone.*

*Please Send Donations to:*  
**LOTUS Humanitarian Aid Foundation**  
P.O. BOX 3869 • Ketchum, Idaho 83340  
[www.lhaf.org](http://www.lhaf.org)  
[lotusaid@lhaf.org](mailto:lotusaid@lhaf.org)