

Provincial Outreach Clinics for Poor Children

Most of the poor children suffering from congenital heart disease live in the rural provinces and must travel many hours over rough roads to get to the major heart centers in Ho Chi Minh City, Hue, or Hanoi for diagnosis, examinations, and surgery.

When one of the Heartbeat Vietnam children fell gravely ill during the 10-hour trip from her home province to Ho Chi Minh City, it made us think further about the additional hardships these children and their families endure during their long journey to a healthier life. It made us search for a way to bring healthcare to their home provinces and reduce the family's financial burdens. We also wanted to increase early detection and train provincial doctors in the diagnosis and treatment of these children.

As a result, the VinaCapital Foundation started a program to hold provincial outreach clinics staffed by volunteer doctors and surgeons from major hospitals in Vietnam. Each outreach clinic provides free care to 200-300 children, including diagnostic testing, treatment, and placement on the cardiac surgery waiting list if required. These clinics allow hundreds of poor children to be examined and diagnosed by the country's top cardiologists and surgeons without ever having to leave their home province.

In 2008 we operated eight outreach clinics in five provinces and provided free care for over 1,500 children. We are expanding our reach in 2009 with 15 outreach clinics in 22 provinces, providing care to over 4,800 children.

We are seeking funding partners for this program. A donation of just \$1000 will be matched 100% by VinaCapital Group and will fund a clinic providing care for up to 300 children.

A donation of \$10,000 will be matched 100% by VinaCapital Group and will pay for the entire year of outreach clinics.