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D.O.V.E. Fund Expands Aid to Blind and Visually Impaired



New glasses can make a world of difference for young students

Already the supporter of four Vocational Centers for the Blind in Vietnam, the D.O.V.E. Fund recently approved additional funding for primary and secondary school students. After some children reported difficulty seeing lessons on the blackboard, provincial officials in both Quang Tri and Thua Thien-Hue asked the D.O.V.E. Fund for help in developing a comprehensive eye care program. Families in Vietnam's rural areas have little access to clinics that provide routine eye exams, preventative care and treatment for many early onset eye conditions. Current protocol is to identify students with vision issues and then refer them to specialized care in faraway District or Provincial hospitals. However, due to the high cost of treatment and transportation difficulties, most of the low-income families cannot afford eye care for their children.

Thanks to a generous contribution by Amy Saylor and husband, Dennis Degnan, owners of Toledo-based Key Realty, funding for both eye care projects were approved by the D.O.V.E. Fund. Degnan, a Vietnam veteran who served as a Marine in Quang Tri province in 1968/69, is a Purple Heart recipient who went on to found the Key Realty organization with wife, Amy in 2008. The new clinics will offer basic eye examinations, treatment for any chronic conditions and refractive testing for any near or farsightedness. Glasses with corrective lenses will also be

available as well as monitoring and regularly scheduled follow-up exams.

The D.O.V.E. Fund is grateful to Amy and Dennis for their donation which completely funded both eye care programs.



Eyecare clinics in Cam Lo will be used to model facilities in Hai Lang district.



Training for eyecare professionals will be part of program in Nam Dong district.

Christine Weisfelder 1942-2023

The D.O.V.E. Fund lost a valued Board member last month when Christine Weisfelder

passed away after a short illness. Chris was determined to join other Board members traveling to Vietnam in March of 2024 but side-effects from treatment derailed her recovery. Blessed with thoughtfulness, intelligence and a profound curiosity, world traveler Christine lived and worked in Sweden, Chile and Africa and studied at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (B.A.), Ohio University, (M.B.A.) and the University of Michigan, (PhD). As a Board member, Chris used her superb organizational skills to gather stories, images and videos to arrange a comprehensive history of the D.O.V.E. Fund which will be used for a book about the organization.

Chris is survived by her husband of 56 years, Richard Weisfelder, sons Phillip and Carl along with 5 grandchildren.



Global traveler Christine at one of her many destinations.



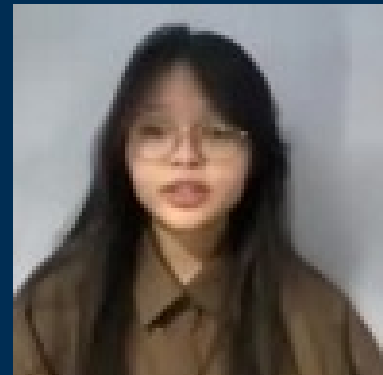
The D.O.V.E. Fund
Development of Vietnam Endeavors

PO Box 350741 Toledo OH 43635
www.dovefund.org

The D.O.V.E. Fund is committed to providing academic assistance to talented students who demonstrate financial need, scholastic potential, initiative, and a solid work ethic.

Last year, the D.O.V.E. Fund supported 230 students with awards totaling \$34,000. We are proud to report that 100% of the D.O.V.E. scholars successfully completed the 2022-2023 school year,

**Support a brighter future for a
D.O.V.E. Scholar!**



Click on photo for video



Le Thi Ngoc Linh

**D.O.V.E. Fund Scholar for
3 years at Quang Tri High
School.**

**Awarded the Do Nguyen
Scholarship for 2023.**

Attends Hue University of
Pharmacy and Medicine.

Help a D.O.V.E. Fund Scholar

Tax Tip: Use your RMD to make a QCD to the D.O.V.E. Fund

A **qualified charitable distribution** is an IRA withdrawal that is paid directly from your IRA to a qualifying charity. While income tax is normally due on each traditional IRA distribution, the account owner does not need to pay taxes on the amount transferred to charity. To learn more, check with your CPA or Financial Advisor.

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