

# FVSO Friends of Vinh Son Montagnard Orphanage

## December Newsletter 2020 Volume 17 Issue 12

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Through November, we have received \$118,017 in donations, or 79% of our fund raising goal for year-end. All we can say is **WOW!** With a month to go, the final tally on December 31st will guide our budgeting process for 2021. If we reach our goal, we will be able to employ the same budget we used this year. FVSO accomplished an amazing amount in 2020. Our monthly newsletters highlight the many capital projects we supported, while still providing for Basic Needs, Medicine and Education.

It is truly an impressive list that you made possible. We don't know what is in store for 2021, but know for sure that FVSO will continue its mission because of your support.

**2020 Fund Drive Target**

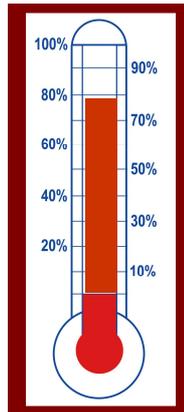
**\$150,000**

**Donations To Date (11/30)**

**\$118,017**

**Needed To Reach Target**

**\$31,983**



**Percent Achieved Through Nov. 30 = 78.7%**

### For The Kids

Friends of Vinh Son Montagnard Orphanages  
2020 Fundraising Appeal



Kontum,  
Vietnam



### *“Life is Gone”*

Sister Y Hien (left) expressed her deep despair by carving these words into what is left of the Vinh Son-2 vegetable garden. Because of torrential rains, the Dak Bla River flooded all their farms and left nothing but barren fields. Gone are lush cassava trees, corn, morning glory and rice.

**This newsletter is dedicated to the children of VS-2. May they find the strength and faith to restore what was once a beautiful and bountiful Highland oasis.**

### **Typhoon Molave Slams Into Vietnam, Bringing Death and More Misery**

Already battling devastating floods, the country was hit by one of its biggest storms in decades.

## Information obtained from a NY Times article

By Yan Zhuang, Oct. 28,2020

A typhoon that slammed into central Vietnam has set off a series of landslides that buried villages and towns, left more than 60 people dead or missing and compounded the misery of a country already struggling with catastrophic floods. Typhoon Molave was one of the biggest storms to hit the country in two decades, bringing a second round of deadly landslides there this month. The typhoon, packing 85-mile-per-hour winds, cut power to millions of people and damaged 56,000 houses, the Vietnamese government said.

Scientists say that global warming is fueling more frequent and more catastrophic storms and flooding across the world.

Vietnam has been hammered by storms, heavy rains and floods since early this month, and more than one million people have been affected. The central coast has been devastated by widespread flooding over the past weeks, with at least 114 people killed this month. Hundreds of thousands of houses have been submerged in water.

**Martha Y Phanh supplied these photos and observations, highlighting the devastation that resulted from widespread flooding. According to Martha, VS-2 was the only Vinh Son site to experience the ruin you see in this newsletter.**



### Before the Storm

The gardens of VS-2 were known for their lush morning glory (above), and the popular cassava trees (with Y Ngai and Y Khuong, above left). Everyone old enough worked in the vegetable plots, proud to be helping supply food for their orphanage. The five smiling girls on the left are picking morning glory and enjoying their afternoon outdoors. Of course, their smiles would fade once the typhoon wiped the land clean. Gone are the corn fields, the sugar cane, and all variety of vegetables.

## ***“Life is Gone”***

**This is what was left after the water receded.**



### **After the Storm**

Crops near the Dak Bla River were no match for the torrential rains that wiped out everything, leaving a moon-scape wasteland. Despite the obvious challenges, teams of children immediately went about reclaiming the land on behalf of the 170 kids and 13 caregivers at Vinh Son 2 orphanage. Thankfully, no one was injured during the storm.



**The soil is good for growing cassava trees and corn, so that is what they will plant first.**

## Starting Over. They Could Use Your Prayers.

In muddy conditions, smiles of hope still prevail.

But all the back-breaking work is done by hand.



### Legacy Fund Update

The goals are:

\$1.0m by Dec 2020

\$2.0m by Dec 2025

Legacy Fund Balance

**\$798,028**

### 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.

***God promises to make something good out of the storms that bring devastation to your life.***

### 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.

### Officers & Board Members

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3<sup>rd</sup> VP  
Board Member  
Board Member  
Board Member

### 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.