VSO Friends of Vinh Son Montagnard Orphanage

August Newsletter 2019

Volume 16 Issue 8

Contact & Donation Information

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In This Issue

- Matching Fund Underway
- Education Funding
- Summer Vacation
- Special Projects Update

Matching Fund Donation Challenge (Part 1)

Beginning in August, every dollar donated to FVSO will be MATCHED up to \$21,750



Matching Fund Progress

August donations so far \$16,004

Dollars remaining in the Matching Challenge

\$5,746



Primary Education Funding. (reference the August 2018 newsletter) After 17 years of support, Diny Jansen's group from the Netherlands had to discontinue their annual contribution of \$10,000. This money directly funded much of the education costs for the six Vinh Son communities. The Sisters also supplement the cost by selling their crops. FVSO is proud to announce that we will be picking up where Diny left off. Our \$10,000 donation will help supply uniforms and offset other school fees. This will be an annual commitment, and we invite any of our benefactors "adopt" this project on an ongoing basis. Along with the Dental program, this will be our most expensive endeavor, but who could say "no" to those smiling faces. Education is their future, and we're proud to be a part of it. Join us!

From English lessons to work in the fields, the Vinh Son children find a way to stay busy during the summer break

Summer vacation coming back!

By Sister Martha

"Summer Vacation" two familiar words for every student at Vinh Son, mean it's their good time for relaxing and for having fun. After a busy school year, vacation time allows the students to play and work together the most.

In addition to playing, the students also spend a lot of time working in the fields and garden or helping the Sisters take care of the babies. They would also help their families if they spend time in the villages. They work tirelessly during their summer vacation because it is fun for them to help the people in need. Most of them feel very eager and interested in their helpful work. During their summer vacation, students also have enough time to study extra classes like music, English or other necessary subjects.

Most of the children of Vinh Son orphanages have tried their best to work well in school and in their daily lives. During vacation, the Sisters have also created good conditions for the children to go on picnics and travel in Kontum province, and also places like Mang Den, Da Nang and Sai Gon...and so on. The children never forget these memorable times. They are grateful to the Sisters for helping them to study hard at school, and to exchange experiences (like the trips) that help them expand the knowledge of their surroundings.

Summer vacation is also the time when the imprints and the souvenirs that every student creates and are cultivated and nourished by the love of everyone. We have to thank the summer vacation which gives us the time for relaxation. But there isn't only the laughter and fun during the time of summer vacation. There are also the moments when children sit in the corner to remember their souvenirs during the past school year. They often find themselves in the happy warmth of "family" members, while temporarily putting aside their classmates and the memories they made together at school.

Summer vacation separates our classmates and teachers for three months and it can really be sad sometimes. Maybe because of this, some children like to have their summer vacation, while others don't like to have it. Everyone has their own feeling about summer vacation. It depends that they do to pass the time.





TOP: work crew heads out to the fields BELOW: catching up on English lessons MIDDLE: needs no explanation



Special Projects that make their lives better

The new roof configuration will keep them dry

It's all business in the kitchen





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Approved Projects and Costs

- Mini-Van repairs: There are 22 areas needing work on the Vinh Son van (the partial list at left reflects the degree of detail provided by the mechanics). The van transports children to and from school, among other duties. \$2,800
- **Primary education fees**: This is an annual expense (already discussed on page 1). \$10,000
- Clothes drying area and multi-purpose shelter: Vinh Son 5 requested these improvements to better protect the children from bad weather. \$2,600
- **Roofing repair**: The girls dorm did not adequately drain the monsoon rains away from the interior. A roof extension was added (see above). \$1,400

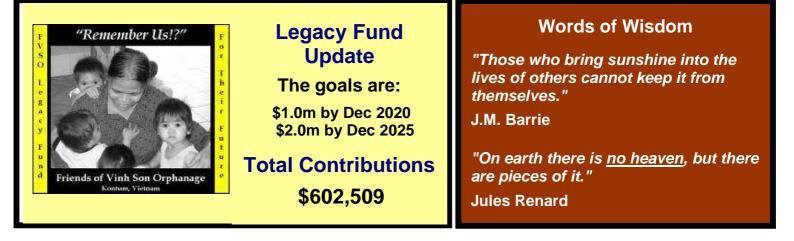


Pictured here are the young women from Vinh Son 1 who received the Confirmation Sacrament on June 26 amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

We can help you enlist new benefactors

- Board Members are available to speak at military reunions or to local civilian groups.
- Distribute copies of the monthly FVSO newsletter to your friends and interested groups. Forward the on-line versions and website information via e-mail.
- A Power Point presentation, detailing the FVSO story, is available for your use.
- Tell your personal story. Why are you a member of this team? What would you tell a potential supporter about FVSO? Your history might prompt others to reach out to the children of FVSO.



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.