

Oct 2025



NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS OF VINH SON

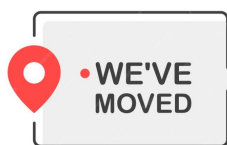
MONTAGNARD ORPHANAGE

VOLUME 22

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CONTACT

Website: www.friendsofvso.org
Email: friendsofvso@gmail.com
Donate: friendsofvso.org/donate



1060 Lincoln Ave
Suite 20 #1184
San Jose, CA 95125



2025 DONATION SUMMARY

Status through Oct 1st:

Annual Goal: **\$350,000**

Total Donations: **\$153,658**

Goal Achieved After 9 Months:

44%

3 months left!

Help us reach our goal!
Donate Today

Friends of Vinh Son Orphanage (FVSO)

Montagnard Orphanage
Kontum-Pleiku, Vietnam



A New School Year Begins

On September 5, the children of the six Vinh Son orphanages joined millions of students across Vietnam in celebrating the first day of the new school year. For the first time, Kon Tum hosted an official opening ceremony that was both grand and festive.

[Read more about the beginning of the school year](#)



Your Questions About Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)



Q: Where can I make a qualified charitable distribution from? Can I use my 401(k) this year?

A: QCDs cannot be done from a 401(k) or other workplace retirement plan. A QCD can only be done from an IRA.

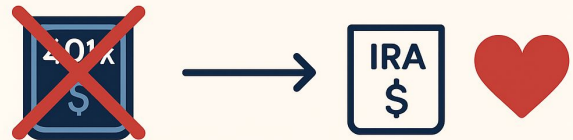
People age 70 ½ and older can transfer up to \$108,000 in 2025 from a traditional IRA directly to a charity. QCDs can count as all or

part of your required minimum distribution (RMD), but they are not taxable, and they are not added to your adjusted gross income.

The QCD strategy is a good way to get tax savings from charitable gifts for taxpayers who don't itemize because of higher standard deductions.

Source: Kiplinger Personal Finance magazine, November 2025

No – QCDs cannot be made from a 401(k) or workplace retirement plan. Only from an IRA.



For **2025**: People age 70½+ can give up to \$108,000 directly from an IRA to charity.

- ✓ Counts toward RMD
- ✓ Not taxable or added to income

The information provided above is for informational purposes only and should not be considered financial advice. We encourage readers to consult with a qualified tax expert or financial advisor before making any financial decisions.



A New Blessing at Vinh Son 2

On September 19, our Vinh Son 2 family welcomed a precious new member — a two week old baby girl named Y Thao My. Sadly, the child's mother passed away from food poisoning, and the baby was brought to the Sisters to be lovingly cared for and raised in their community.

Though this little one's life began with hardship, we believe the baby is fortunate to have found a new home filled with love and compassion from the Sisters and all of our generous benefactors. Each night, the student Sisters take turns caring for the baby — preparing bottles, comforting cries, and watching over with a mother's devotion.

We ask for your continued prayers for the Y Thao My's health and peace, and for the Sisters who nurture this new life with such tenderness and hope.

We Need Your Help!

- Do you receive printed donation receipts in the mail?
- Do you receive a printed copy of our newsletter?

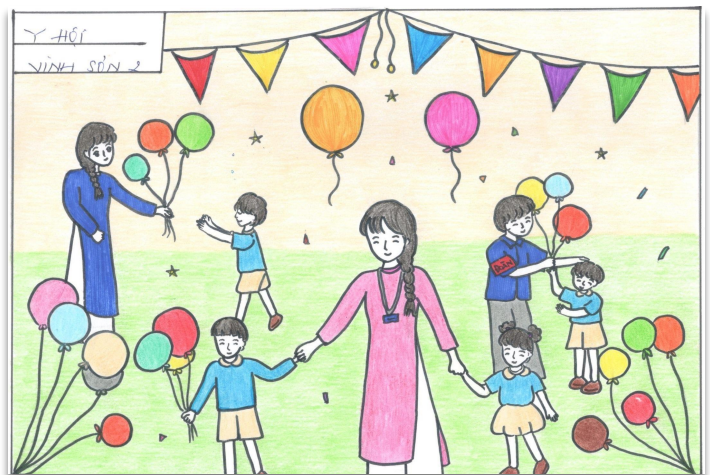
Go paperless to ensure MORE of your generous donations go directly to the kids!

- Send us an email and say hello: friendsofvso@gmail.com
- Subscribe to receive our monthly newsletter via email at friendsofvso.org

FVSO Board Members

David Bolhorst - President
Mai-Ly Bui Wilcox - Secretary
Andrew Monroe - Treasurer
Dave Chaix - Founding Past President
Jason Dent - VP Marketing & Funding
Chris Keegan - VP Communications
Clyde Lewandowski - VP Education
Jessica Schroeder - VP Education
Tom Solyst - VP Vietnam Operations
Patrick Keegan - VP Development
Bart Ruud - Project Director
Khac-Quan Nguyen - Board Member
Gene Mapa - Board Member
Pat McKee - Board Member

[Learn more about our Board](#)



We Have a New Address!

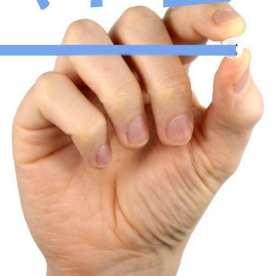
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Same wonderful cause, with the addition of new volunteers supporting operations and carrying on our mission.

DONATE

Donate Today!
friendsofvso.org



We are a humanitarian non-profit organization approved by IRS code 501©(3). Donations are tax deductible and accepted year-round.