



**Global
Foundation
For Children
With Hearing Loss**

*"MOVING FROM **GIVING A MAN A FISH...** TO **TEACHING HIM HOW TO FISH...** TO **LOOKING AT WHY THERE AREN'T ENOUGH FISH IN THE FIRST PLACE** --- AND **WORKING WITH LOCAL PARTNERS TO HELP FIX THE PROBLEM.**"*

Dear Friends --

We're in the thick of the second year of our Vietnam Deaf Education Program and I'm so pleased to be on this ride with you. Thanks to your support, we are meeting our goals to empower families and professionals in Vietnam with the expertise to help young children with hearing loss benefit from hearing technology and learn to listen and talk. Since July 2010, we have trained over 300 teachers, families, medical teams, and other professionals. We have fit over 100 hearing aids on young children from low income families. We are now gearing up for our second **Mobile Mission**, scheduled to start in February....and we can't wait to get started.

What makes the Global Foundation's Vietnam Deaf Education Program so effective is that its unique model offers a **broad, integrated approach** that addresses many touch points (families, teachers, therapists, medical teams), in a variety of areas (education, health, support services), offers training across disciplines (audiology, speech pathology, auditory-verbal education, early intervention), on a large scale (38 schools, 2 hospitals in 20 provinces are participating). Because we are collaborating with the Vietnamese, our programs are customized to their needs. And, by **working with the same group over time** in this multi-year effort, the participants build on their knowledge. They share their learning with each other, making the benefits **exponential -- and sustainable**.

As we move forward, we'll continue to teach others how to fish, so to speak, while also collaborating with our partners in the Vietnamese health and education communities to identify and close systematic gaps in the pipeline of services for children with hearing loss and their families. We'll help ensure there's enough fish so these children can reach their full potential. A governmental focus on inclusive education and newborn health-care is making this an exciting time to be working in Vietnam.

Over the three weeks of our next **Mobile Mission**, our team of audiologists and auditory-verbal deaf education professionals will visit schools and a hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, Nha Trang, and Lai Thieu that are participating in our Vietnam Deaf Education Program. We'll coach teachers, families, and therapists about auditory-verbal practices. We'll engage in pediatric audiology training for medical teams, hearing aid dispensers, and educational staff. We'll have a supply of over 100 hearing aids to fit on young children who need them.

No doubt, we'll have lots of fun along the way and stories to share! I hope you'll follow along at our blog: <http://childrenwithhearingloss.blogspot.com/> It all starts on **February 8**. Meanwhile, you can read about our past experiences there.

You're helping us change the lives of **over 900 children** with hearing loss in Vietnam and I cannot be more grateful for your contributions and support. Thank you again and here's to the adventure ahead!

Warm regards,



Paige Stringer
Founder / Executive Director

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