

Audit Report for Father Hieu

Report from Father Hieu's grant in Kon Tum area to feed poor children

Introduction

Grants to Father Hieu go to serve poor children in the Kon Tum area. Father Hieu is a doctor and priest in The Order of Saint Camillus. He gives money to various nuns in the Kon Tum area of Vietnam to provide meals for children in the poor villages surrounding Kon Tum. Although he changes the nuns that he sponsors from time to time, all the nuns he currently sponsors are part of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent De Paul religious order.

History

Father Hieu has experience running charitable organizations in Vietnam. He has been running the Mai Koi HIV clinic in Saigon for more than 5 years and also has a history of working with the Daughters of Charity in the Kon Tum area.

Financial

Food for the children varies from day-to-day but typically consists of rice porridge, soy bean milk, macaroni soup, or other similar items. There are currently roughly 1,200 children in four separate villages. It costs about 4,000 VND to provide a meal for each child. There is currently not enough money to provide children with meals every day.

Father Hieu currently raises funds from donations in Vietnam and traveling to the US once per year to accept cash donations. He must budget carefully because while the expense to feed the children is an ongoing expense, his donations are typically single-time lump sum donations. By budgeting single donations over the course of a year he can currently provide around \$1,500 USD per month.

His goal is to help provide meals almost every day except Sundays. This will cost around 124,000,000 VND per month, or almost \$5,500 USD per month assuming 23,000 VND per USD. Our goal will be to help him get regular monthly donations of \$4,000 USD per month to cover the shortfall. The next time Father Hieu comes to the US to raise money, we will focus our efforts on getting his donors to donate monthly to the foundation so that we can issue periodic grants to Father Hieu. This will help greatly with his budgeting process and will provide a more reliable stream of resources to feed the children.

The Daughters of Charity pay for the living expenses for the nuns that support this work, which eliminates costs that are not directly associated with buying food for the children.

Field Visit

We visited all four sites where Father Hieu is providing meals for kids. There did appear to be roughly 1,200 kids combined for all sites and many of the kids appeared to be malnourished. We conducted interviews with some of the parents and volunteers. The nuns have a good reputation in the area and have been providing food on an ongoing basis for several years. The volunteers were happy with the way the operations have been conducted and the kids are grateful for the food the nuns are able to

provide and were able to confirm that one village received meals every day and the other villages received meals a couple times per week.

In addition to the field visit we made, Father Hieu visits almost monthly to confirm funds are being allocated properly. He anticipates continuing this practice for the rest of the year and will provide periodic updates.

He is also considering starting a program to help with the educational development of the area by allowing donors to sponsor the educational development of individual children to make sure they have enough school supplies and food to be effective students. This is likely a program we will be interested in helping with in the future. He anticipates needing \$30 per month per child to sponsor their education.

Conclusion

The grant money issued to Father Hieu appears to be used in an efficient and responsible way to provide food to children in a high-need area. At less than \$0.20 USD per meal and with almost no overhead costs, the meals are a good investment in hunger alleviation. This project is financially efficient, effective, and is being well-managed. We recommend that the BOD continue to sponsor this project with ongoing grants.