## Từ Bi Foundation



Viet Nam Buddhist Center – Chùa Việt Nam, Houston -TX

www.tubifoundation.org or https://tubifoundation.shutterly.com

## Dear benefactors;

In 2018, there were many natural disasters in the world, Tu Bi Foundation tried to reach out to the victims of natural disasters in the United States, Vietnam, Guatamela, and Indonesia. Regardless of race and religion, with the trust and contribution of benefactors near and far, TBF was able to implement programs around the world. TBF would like to express our sincere gratitude to our benefactors, Compassion Association (Tinh Thương) and Lotus Association (Pháp Hoa) in Virginia for accompanying TBF through the programs in the United States, Guatemala and Indonesia. The total amount of merit that Tu Bi Foundation donated and implemented in 2018 was \$115,300 USD. TBF review all programs annually depending on the finance and the wishes of our benefactors.

Under the guidance and instruction of Venerable Abbot Vietnam Buddhist Center, all good deeds should bring benefit peaceful joy to all people and sentient beings: "in the morning bring happiness to others and in the evening ease the suffering of others". Our practice are not limited to Vietnam when there are natural disasters. In Houston, monks and nuns at Vietnam Buddhist Temple visit Houston's nursing home every month. There are 114 elderly residing there and there are many Vietnamese. We close relationship with management so as to provide and meet their needs every time we visit. When giving, our team sometime cooks Vietnamese potluck to encourage everyone to attend. The elder always look forward to our visit because they need love and miss visitation from their children. In 2019, we will offer prayer every month there.

http://tubifoundation.org/visit-and-gifts-at-a-nursing-home-in-houston-2018-12-22/?lang=en

In addition, every Thanksgiving our center organizes gifts for 100 homeless people in the Houston area. http://tubifoundation.org/gifts-for-the-homeless-2018-12-26/?lang=en

Conscious of the importance of appreciation and giving back to the United States, Tu Bi Foundation has continued to work on programs of gratitude. Volunteers went to take part in programs visit North Carolina disaster shelter centers and distribute food and gifts to 110 families affected by Hurricane Florence. After nearly 2 months, these families still do not have no place to live because rental homes and apartments were also damaged and mold throughout the house. The government had to transfer them to temporary mobile home units. TBF also contributed money to the Red Cross' budget to distribute hot food to victims affected by hurricane Michael in Florida.

http://tubifoundation.org/florence-relief-north-carolina-2018-10-26/?lang=en
http://tubifoundation.org/visit-red-cross-prepare-and-deliver-food-2018-09/?lang=en

In addition, TBF was able to reach in time the victims of tsunami and earthquakes in Indonesia and volcanic eruptions in Guatemala, through charity programs at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). ). Best of all, 100% of our donations was matched by the IMF, the fund was sent to TBF to help people in refugee camps. The Compassion Association (Tình Thương) and the Lotus Association (Pháp Hoa) in Virginia have accompanied Tu Bi Foundation in this project.

In Vietnam, when available we budget fund for typhoon and disaster relief in remote areas. TBF also focus on educational programs such as building schools and giving scholarships. We are concern with intellectual development and moral improvement, so we will continue to set up library in kindergartens and primary schools. In order to protect the lives and safety of students and elderly people, our programs build concrete bridges to replace buoys and monkey bridges that have been used to cross rivers in Ca Mau.

We have scholarship program to develop ethical talent in the medical field, 6-year scholarships for students studying to become doctors from all provinces of Hue, Quang Tri, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai. After graduation, they will return to their native province to serve - it's been very successful. Tu Bi Foundation worked directly with the board of directors of Hue College of Medicine and Pharmacy to select 10 excellent students from poor families that have many difficulties. Our sincere appreciation to the perseverance of our benefactors, they have continually contributed to help the program success. In 2018, 8 students graduated from the medical school and 2 students will graduate the following year. TBF also help some students to graduate from the Pharmacy and Nursing school. We are planning to establish a new program, wherein we will be sponsoring 10 students studying Medicine. They are very eager to receive the help of our benefactors. We are working with the school to select good students who have difficult circumstances.

http://tubifoundation.org/graduation-ceremony-for-7-medical-students-2018-07-11/?lang=en

Please read the following letters below ... the  $1^{st}$  letter is from our practicing doctor and the  $2^{nd}$  letter is from a student who is in the last year of medical school.

Dear benefactors and Tu Bi Foundation.

My name is Ho Thi Thuy Vi, I am currently a Pediatric Internal Medicine doctor in Huế. I am one of the fortunate ones to receive the golden heart of many benefactors, the care and attention of Tu Bi Foundation and Mrs Lieu Duyen during my school years. Thanks to you and your families. In the coming new year of the Earth Pig 2019, I wish you and the many benefactors all things wonderful and prosperous. I will always try to be a good doctor and extend the same kindness that my sponsors have given me.

Sincerely, Thuý Vi. Dear Mrs. Liễu Duyên,

It has been nearly 6 years since I first received help from Tu Bi Foundation. This is my last year; I am close to completing my dream of becoming a doctor. The 6-year journey through college has helped me to grow more. When I was young, I thought life was color pink, there would be no illness and no suffering. Then I realized the real life when I see my mother's worries when looking for money to send me to school, the sickness and pain that I see every day. I feel more and more appreciative of my mother and my benefactors for helping me through my financial difficulties, lessening my mother's worries in this aspect of life.

As this is my last year, there are more pressure on many things - the pressure from studying, my path after graduation, and my graduate thesis. But I will try my best to obtain good results, so as to not disappoint you and my benefactors.

I wish you and my benefactors are always good health and fortunate blessings to continue the path to help others through difficulties.

Student, Tran Thi Ha Phuong

Dear benefactors; regardless of the difficulties of the task – big or small, if it bring benefits to mankind, we choose to complete it as long as time and our health permit - all condition depends on chance/fate. We work with families to help them gain merit for their departed love ones next journey ... Sometimes students want to do good deeds too, so we also try to help them practice sharing with the poor ...

Programs have been implemented from January to December, 2018:

Final Total = \$ 115,269 USD

No interest loan to help poor women to business trade	900.00
Gift for the visually impaired and sick patients. Accompanying the European delegation <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/tq-tai-nghia-hanh-va-mo-duc-2018-01-20-21/">http://tubifoundation.org/tq-tai-nghia-hanh-va-mo-duc-2018-01-20-21/</a>	3,040.00
Industrial size wells at school <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/inauguration-of-school-water-well-2018-11-02/?lang=en">http://tubifoundation.org/inauguration-of-school-water-well-2018-11-02/?lang=en</a>	3,084.00
Building multi-purpose room at 2 Kindergarten schools in Quảng Trị <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/roofing-for-2preschool-haitho-and-hailang-2018-12/?lang=en">http://tubifoundation.org/roofing-for-2preschool-haitho-and-hailang-2018-12/?lang=en</a>	7,533.00

Constructing Tu Bi Kindergarten School in Khanh An commune, U	
Minh - Ca Mau (funded by International Monetary Fund) <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/kindergarten-school-construction-in-ca-mau-2018-07-10/?lang=en">http://tubifoundation.org/kindergarten-school-construction-in-ca-mau-2018-07-10/?lang=en</a>	9,000.00
Building 3 concrete bridges, Tu Bi Bridge 16, 17, 18 at Ca Mau (paying the first installment in 2018, paying the second installment when inaugurating the bridge in 2019)	
Bridge #16 <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/inauguration-of-tu-bi-bridge-16-2018-01-29/?lang=en">http://tubifoundation.org/inauguration-of-tu-bi-bridge-16-2018-01-29/?lang=en</a> Bridge #17 <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/construction-tu-bi-bridge-17-2018-07-10/?lang=en">http://tubifoundation.org/construction-tu-bi-bridge-17-2018-07-10/?lang=en</a> Bridge #18 <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/inauguration-of-tu-bi-bridge-18-2019-01-27/?lang=en">http://tubifoundation.org/inauguration-of-tu-bi-bridge-18-2019-01-27/?lang=en</a>	9,040.00
Scholarships in Central and South VietNam <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/graduation-ceremony-for-7-medical-students-2018-07-11/?lang=en">http://tubifoundation.org/graduation-ceremony-for-7-medical-students-2018-07-11/?lang=en</a>	15,041.00
Relief for Guatemala poor whose village was destroyed by volcano (IMF)	5,000.00
Hurricane relief 2017-2018 <a href="http://tubifoundation.org/category/rescue-relief/?lang=en">http://tubifoundation.org/category/rescue-relief/?lang=en</a>	25,887.00
Relief for Hurricane Florence, Michael, Indonesia (IMF)	
http://tubifoundation.org/florence-relief-north-carolina-2018-10-26/?lang=en  http://tubifoundation.org/visit-red-cross-prepare-and-deliver-food-2018-09/?lang=en	36,745.00

May our benefactors and families be bless with peace, happiness, great health and prosperity.

Tu Bi Foundation