

Dear friends, donors and sponsors,

Through my visits at the various orphanages and my sponsorship of the kids, I have seen so many cases of little girls and boys, brought to the orphanage and left there by their mothers. Their mothers never come back to visit. The younger ones lost their smiles. They never mentioned their mother once after their mother left. They somehow knew in their heart that they have lost their mother since that day. The older ones cried every night until they go to sleep, questioning why their mother had left them. The emotional scar of being left or abandoned or unloved is so deep for some of these children. The sadness, loneliness, despair, having no hope of a future, having no one to love sometime is so unbearable for them. And yet there are so many of them, who experience these types of abandonment.

In a society where having a baby out of wedlock is still a taboo and unacceptable, where people are so poor that they cannot afford to keep and raise their babies, where people struggle every day to put food on the table for their own children, let alone feeding an adopted child, we will continue to have children in institutions, who will experience the loneliness and desperation of being abandoned by their own mother and father. We will not be able to stop these desperate mothers from leaving their children. We can only strive to alleviate the pains, heal the hurt, and give them a feeling of being loved, that there is someone who cares for them. We hope that knowing that someone cares will make a long lasting impact to their lives and future. We hope that the little things we are able to do with love as often we can throughout their childhood lives will give these children a chance to grow up a little more emotionally secured, a little less disturbed, a little more loving and giving, will help change their lives for good.

Here in America, every child can go to school no matter how poor. But in Vietnam, if you are poor or struggle financially, your child will risk not being able to continue his/her schooling because one cannot pay the tuition and fees. Many teenagers ended up having to quit school to "help the family" by selling "lottery tickets" or become labor workers. But yet many of these children are bright & motivated children who have potential to succeed and go far in life. They deserve the opportunity to finish school like all other kids. Messengers of Love's mission is to help improve the lives of as many of these children as possible. We send them to school until they finish college via our scholarship program. We not only support them financially for their education, but we also want to instill in them the spirit of volunteerism. Once they finish school and find a job and are able to support themselves financially, we also ask that they will take another child to support and help, so the work we do can have multiple effects.

I would like to ask each of you today to become a Messenger of Love, to take one child to support, to help him/her and inspire him/her to become all he/she can be. For a \$10 donation, a child can receive a "Holiday Care Package" which consists of new clothes, toiletries, favorite food, a toy and candies, or we can help to subsidize their education cost for one month. We can give a child many moments of happiness, laughter, and childhood holiday memories. We can make a positive impact on the children's lives and brightening up their future. This personal attention given consistently will help to lay down an emotional and psychological foundation that will stay with them as they grow up.

MOL's members and board work tirelessly without pay thus keeping our administration expenses to a minimum of under 3% in order to maximize the amount of money used to directly address the needs of those we serve. Our volunteers spend many hours to fund raise and give their own money, but without the additional financial support from donors, we wouldn't be able to carry out our missions. We ask that you please continue with lending a hand and become our long-term partner in this work of love. Only then that we can continue to support the children until they finish college, and add on more kids on our list to help.

Our goal in the next ten-year is to double the Holiday Care package given out yearly to 10,000, and to double the number of children we help put through college to 320 kids. MOL's missions and goals can only be made possible with your help and support. Together we can make a difference to thousands of needy kids. We ask that you please continue with lending a hand and become our long-term partner in this work of love. Only then that we can continue to support the children until they finish college, and add on more kids on our list to help.

Thank you for being a part of MOL's great work with your support throughout these years.

Theresa LyBang Tran

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MOL's founder & board chair

"I have discovered the key to happiness. It is not in how much we have accumulated, how successful we have become, but in how much we love and give. That is my experience. I discovered that happiness can only be had when I have learned to give and to love those who are less fortunate than me"