

# The Good Newsletter

### GOOD SAMARITAN MEDICAL DENTAL MINISTRY

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

JUNE 2017

#### **CONSTRUCTION MINISTRY 2017**

The GSMDM Construction Ministry team traveled to Minh Khai, Thach An in the province of Cao Bang, Vietnam this past April to build another preschool for the children.

The school had no electricity as it was located so far into the mountains. The only form of electricity in the entire village was powered by running water (right), which gave them just enough electricity to power one lightbulb in the village's Cultural Center, which was used to hold town meetings and other such events.



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The preschool here in Minh Khai has only one classroom, with walls that do little to keep out the winter winds of Cao Bang. When we went to visit their school in late November, the weather was cold and unforgiving, but many of the children did not have shoes or gloves to warm their hands.

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#### FREE HEALTH CLINIC



The Good Samaritan Medical Dental Ministry held our annual free health clinic in Riverside, CA on April 8, 2017. We have not held the clinic in Riverside for many years. This was our first time holding the clinic at Calvary Presbyterian Church. This was also our first time providing dental care and eye care at our annual clinic.

The health clinic this year not only provided free medical, dental and eye care to anyone who came through our doors, it also provided an opportunity for various people and groups to come together and serve our community.

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# CONSTRUCTION MINISTRY

(continued)

GSMDM supporters quickly rallied and provided all 25 children with a pair of boots, two pairs of socks, a pair of gloves, along with some candy and crackers to help get them through the winter before we arrived in April to provide them with a better building.



The principal told us it brought tears to her eyes to think about how happy the parents will be when she tells them that a group of people from another country came and cared for their children.





GSMDM decided that having electricity to power lightbulbs and ceiling fans would help provide a better learning environment for the children. Therefore, not only did we build a preschool for them, shielding them from the cold of the winters in Cao Bang and the heat of the summers, we brought in solar panels and provided them with electricity!



We also found time to return to the two preschools that we built in the past two years.

Some of the children put on a little show for us.

All of the children and our team members enjoyed the educational toys that we brought them.



### FREE HEALTH CLINIC

(continued)



### **A Community Effort!**

Calvary Presbyterian Church provided bagged lunches for all our patients and for anyone else who wanted one.

Riverside Community Hospital donated drawstring bags with various necessities while local supporters donated other items such as socks, beanies, toothbrushes, toothpaste and mouthwash for us to distribute as well.

The local Sam's Club pharmacy was very understanding and allowed us to quickly fill prescriptions for our patients at our walk-in clinic.

Chick-Fil-A provided a free lunch for all the volunteers.



GSMDM APRIL CLINIC TEAM

Overall, the clinic was successful both in providing the people of our community with some much needed medical, dental and eye care with various food and necessities, as well as helping our team members prepare themselves for the clinics we will be holding this summer in Vietnam.

Our team members were able to practically apply what they have been training to do since January and are even more prepared and excited now for our upcoming trip.





# **SUMMER MISSION**

Summer Mission 2017 will officially begin at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 at the mission base in Riverside, CA. The team will once again come together, this time to pack all the mission supplies and equipment and make final preparations before heading to Vietnam.

The team will spend the night and then head out together to LAX on the following evening. We will be in Vietnam from July 8 - July 23. The team will stay in Trung Khanh during the first week and in Cao Bang City during the second week. Each day, we will drive up to two hours each way to a location even more remote to see patients in need of care, many who have never seen a physician in their life.

The Summer Mission team is comprised of eight clinical teams, all with separate responsibilities yet working together as a single unit with an aligned purpose to serve those whom we are able to serve. We will be traveling to Cao Bang to see 3,000 patients with a team of 131 people this year, from the United States, Vietnam, as well as other parts of the world.



WE WILL SERVE THE FOLLOWING DISTRICTS THIS YEAR:

Trùng Khánh • Hạ Lang • Nguyên Bình • Quảng Uyên • Phục Hoà • Thạch An • Thành Phố Cao Bằng

# **PCP TRAINING MINISTRY**

On April 24, 2017, Dr. Vien Doan led the PCP Training Ministry team to Vietnam to continue training the second class of 26 physicians in Cao Bang. This class will be graduating this summer on July 16, 2017.

Selected graduates from 2015 along with the members from the Class of 2017 were given the opportunity to sit for an exam and interview for selection to enter the newest GSMDM PCP Training Program, expected to start in late October 2017.

GSMDM selected twelve physicians from this group and are currently making arrangements to send these twelve physicians, two at time, to the U.S. for additional training. These doctors will stay with host families in Riverside, CA for one to two months and train directly with Dr. Doan at his office and with other physicians in various locations. They will also be studying English while they are here.





# Children's Ministry

This year, GSMDM will provide 544 students each with a jacket, a pair of boots, and a hat to keep them warm during the winter months.









# WE WILL GO TO FOUR SCHOOLS: Trong Preschool - Conh Tân Prescho

Quang Trọng Preschool • Canh Tân Preschool Kim Đồng Preschool • Kim Đồng Elementary School



## Ten Years

Volunteer Highlight

Christian Ong first went on the field to Vietnam with GSMDM when he was only five years old. He came with his parents who served with the Summer Mission team, and then returned again each summer for the next two years.

It has now been ten years since Christian has been to Vietnam with GSMDM. It has also been ten years since Christian first started playing the piano. On March 26, 2017, Christian held a solo piano recital. He put 25% of the proceeds toward his college fund and then donated the rest to GSMDM. He said he gave because he knows that the mission needs a lot of money to provide free medical care; and though he knows of multiple charity groups, he is sure that the funds he donates to GSMDM will go directly to help the patients and the team.

Christian feels blessed to have been exposed to the mission at such a young age. Not only did he have a good time, but he also saw lives change right in front of his eyes. He has always wanted to return, but being underage, he could not do so without his parents coming along.

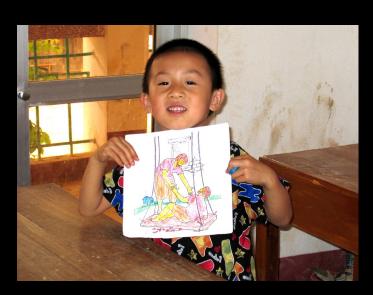


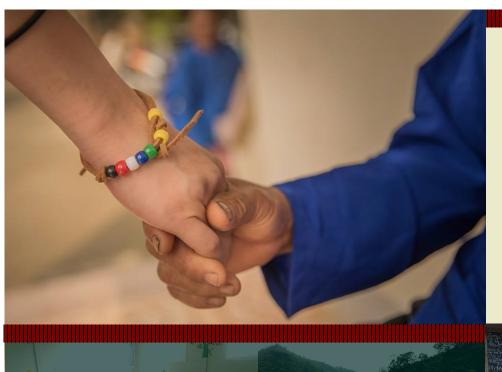
Christian (bottom right) serving with GSMDM in Vietnam in 2005, pictured with cousin Ashley and little sister Justine.

Next year, Christian will finally turn 18 years old, which is the minimum age requirement for joining the GSMDM Summer Mission team without a parent or legal guardian present. He has every intention of applying for Summer Mission Team 2018 and once again return to the place with the people that were never far from his heart.

We look forward to serving with you again, Christian!







#### PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray for a safe and successful Summer Mission in July.
   Please also pray for the team to meet our budget so that we can provide medical and dental care to all in need.
- Please pray that we find host families for the doctors we are bringing to the US from our PCP Training Ministry.



Our programs are made possible because of the love and generosity of people like you.



To support GSMDM, please send a check or money order to:

#### **GSMDM**

4343 Market Street, Suite D Riverside, CA 92501

or go to:

www.gsmdm.org/donate









