



## ROEVER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

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Almost everyone can recall the beauty of a sunset, of flowers, or faces of loved ones and friends they have known. Yet for many children in many impoverished areas of Vietnam these are visions they may never behold—but they could. REAP International's Light for the Blind program is providing badly needed eye surgeries for these children and literally removing the veil of darkness from eyes that have never seen before.



Thousands of Vietnamese children suffer from congenital blindness due to cataracts. Although REAP-sponsored ophthalmologists have provided training for Vietnamese physicians; without funding for these surgeries, these children and many more will face a life without sight. Time is running out for many because the surgery must be performed while they are still young in order to achieve the maximum benefit.

If you know Dave Roever, then you know children and young people are a priority with him, and the opportunity to give sight to blind children is simply a mission which he cannot ignore. Duane Parrish is REAP's ambassador and champion for this project. Duane gives constant vigilance to this project and will tell you that there has never been a better time to brighten the life of a child living in darkness.

*For only \$75.00 per eye these surgeries can become a reality! Join with us today by sending your best possible financial gift to make a child's dream of seeing come true. One hundred percent of your gift will go to the project stated and eternal dividends will be reaped. Please designate your gift for "Light for the Blind."*



Children's Hospital in Saigon, Vietnam

**Take a moment and read a wonderful story of how *Light for the Blind Ministry* has made a difference in the life of a Vietnamese family. (On the back page)**

## **Light for the Blind Ministry (Vietnam)**

**Ministry Report from Chi Yen Chi Luu thi**

The Nguyen family is a large family which includes three generations. Unfortunately, five of the family members have been blind due to cataracts. They reside in Hamlet 23, Pho Khanh village, Duc Pho district, of the Quang Ngai province. The family consists of the following members: Nguyen Thi Chinh 87 years old, Nguyen Thi Doi 63 years old, Nguyen Lam, Nguyen Thi Kheo, blind until 1998. At 20 years old he was operated on and now has good eyesight. There is also Nguyen Van Phuoc, 13 years old and blind until having surgery at 8 years old.

The Nguyen family lives in a thatched hut and is too poor to afford daily meals of rice, but in 1998, Mr Nghiep of SAPP, helped these five blind people to receive the medical care and surgery they needed. The first night after their surgery no one could sleep because of the fear of the darkness of night. They were waiting for the morning sunrise so that they could see everything around them. They wanted to make sure that their new eyesight was a reality.

An agency offered them a small house in which they could live and, with their new eyesight, they are trying their best to work hard and build a new life. Nguyen Van Phuoc, age 13, continues to work to learn how to read, write, sing, and play the piano. He can use musical instruments very well. Many close and distant neighbors ask him to sing and play on their wedding day and feast days which enable him to earn a living. He is now considered the “bread-winner” in his family and has even been featured on a television show highlighting his new-found talent after eyes surgery.

In the same family, Nguyen Thi Kheo, Phuoc’s, older sister, is upbeat after her surgery. She married a poor farmer (he’s not blind), that works for 15.000 dong, equal to \$1 USD per day, a very low salary. The average a Vietnamese worker makes over three times as much. They have two children, a four-year old girl and a two-year old boy. These two children were born completely blind, but had eye surgery free of charge by Phaco technic.

After the successful surgeries, both children gained 3kgs in weight. Now they run around house and yard and look at every new thing with great happiness. Their parents now have more time to focus on their work. Living expenses in the family decreased greatly and their children can go to school like any other child. Love and pray for you.

YEN CHI



**Please consider a tax deductible donation. Mail check or money order to: Mission Vietnam – REAP, P.O. Box 6063, Twin Falls, ID 83303 Thank you for your consideration. Your contribution will make a difference!**

*REAP International/Mission Vietnam is a ministry of Dave Roevers and Roevers Evangelist Association and is a non-profit, inter-denominational evangelistic ministry.*