

# Report On Donation of 108 Wheelchairs MAY 2012



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# Project summary

Project Name:	Donation of Wheelchairs Project-Vietnam (since 2004 and ongoing by Rotary Club of Mosman, NSW Australia Rotary D9680.	
Organized by:	PDG Danny Low, Rotary Club of Mosman, NSW, Australia working jointly with Rotary Australia World Community Service Limited-Eastern Region, Australia	
Funded by:	Rotary Clubs in Australia and friends of Rotary and Vietnam. Danny Low and his family are major donors to this ongoing project	
Locations:	Red Cross Nam Dinh Province Red Cross of Hung Yen Province Red Cross Ha Nam Province Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ho Chi Minh Muzeum Ho Chi Minh Masoleum Total of 108 wheelchairs donated	40 wheelchairs 25 wheelchairs 15 wheelchairs 18 wheelchairs 5 wheelchairs 5 wheelchairs
Presentations:	On 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2012 the presentation ceremony was held at Red Cross of Nam Dinh Head Officie Hon. Australian Deputy Head of Mission (Pho Dai Su, Dai Su Quan Oxtrayia Phillip Stonehouse Rotary International Representative for Vietnam and Past District Governor Danny Low,(Australia) Nguyen Minh Khac, Chairman Red Cross Nam Dinh Nguyen Minh Toan,Chairman Red Cross Ha Nam Former Hon. Former Hon. Consul General of Vietnam in Sydney M/s Le Phuong Dzung attended the handover ceremony to all 16 differently abled persons directly in Nam Dinh Province	



# Photos taken during the presentation at Red Cross Nam Dinh Province





## Main causes for a person to lose his mobility

Birth defects Previous victims of Polio Result from of industrial and motor accidents. Result from strokes Result from old age Result from other illnesses.

## Giving a wheelchair will change and improve a person's life

- Case 1- A young person given a new wheelchair will feel proud and happy. This gift from someone a total stranger gives confidence. The wheelchair allows the person to have feeling of some independence and to move about. On his or her ownself.
- Case 2 –A man who suffered stroke which left him half paralyzed. The condition forced him into some form of hopelessness and depression. The total dependence on his wife to look after all his needs, to provide drinks and foods and to do any chores is quite unbearable. He became abusive to his wife ,the person who care for him resulting a strained relationship. The wife felt helpless and cannot have any time on her own or to do something to earn some income to support herself and family. The wheelchair gift will free up the man's wife time for caring for her husband and also gives hope to the stroke patient who has been confined to this bed inside the house for the last 5 years
- Case 3- A elderly women due to old age and as a result from a fall lost her mobility. She became depressed. She could not afford a wheelchair and her children cannot buy her one or to stay at home to care for her.. Given the free wheelchair, it gives her hope and also allow her children to look after her much easier.



Since 2004, under this Donation of wheelchairs which are properly built and complied fully with World Health Organizations Guidelines. Check this weblink for more information:

http://www.who.int/disabilities/publications/technology/English Wheelchair Guidelines (EN for the web).pdf

# Project partners in Australia

- PDG Danny Low, member of Rotary Club of Mosman, NSW Australia. Danny Low and his family are major donors. PDG Danny Low is the primary coordinator for donation of wheelchairs project since 2004. Up to date, PDG Danny Low has organized similar donations to different locations throughout Vietnam. The Low has donated more than AUD30,000 towards this Rotary project alone.
- 2. The Honorable Australian Ambassador Allaster Cox in Hanoi who was unable to attend the presentation at Nam Dinh Province as he had to be at another official function at Lai Chau Province, Vietnam, Hon Ambassador had kindly sent his congratulations and expressed his support.
- 3. The Hon Australian Deputy Ambassador Phillip Stonehouse attended the Presentation of the donated wheelchairs to the disabled persons arranged by Red Cross of Nam Dinh Province. Hon Deputy Ambassador also spoke well in fluent Vietnamese language and strengthen our already close relationship with the local people and leaders in Nam Dinh Province. A personal thank you to Hon.Phillip Stonehouse from Rotarians.
- 4. Rotary Club of Mosman especially the members of the International Service Committee chaired by Past President John Melville.
- 5 Every member of Rotary Club of Mosman for their support and encouragements
- 6 All other financial donor from the Australian communities.



- 7 Jack Elliott, Honorary Treasurer of the Rotary Australia World Community Service Limited Eastern Region, Australia and RAWCS Board of Directors
- 8 Dr Angeline Low (spouse of PDG Danny Low) for her support and encouragement.
- 9 Friends of Rotary International.
- 10 The exporters and suppliers in China.

## Project partners in Vietnam

- 1. His Excellency Hon.Minister of Foreign Affairs, Pham Binh Minh Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam, Vietnamese leaders in COMINGO, VUFO and PACCOM, for their help and support of this Rotary projects.
- 2 Former Hon Consul General of Vietnam based in Sydney M/s Le Phuong Dzung for her support in organizing and coordinating the donation of 108 wheelchairs with all the receiving organizations.
- 3 Chairman of the Red Cross of Nam Dinh Province, Mr Nguyen Minh Khac.
- 4 Staff members of the Red Cross of Nam Dinh Province especially Mrs Loan.
- 5 Other leaders in the respective Peoples Committee of the Provinces.
- 6 Peoples Aids Coordinating Committee (PACCOM) particularly Director General Don Tuan Phong and his staff members for their support.
- 7 Vietnamese media and TV stations
- 8 Friends of Rotary International within Vietnam.



9 Rotary's local partners in Vietnam in this case the Red Cross in each of the Provinces namely Nam Dinh, Ha Nam and Hung Yen which received some of the wheelchairs.

## **Main Mission**

There is a story behind every wheelchair.

Many who lost the ability to move around on their own as a result of birth, poor health and accident will need a wheelchair.

A wheelchair to a disabled person will improves his or her life. The person caring for the disabled and their family is happier as well.

The unit cost of wheelchair is small compared to the outcome to the lives of everyone who are fortunate to receive one of the wheelchair.

#### Successful outcomes

- Create awareness of the needs of the differently able persons and their challenges in mobility without a wheelchair.
- Create awareness of the work of Rotary International from 1995 onwards to help the Peoples of Vietnam
- Build friendships between the People of Vietnam, Australians and Rotarians from different countries.
- Working jointly with the Government of Vietnam for the benefits of the People of Vietnam



# Acknowledgement

Our sincere "thank you" to all above named partners. Their contributions jointly has resulted the successful presentations of the donation of the wheelchairs to differently able persons and their needs.

Many people have helped and made the donation of wheelchairs possible. First my personal gratitude and thanks to Former Consul General of Vietnam in Sydney M/s Le Phuong Dzung for all her help in organizing the donation of wheelchairs. She has been a good friend and someone who is caring and helped many who are in need.

Thanks also goes to the Red Cross of Vietnam, the leaders in People's Committees and everyone who has helped.

End of Report