

Newsletter 24, December 11, 2020

Dear sponsors and friends of school money project

Foundation LOOKING-FORWARD



Is there any real prospect of an end to the Corona pandemic?

In a few weeks the vaccinations will start in The Netherlands with a vaccine.

We wonder, when will our students and their families be vaccinated in Vietnam? When will the world be free from this pathogenic/lethal virus?

When we told Hao last week that the vaccine was coming soon, she immediately asked: "How expensive is that vaccine then? ". I had trouble telling her that these vaccinations will be free for us. We have health insurance here. In Vietnam there is also a health insurance, but certainly not everyone has one and the insurance doesn't cover everything and only 50%. We have also heard several times that the health costs for insured persons will be increased.

Vietnam has so far tackled the Corona pandemic very severely. The country has been locked up for foreigners since the end of January. Every domestic infection is dealt with very severely with the imprisonment of the infected person in total quarantine and disinfection of his/her environment. Until the beginning of December there are only 1307 infections and 35 deaths from the Covid-19 virus. If the government wants to continue the control sensibly, it has to suppress the vaccinations for free. Otherwise, many poor people, with other priorities, will not spend this extra money for this, we know.

Because of the strict approach a lot has been going on in Vietnam. Of course, not the economically very important tourism. But trade, construction and fortunately also education continued. Yet many people have lost their jobs (e.g. in restaurants, hotels and cabs). Because the Western world bought less in Corona time, much less shoes, clothing, televisions etc. were ordered in Vietnam. The country runs at a slower pace which makes everyone suffer.



Also "our" Hao (32) for example. Who works as a nurse in the provincial Khanh Hoa hospital, can work fewer hours because fewer patients are allowed to come. In Vietnam you only get paid for hours worked. For Hao, this drop in income is very inconvenient. Hao lives with her parents in a house in the slum of HaRa. The government is cleaning up this slum. Hao thinks that their house will soon be demolished. Her family will then have to move to a simple apartment on the outskirts of town. Far away from Hao's hospital, the restaurant where her mother does the dishes and the workplaces of her two brothers Du (security) and Lich (household service hotel).

We have to follow all these developments remotely. There is not much we can do but give the school fees to the students in time. Luckily that goes without any problems. Our managers, the ladies Thanh and Thuy (teacher/manager Chi has retired), have taken over our tasks excellently in September. They said goodbye to 7 students who finished their 12-year regular schooling. 3 students quit and 3 went to another school. For these 13 Looking-Forward-leavers Thanh and Thuy have admitted exactly 13 new students to our school money project. We support another 85 students so our Vietnamese managers have exactly followed the rules. Chapeau!

As of September all our students are in schools in the municipality of Dien Khanh. The L-F-pupils at the Cao Thang secondary in the city of Nha Trang have been taken over by the Quan Am foundation from New Zealand. We remotely thanked the manager, Mrs. Hiep, for her years of work for our project. If we can go back next year, we will certainly thank her in person.

Normally we go every 2 years with all L-F-pupils to an amusement park for a day out. So this year we couldn't make it. That's a pity, because on such a day we get to know each other in a more informal/free way. On that day, the students are seen as a big family by us and all the supervisors/teachers who came with us. They are then happy to belong to Looking-Forward.

We will reserve the money saved in order to be able to pay for the vaccinations against the Covid-19 virus.

We were also unable to take new portrait photos for the personal supporters this year. They will have to do it this year with the group photos that our managers take every 2 months when they bring the school fees.



All in all, also for our project a very annoying year. Fortunately, the most important things continue. The students are at school and get their school fees.

◆ Financial accountability

On December 8, 2020 the sponsorship fund will amount to € 7.889,52 (incl. prepaid school fees).

School year 2020-2021 there is a total of 85 financially supported L-F-pupils = 51 girls and 34 boys. 67 students have a personal supporter, of which 11 students are sponsored by Looking-Forward United Kingdom.

Another 18 students are available for personal support.

Special donations: € 372,15 collection harvest ceremony Charitas Dongen,
€ 200,- by sponsor without a personal pupil,
Several extra donations related to Corona.

There were no special (unforeseen) expenses



Private costs are kept well separated from the Looking-Forward money.

All sponsors can have full access to the L-F accounts. The policy plan, foundation statutes and annual report 2019 are visible on our L-F website. Percentage of project management and fund administration costs compared to income in 2019 = 5.4%.

Thank you for supporting the Looking-Forward school money project in Vietnam,

WE WISH YOU A GOOD AND HEALTHY 2021

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