# Where Dreams Bloom III

Alliance Anti Trafic Vietnam 2018-2019



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# Next Steps for AAT Vietnam!

# COMBATING CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND IDENTIFYING RISKS OF TRAFFICKING

In June 2019, we attended a training given by the Interpol and the Ministry of the Interior of France. The participants included the police forces of 24 countries and 4 NGOs working in South Asia.

As a result of this training, AAT is planning to launch a new project called **Information and Collection Center**. This project will collect information to determine if a person is in danger and, if so, identify what the source of the danger is. This also includes cyber criminality.

This project will assist in providing community protection and prevention education. Through this project we will collect data and information from both direct testimonies and applications specifically made for this purpose. With help from our national and international networks, this information will allow us to request that special investigations be conducted in order to identify potential victims and criminals.

In many countries action isn't taken to prevent a crime until after it has occurred. We want to offer this type of prevention as a solution to give the community the ability to protect both themselves and others around them.

It will take some time to gain the trust of the community, however, once this is achieved, this project will be viewed as a reliable and easily accessible solution for everyone.

# A Word From the Founder of Alliance Anti Trafic

From my 38 years of social work experience in France and Vietnam I have learned that providing education to local communities is essential to equip them with the tools they need to be self sufficient. This is why, here at AAT, we prioritize community health and education as key parts of our program.

Since the creation of our last Where Dreams Bloom book we have had much growth and development in the program. We believe it's important to constantly adapt and improve in order to meet the ever changing needs of our members. Some of these changes include the involvement of more young individuals as part of our staff, increased networking opportunities for the girls, and updated prevention education training sessions.

It has been amazing to see how these changes have had a positive impact in the lives of the girls in our program.

If you would like to connect with Alliance Anti Trafic feel free to contact us.



As always, we appreciate your love and support.

**Georges Blanchard** 



# A WORD FROM THE FOUNDER OF THE TRYBA FOUNDATION

#### Ingrid Tryba

Social work has always been a major concern in our family. It was therefore logical to create our own Endowment Fund. TRYBA "A World For Children" was born in 2018 with the aim of protecting disadvantaged children. From its inception we decided to work with serious partners and take concrete action on the ground.

In 2014, we met Georges Blanchard in Vietnam. It is difficult to miss such a character and even more difficult to not respond favorably to the program "Where Dreams Bloom" that he wanted to put in place. Helping these at-risk girls is urgent and fragile work.

Four years later, we are happy and proud to have been able to lay the foundation stone of this program with Alliance Anti Trafic. Thanks to their commitment on the ground, the program is a real success, not only with children, but also with the public since the national media regularly reports on it.

We have deep respect for Georges Blanchard and thank him from the bottom of our heart for working every day to help these children build a peaceful future.

## Un mot de la fondatrice de la Fondation TRYBA, Ingrid Tryba (Texte original en Français)

L'engagement social a toujours été une préoccu- pation importante dans notre famille.

Il était donc tout à fait logique de créer notre propre Fonds de Dotation. TRYBA « A World For Children « est né en 2018, avec pour objet la protection de l'enfance défavorisée.

Dès sa création, il était décisif de travailler avec des partenaire sérieux et engager des actions con- crètes sur le terrain.

En 2014, nous avons rencontré Georges Blan- chard au Vietnam. Difficile de passer à côté d'un tel personnage et encore plus difficile de ne pas répondre favorablement au programme « Where Dreams Bloom », qu'il souhaitait mettre en place. Il était urgent de venir en aide aux fillettes à risques et tellement fragilisées.

Quatre ans plus tard, nous sommes heureux et fiers d'avoir pu poser la première pierre de ce programme avec Alliance Anti Trafic. Grâce à leur engagement sur le terrain, le programme connaît un réel succès, non seulement auprès des enfants, mais aussi auprès du public puisque les médias nationaux lui consacrent régulièrement des reportages.

Nous avons pour Georges Blanchard un profond respect et nous le remercions du fond du cœur d'œuvrer chaque jour pour aider ces enfants à se construire un avenir serein.



# The Risk of Children Whose Relatives are Involved in Prostitution



Due to their unique living environment and social relations, young girls who are the daughters and sisters of women involved in prostitution face a higher risk of sexual abuse, early sex debut and sex trafficking.

A small portion of this group has been identified as having a very high-risk group of contracting HIV/AIDS because their mothers happen to engage in prostitution and have HIV.



Despite the financial hardships that these families face, they are always there to help the girls with any emotional difficulties they might be going through. These parents selflessly continue to encourage their children to go to school because they know that's what's best for them. This family bond and support is essential for the girls to pursue a better life.

"My life is so difficult, I don't want my daughter to experience what this is like"

Each year we organize training sessions for parents to provide them with essential knowledge and skills. This information includes how to prevent common risks, reproductive health care tips, how to interact with and support their children, etc. This helps the parents have useful information to refer to when parenting their kids.

# Acknowledgements

First of all, we would like to send a special thank you to all the girls in our program for sharing their time and stories with us.

#### We would also like to extend our deepest gratitude to:

- The Hoa Mat Troi outreach team for their wonderful work in the field that connects AAT with the girls in this book.
- Mr. Georges Blanchard, AAT founder and CEO, for his dedication and selfmotivation that has been a source of inspiration for the rest of the team.
- Mr. Julien KAM for the wonderful photos that we use in this book.
- The AAT Vietnam team for their tireless efforts to run our projects and support the girls.
- We also want to give an extra special thank you to the Tryba Foundation, our donors from GlobalGiving, the French Embassy and all our other donors for supporting our work.

None of this would have been possible without each and every one of you. We cannot thank you enough.

#### **AAT Vietnam**

# PART ONE Events, Training and Activities



#### MEETING OUR PARTNERS

#### The TRYBA Foundation



We had an amazing time with Ingrid Tryba, her daughter Fanny and son-in-law Julien, who took these photos.

Many interesting activities were completed during this event. The younger girls were taught how to make Halloween masks while the older ones participated in a discussion about safe migration.

At the end of the event everyone was able to come together to talk and get to know each other for the very first time.

This is what Rose, one of the Where Dreams Bloom girls, told us after the event: "This is the first time I have talked to foreigners, it was so amazing! I will try to study English to be able to communicate better with them in the future!"



# VUNG TAU, SUMMER 2018



# Our First Summer Trip For the Program!

We felt so blessed to be able to visit Vung Tau- a beautiful city located in the South of Vietnam.

During this trip we went swimming, played on the beach, visited sheep on the countryside and ate lots of delicious food. For most of the girls, it was the first time they saw the sea.

The two-day-trip went by so quickly but the memories that we made will stay with us forever. This wonderful trip gave the girls the ability to escape their tumultuous daily life before returning to school.

The girls are all so excited to go on another trip next summer!



# Say No to Plastic!

#### Plastic Awareness Education

If you can't reuse it, refuse it! This was the slogan of our activity "Say No to Plastic" that we completed in collaboration with Zero Waste Saigon - an organization about reducing plastic waste in Vietnam. During the activity the girls learned about three main topics: what is plastic waste, why plastic harms the environment and how we can reduce our usage of plastic.

There's a lot of simple things we can do in our daily life to make the planet better. This includes educating children to ensure that we create future generations that are responsible and aware.

The children were also very excited and curious when discovering ecofriendly alternatives such as: bamboo and metal straws, tote bags and loofah bath sponges. These were all alternatives that most of them had never seen before.









# What Do You Know About Climate CLIMATE CHANGE TRENTS SESSION

Climate change is an issue that is affecting the earth every day. We've already started to see some drastic changes happening to our planet. We understand that, if we don't slow down global warming, bigger changes will come.

The girls had a chance to access lots of useful information relating to climate change through an interesting lesson taught by Mr. Vo Van Oc, a volunteer working at An Giang university. An Giang is a province in Mekong Delta which is an area that experiences many impacts of climate change.





# Meeting with a Vietnamese Teenage Idol

### Rapper Dinh Tien Dat

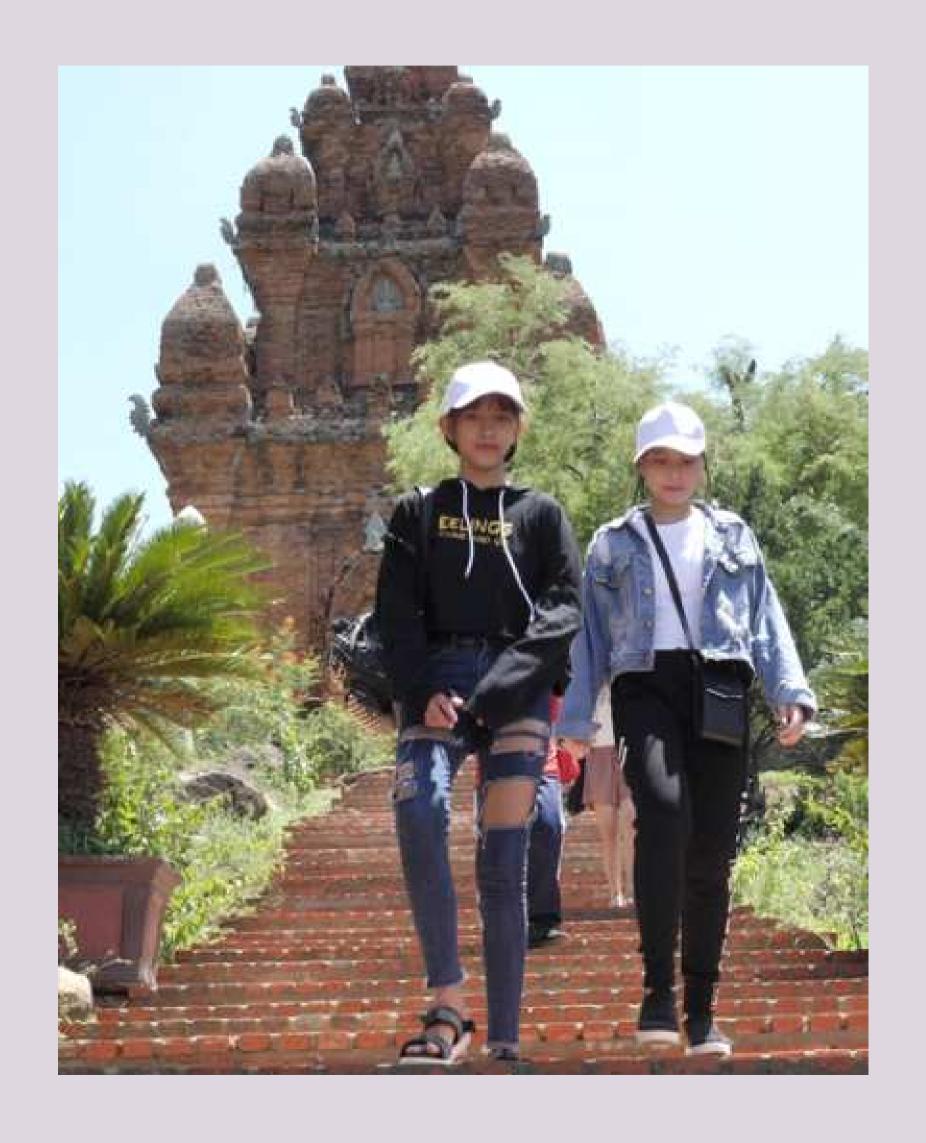
Celebrities have a powerful impact on how teenagers and children view themselves and the world. Meeting someone famous often becomes an unforgettable memory for them.

This is why, when rapper Dinh Tien Dat invited us to spend a day with him at his lộc vừng Coffee Studio, we were so happy to be able to provide this experience for the girls in Where Dreams Bloom. The girls had a wonderful time with him at the event. They were able to listen to him play guitar, enjoy the delicious drinks from his cafe, and sing lots of songs together. They had so many interesting questions planned for him and both Dinh Tien Dat and the girls had an amazing time getting to know each other.

"Success can never be achieved without hard work, so try your best and make your dreams come true"

Dinh Tien Dat.

# Three Day Trip to Phan Rang Summer 2019







Through this activity we gave the children the opportunity to extend their learning outside the classroom and step outside of their usual routine. More importantly, as a result of activities like this one, the girls become more independent and responsible young individuals.

## Celebrating the New School Year

This celebration was for the fifth birthday of the Where Dreams Bloom program since it was started in 2015. On top of celebrating we also welcomed many new members into the program. We have had a wonderful time together so far!



The celebration of the new school year takes place in August every year. During this occasion all of the girls and their parents are invited to participate in interactive activities designed to reconnect the participants.



We believe that children who spend time with their parents build a positive sense of self-worth.

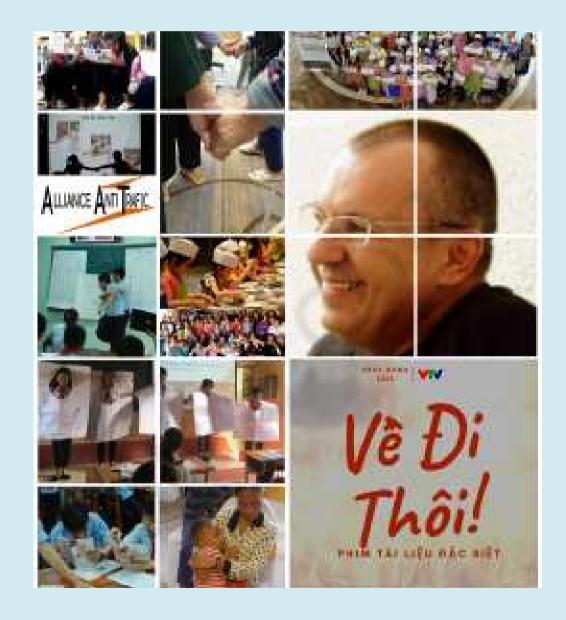
When children feel that they are valued by their parents it results in them valuing themselves more as well. Unfortunately the family members in the program usually do not have much time to interact with each other because they are busy earning a living.

This is why it's important to take every opportunity to bring these families together! During this event the parents also joined a session with our social workers to discuss effective communication techniques to utilize with their children.

# Media Coverage

The Where Dreams Bloom program and AAT's work are regularly honored by the Vietnamese media. Since May of 2018, three major documentaries have been broadcasted many times on various Vietnamese channels.





With one French book produced by Hikari Edition and 6 Vietnamese TV documentaries and press articles in 2018, AAT remains the anti trafficking NGO must exposed by Vietnamese media.

#### **HOME VISITS & FOLLOW UPS**

Regular home visits to monitor the wellbeing of the children is essential work to ensure the protection of the girls. Staff from AAT go to the girls' houses to regularly meet with them and their parents or tutors.

Staff from AAT also contacts them by phone on a weekly basis to ensure that we are providing them with timely support in case they are encountering any difficulties. This can have a huge positive impact on their lives.

Unstable and insecure housing, domestic and school violence, debt, the pressure of lenders and sick family members are the most common challenges faced by these families everyday. These problems are a source of pressure and anxiety for the children which makes it virtually impossible for them to grow up in peace. These children must be adults before being children.

Talking with family members, providing resources to psychological counseling and giving support for the children helps these families to overcome their difficulties.







#### **VOLUNTEERS**

We are happy to welcome more young people to participate in the program this year. These volunteers are Vietnamese and foreign students studying social majors at varying universities. They are seeking out opportunities to improve the world by volunteering their service and skills to projects they deem to be important. This experience also helps them fulfill the requirements of their schools.





The girls in the Where Dreams Bloom program love talking and sharing their stories with the volunteers because the smaller age gap allows them to bond more easily.

The Where Dreams Bloom program is not just an education support program. Education is the means. The goal is more than only supporting the schooling of the kids. We know that through mentorship the children will be able to enrich their social network and gain more valuable knowledge. This is why we believe it is a positive sign to have more young people on board. Having younger people involved in our organization gives us the opportunity to have a plethora of ideas and values as a part of AAT.

# PART 2 THE FLOWERS OF WHERE DREAMS **BLOOM** 28



"If I had a wish I would be the richest woman in the world so that I could build many houses for seniors and create employment that would help them earn enough money for a better life. I would also help all the poor children in my country to go to school. When I grow up I want to become a talented doctor."

## Words from Peony

"I live with my grandma, my parents, two siblings and an uncle. The three words I would use to describe my family are warm, unique and caring. Everyone likes to believe that their family is unique I think.

I hope that everyday of my life will begin with a delicious breakfast and a cup of chocolate.

I really love practicing aerobics even though sometimes I can't perform hard movements well and receive criticism from my teachers. Despite this, I have never been discouraged. I try my best to overcome obstacles by doing extra practice at home."

Peony describes herself as:

PLAYFUL LOYAL & CONSISTENT



"I live with my grandparents and my older sister and brother. My grandmother is the first person to listen to me and talk with me when I go to school or play. Sometimes my sister and I act like Tom and Jerry, we dispute about stupid things but I always know that she loves me very much."

### Words from Camellia

"What I am most proud of about myself is that I am intelligent.

However, I sometimes have difficult lessons that I cannot solve myself and I will ask my sister how to do those exercises. I do this because she is very intelligent and always knows how to solve it.

I think my family is great. They are easy to get along with and the happiest people in the world. This is because my grandmother and my sister never force me to do anything I do not like. Every evening they like to play with me after I finish my homework.

If I had super powers I would make sure I stay in good health so I can study, go out to various places to have fun, and help my grandmother to do the housework."

Camilla describes herself as:

CUTE FUNNY & ORNERY



"I like when other people share private feelings or show confidence in me. This is because when my friends agree to share their feelings with me I feel important to them and that makes me proud of myself. Even though I may not help them to overcome difficulties, I will stay by their side to encourage them and help them be stronger and braver."

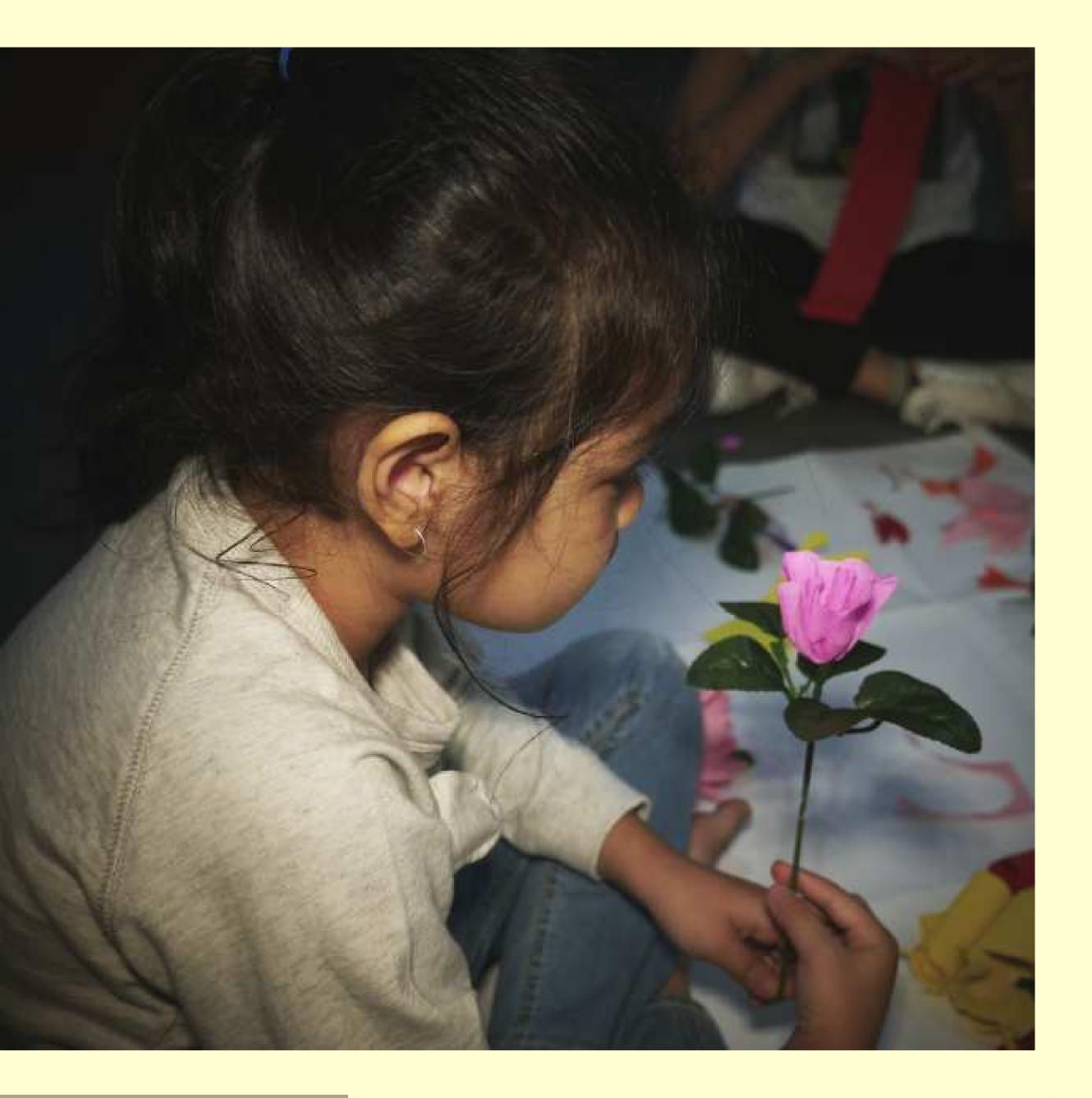
#### Words from Clover

'I am living with my mom. She is a strong woman that makes me extremely happy and proud of my family. Once I had to go to a picnic organized by my school and I missed her a lot. I wanted to chat with her and tell her funny stories or about what I found interesting on my journey. She is not only my beloved mother but also a friend who understands me.

It seems celebrities have so much influence on people. That's why I want to become a famous actress when I grow up. I will have lots of fans and capture and keep attention from my audiences. With my reputation I will get people involved in charities to help disadvantaged people and raise money to build houses for the poorest people."

Clover describes herself as:

LOVELY GENEROUS & SYMPATHETIC



# Words from Mimosa

"If I had enough money I would buy a house for my parents and sister. That way my family wouldn't need to rent houses to live in anymore.

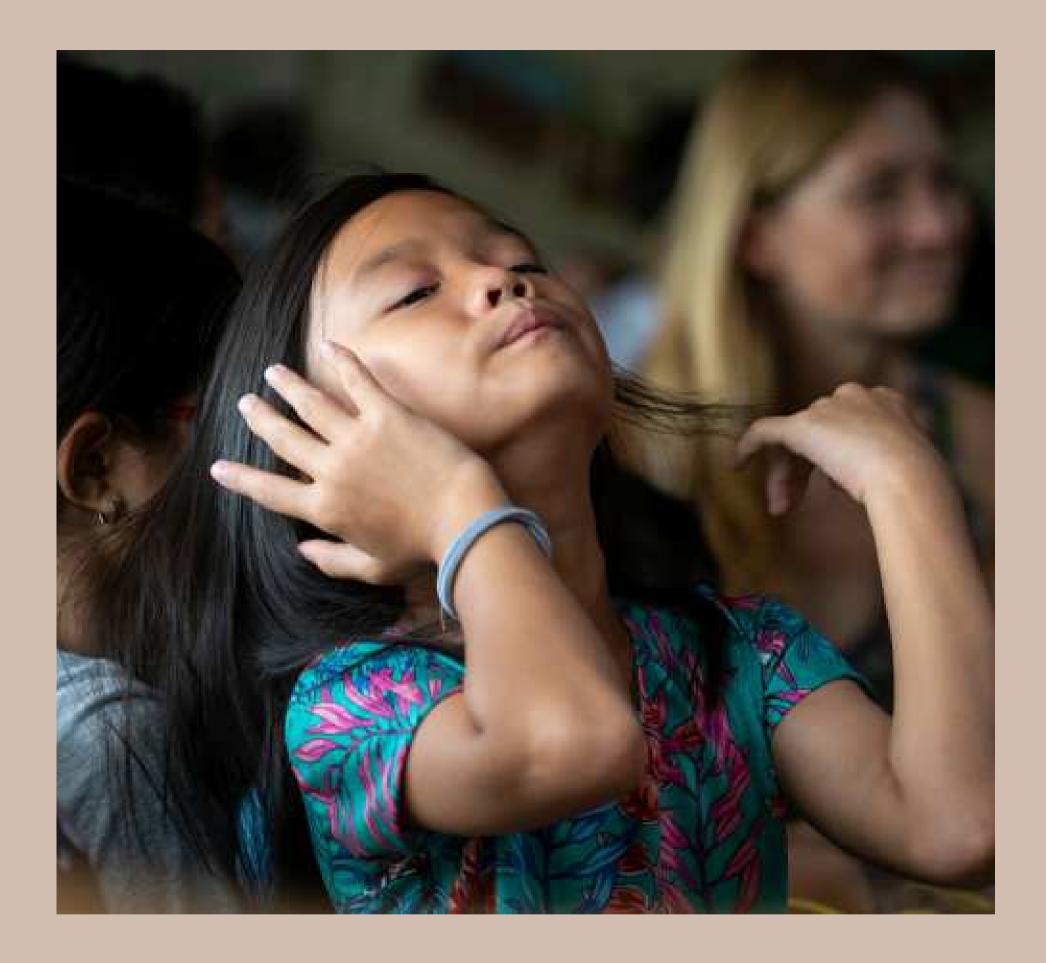
My sister studies very well. When my homework is too difficult, she always guides me to solve it easily, which gives me a sense of security and pride when I go to school.

I really want to be a good student like my sister so that I can become a doctor."

Mimosa says that her friends often tell her that her skin is as white as the "Princess Snow White."

She describes herself as:

# BEAUTIFUL LOVELY & WHITE



"Every day, when I return from school, I tell stories about my friends and teachers to my grandmother. She listens to me the most and always gives the best advice. If there is a wish, I would like to be talented like "Elsa - the Queen of Ice". This would be great because I could turn myself into an ice castle that everyone could visit. I admire and appreciate my mother because she gave birth to me and I love everything about her."

# Words from Daffodil

"The three words I would use to describe my family are sympathetic, close, and trustworthy.

I would like everyone in my family to eat together more often and take me to visit the Landmark 81 tower. I want to visit this tower because I have never been there before and it seems very interesting.

I live with my grandmother, aunt, uncle and mother. My aunt often compares me to a toothpick, because I refuse to eat too much.

When I grow up I want to be a good doctor so that I can care for people."

Daffodil describes herself as:

TALKATIVE CHEERFUL & VIVACIOUS



"Something that makes me proud of myself is that I always get good grades. Once I represented my school by participating in a educational competition and I felt so happy. This is not only because I got ots of rewards, but also because my parents can be proud of their daughter".

## Words from Rose

"I feel fortunate and happy to live with my grandparents, my parents and my little sister. My parents have to go to work everyday and my sister and I are frequently at home with our grandparents, which makes us closer to them.

I always try to study hard and be a dutiful child so that I am a good example for my little sister. I spend time taking care of her and helping her with her hard homework. My mother has to work hard to support our family and, since I know that, I hope I can ease my mother's burden.

When I grow up, I will become a warm-hearted and skillful doctor. I want to save lives and help those who cannot afford to pay for treatment, especially the little ones who get life-threatening illness."

She describes herself as:

CONFIDENT COMMITTED & SOCIAL



"Even though sometimes I feel very tired and fall into a state of self-isolation, those feelings fade with time. Enduring so much emotion has made me become more mature and independent than most of my friends. In the future, I desire to be a lawyer to prove the ability and capacity of women in Vietnamese society, thereby inspiring other women about what a woman can do to protect her rights."

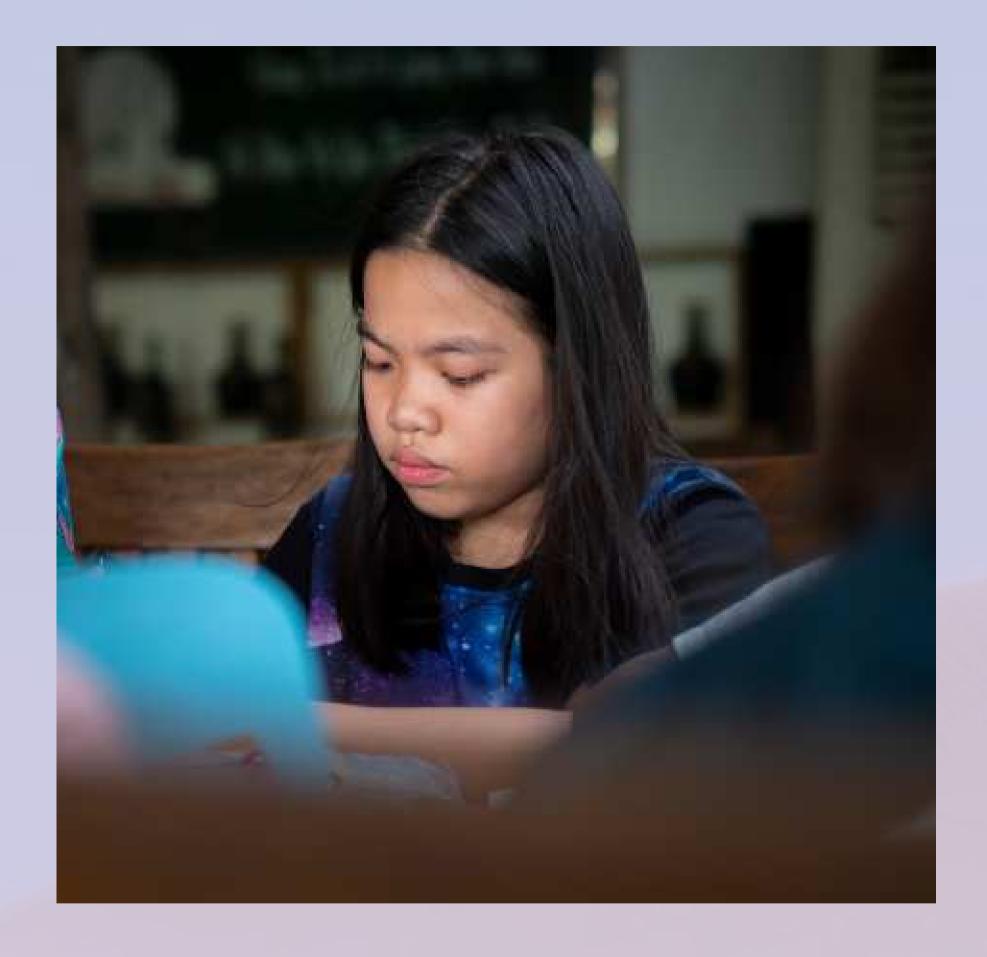
# Words from Petunia

"I am living with my parents, grandmother, uncle and two little siblings. My sister and I always try to win medals in aerobic competitions and be good students. This makes our parents extremely happy and proud. My mother dedicated her whole life to our success and, despite the difficult life our family has faced, we don't have to be seen as inferior to our friends. My mother is also an impressive and old- fashioned person. She has very high expectations for us which sometimes puts pressure on me.

I want to go to school more because at school I can play and socialize which makes me feel more comfortable and less confined. I often say that I must stay strong. I am self aware and have the motivation to comfort and encourage myself to overcome difficulties in my life."

Petunia describes herself as:

POSITIVE HONEST & PATIENT



"The thing that makes me most proud of myself is that I always get promoted to the next grade with good examination results. I am an A-level student! However, I did not get a good grade last semester so now I need to put in more effort to retrieve my level."

# Words from Gardenia

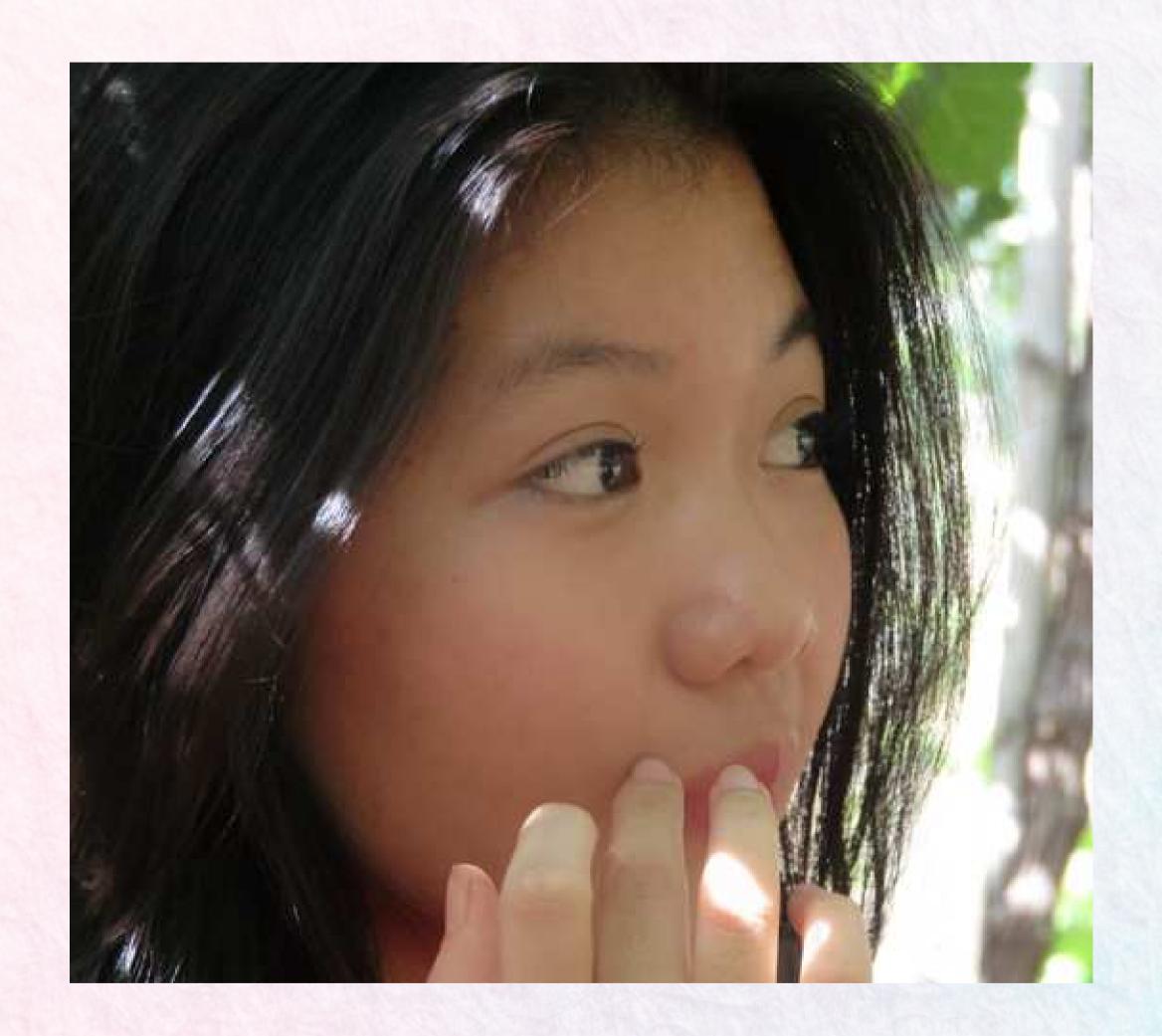
"I live in a kind family with my mom and dad. After work my parents come back home late in the evening. We rarely have the opportunity to have dinner together but they still make time to talk with me before going to sleep.

My family is always filled with laughter. I believe laughing together builds a strong family bond and makes memories that could not be forgotten.

It has always been a dream of mine to become a singer because singing is my passion and my way to express myself. I sing a lot, but it's always when no one else is around except my dad and mom. I am a shy person and singing in front of people is just not possible for me. Hopefully one day I can build up enough courage so that my hand will stop shaking every time I sing in front of others. Then I can show them how important singing is to me."

Gardenia describes herself as:

STRAIGHTFORWARD LOYAL & WISE



## Words from Iris

"I am living with my mother. She is a strong woman who provides a home life that I am extremely happy with and proud of. She works hard, overcomes all difficulties, and sacrifices everything for me. I really love my mother. She is a very young single mother and had to raise me alone.

I am a person who likes to explore, get along and love life. I like new things and discovering how to make life colorful and exciting. I'm not a confident person but I love both myself and everyone around me.

What I am most proud of myself for is being kind. I am always ready to help when others are in need. I would never do anything to harm others even if it would be beneficial to me. In the future I will try to study well to become a businesswoman and make a lot of money. With my money I will open a counseling center to help women living in distressing circumstances."

Iris describes herself as:

SOCIAL CURIOUS & POSITIVE



# Words from Primrose

"I live with my mother and my little brother. The three words that perhaps most describe my family are happy, harmonious and forceful. My mother is the most beautiful woman in the world to me. She is both gentle and devoted to do the best for her children and I am proud of her. I only hope that my mother can spend more time caring for me. This way she can understand my ideas and the feelings I experience as a teenage girl.

Every morning when I wake up I am positive, happy and in a good mood. I wish to be extremely intelligent so that I can solve all the complicated problems that my teachers assign to me. That would be wonderful!

I do not know what I will become in the future. I hope I can go to many places in the world to help people living in difficult circumstances. I also want to use my knowledge to help my community reach its full potential."

Primrose describes herself as:

STRAIGHTFORWARD HONEST & LOVELY



"In the future, I want to become a veterinarian because I love animals. I find small animals so cute and they often bring happiness to humans. If I could, I would give a pet for lonely people that could soothe and accompany them so they would not feel lonely anymore."

# Words from Violet

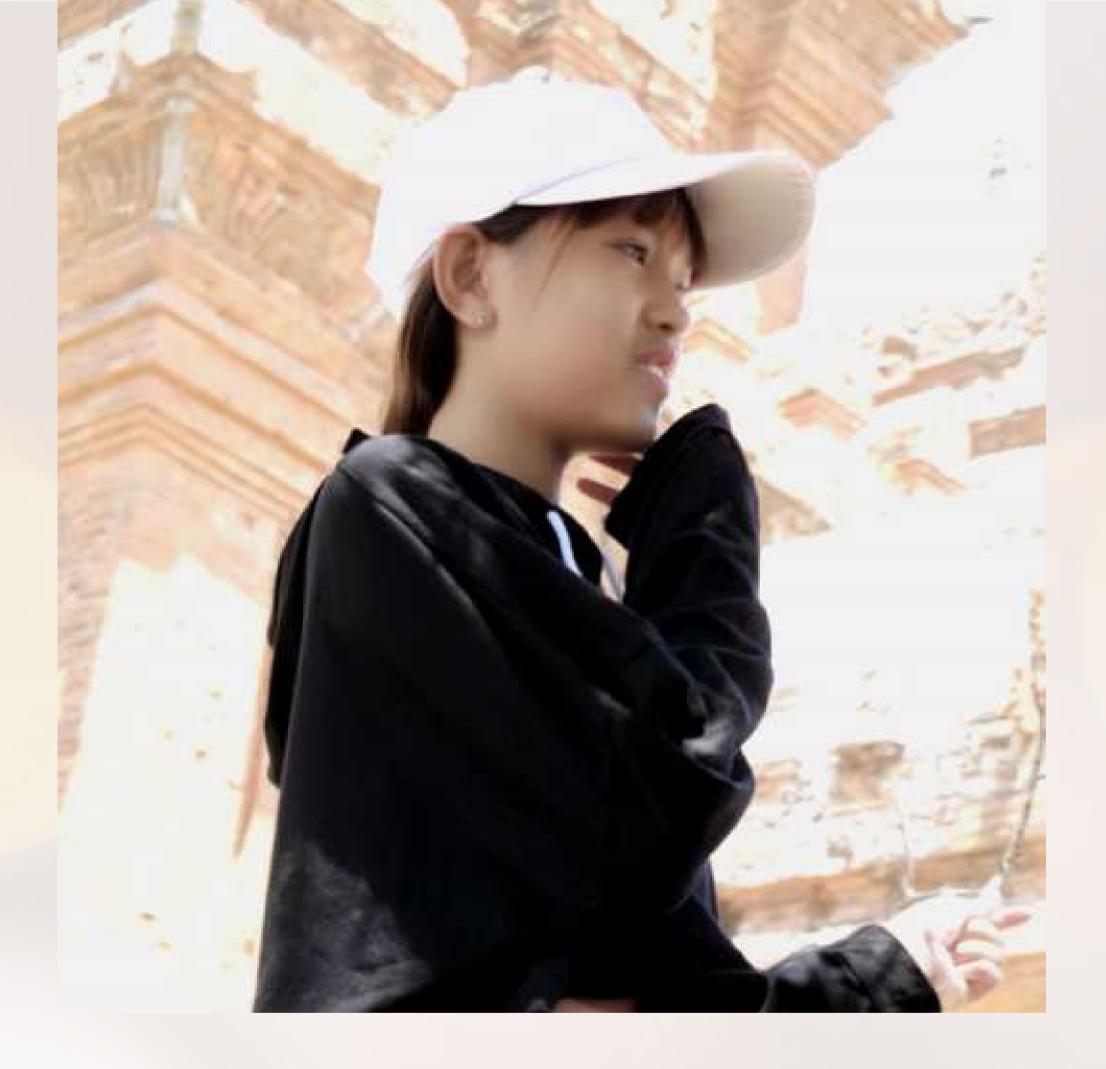
"I am living with my grandparents. I am very sad that I live far away from my parents. However, I am also very happy because I have grandparents that love and take care of me.

My grandparents are old and their health is not as good as it used to be. I want to grow up quickly to help them more. My grandma taught me to be a good person and to help and love people, which is what I am very proud of myself for.

I don't usually get to spend much time with my grandparents. This is why dinner is the happiest part of my day because it's when I am able to sit and watch television with them."

Violet describes herself as:

CONFIDENT LOVELY & HAPPY



"When I grow up, I want to become a baker. I will offer birthday cakes for my family and friends. If I have enough money, I will also help girls experiencing difficulties to go to school. I will do this because knowledge is essential and it will help them to have a more stable job".

# Words from Peach Blossom

"I live with my grandparents, younger sister and brother. When I am with my family I feel happy and fortunate because I can feel the love everyone has for each other. If there were three words to describe my family it would be happiness, solidarity and (sometimes) anger.

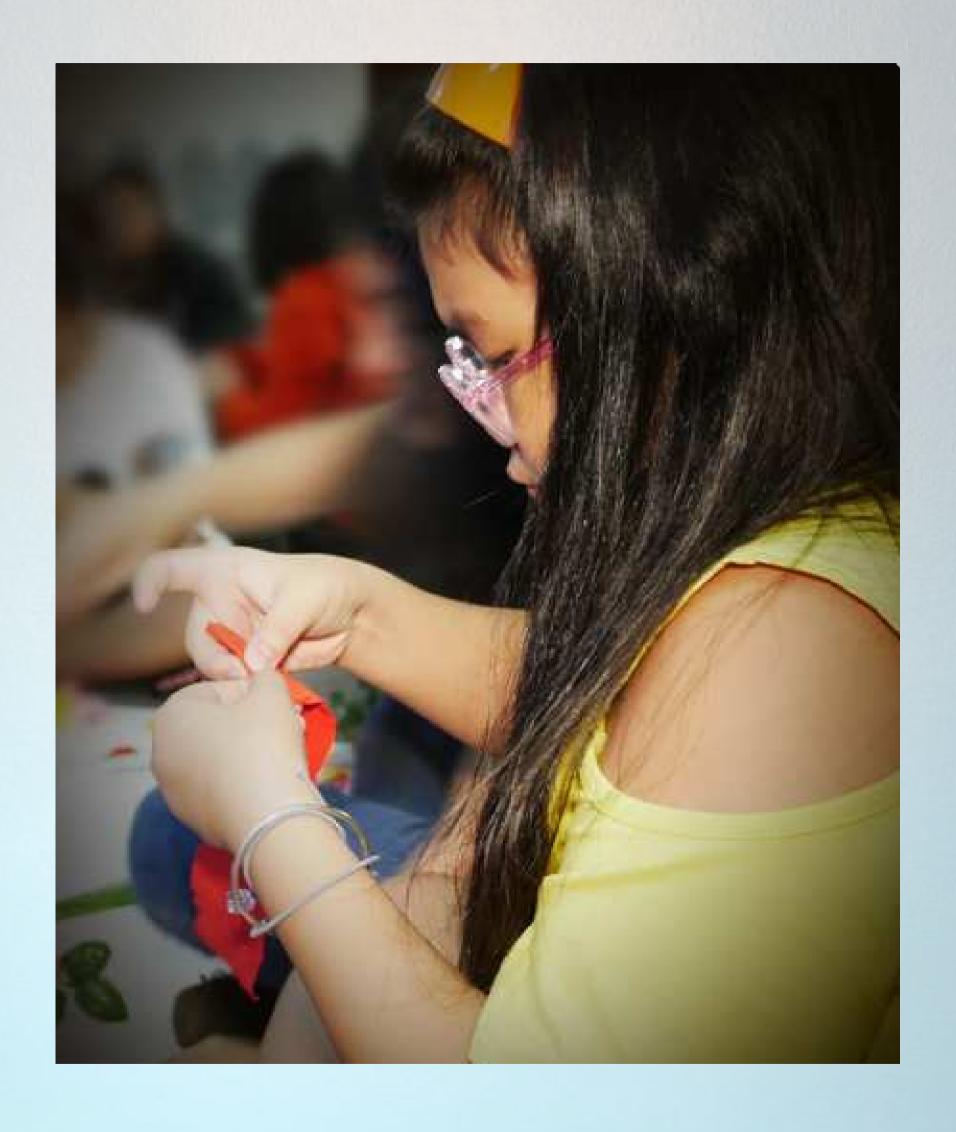
Happiness is when you want soup and your grandmother cooks it for you. It's when you play hide-and-seek with your brother and sister. It's also when your sister pleads for your defense when you get bullied or threatened by other kids.

Last week I saved enough money to buy a canteen water bottle to take to school. This will help me limit my use of plastic by not buying a new bottled water every day. It is also a good method to save money.

I always offer other students in my class my lessons to copy if they miss school because I do not want to be selfish. I am very proud of myself for doing this."

Peach Blossom describes herself as:

FRIENDLY KIND & COST SAVING



# Words from Jonquil

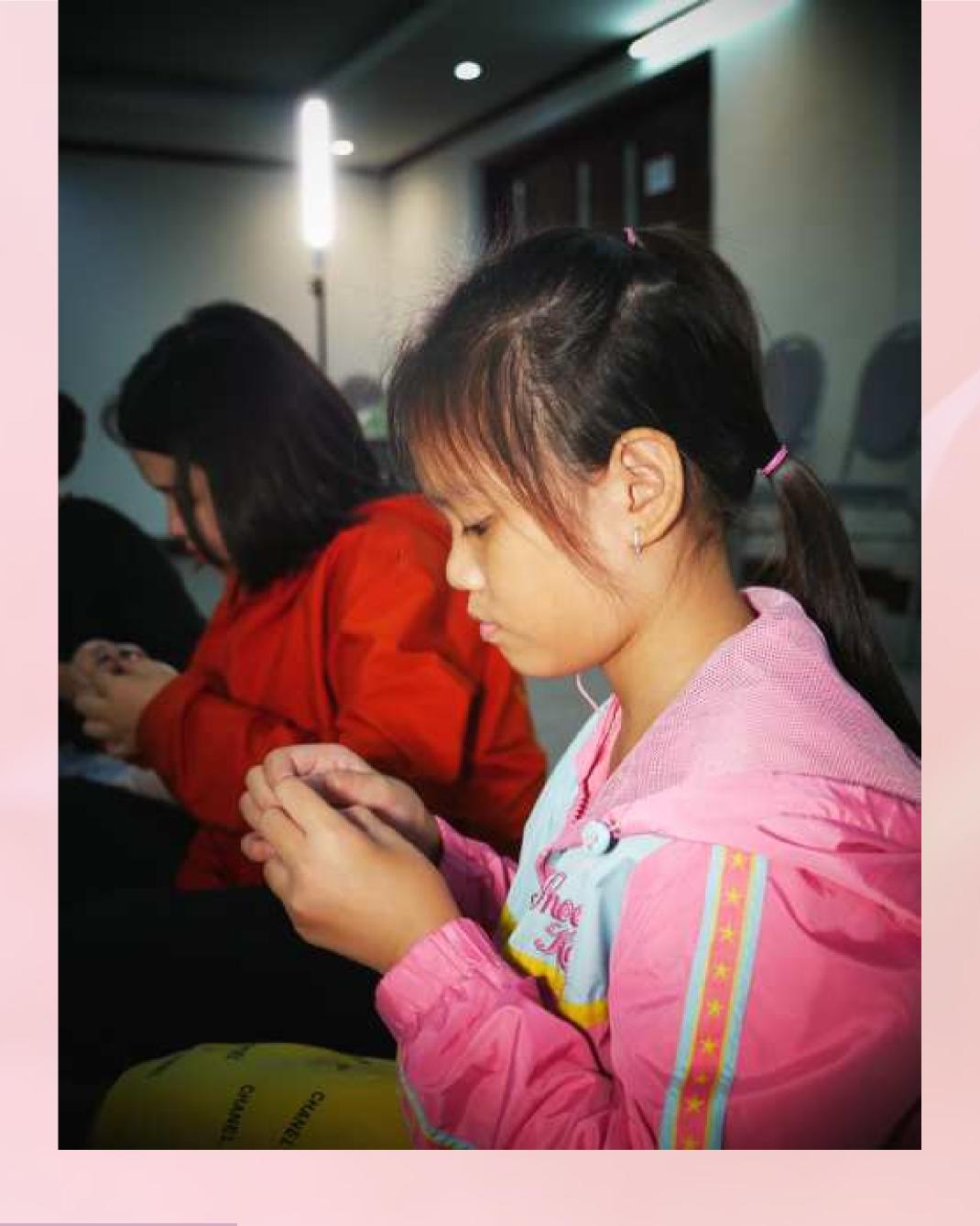
"I am living with my mother, auntie, and older brother. The three words to describe my family are: loving, happy, and sympathetic. Although I cannot live with my father, I am happy that my brother loves me very much. He is 10 years older than me but he always spends time playing with me after work. He is also a good at rollerblading.

At home my aunt is my protective mother and takes care of me every day. My mother is very busy with her work, but she usually prepares my food before leaving home. I'm a little sad to see that my mother has so little time for me. We see each other for barely 2 hours a day because I'm at school when she comes back in the morning.

If I had a wish, I would wish that I could see my mom first thing in the morning when I wake up. When I grow up I want to become a doctor so I can help poor girls by treating them without getting money. I could also take care of my mom when she is not feeling well."

Jonquil describes herself as:

OUTGOING DILIGENT & CAREFUL



# Words from Carnation

"I am living with my mom and older sister. Three words to describe my family are: happy, comfortable and joyful.

Let's start talking about my mom! She is an indulgent mother and never uses any strong language with me or my sister. Once I do something wrong she just softly explains to me why it was wrong and helps me to learn from my experience. I think she seems more like a companion to us than our mother but we are still good kids! I am happy that my sister and I can help my mom with housework so she can have more time to take a rest after work.

I have a best friend that I have known for 8 years. It's been a long time and I really appreciate this relationship. For me, friendship is very important. Being a great friend to someone and having friends to help you is a wonderful experience in life."

Carnation describes herself as:

SOCIABLE HAPPY & OPEN-MINDED



"I always try to keep smiling and be happy and social with others because a negative attitude has undesirable impacts on relationships with friends and relatives. I am proud of myself for being a person who is able to sympathize and easily share things with others."

# Words from Jasmine

"I am living with my parents and my older brother. If someone else asks me "How do you feel about your family?" I definitely answer that my family is "Great! Wonderful! More than wonderful!" I love everyone. I especially love to talk with my mother who is a very good psychologist.

My mother wants me to be a good student. She always motivates me instead of forcing me to study too hard because she does not want to make me stressed. In opposition, my father is the person I am most afraid of. He is a very hot-tempered person but I still love him. Dishes he cooks are delicious! Hidden behind his indifferent expression, I can feel his sincerity.

When I grow up I would like to be a lawyer. I will defend and assist those who have a difficult life and are victims of injustice. I will protect the rights of vulnerable people, like women and children, against those who violate their rights. In order to make my dream come true, I will always be a friendly and generous person."

Jasmine describes herself as:

GOOD-HEARTED FASTIDIOUS & STRAIGHTFORWARD



"When I grow up, I want to be a Vietnamese teacher and help children who have no access to school, especially in rural areas".

# Words from Calla

"I live with my mother and my younger sister. My family is very happy and harmonious. We never quarrel together, probably because we are three girls (laughs).

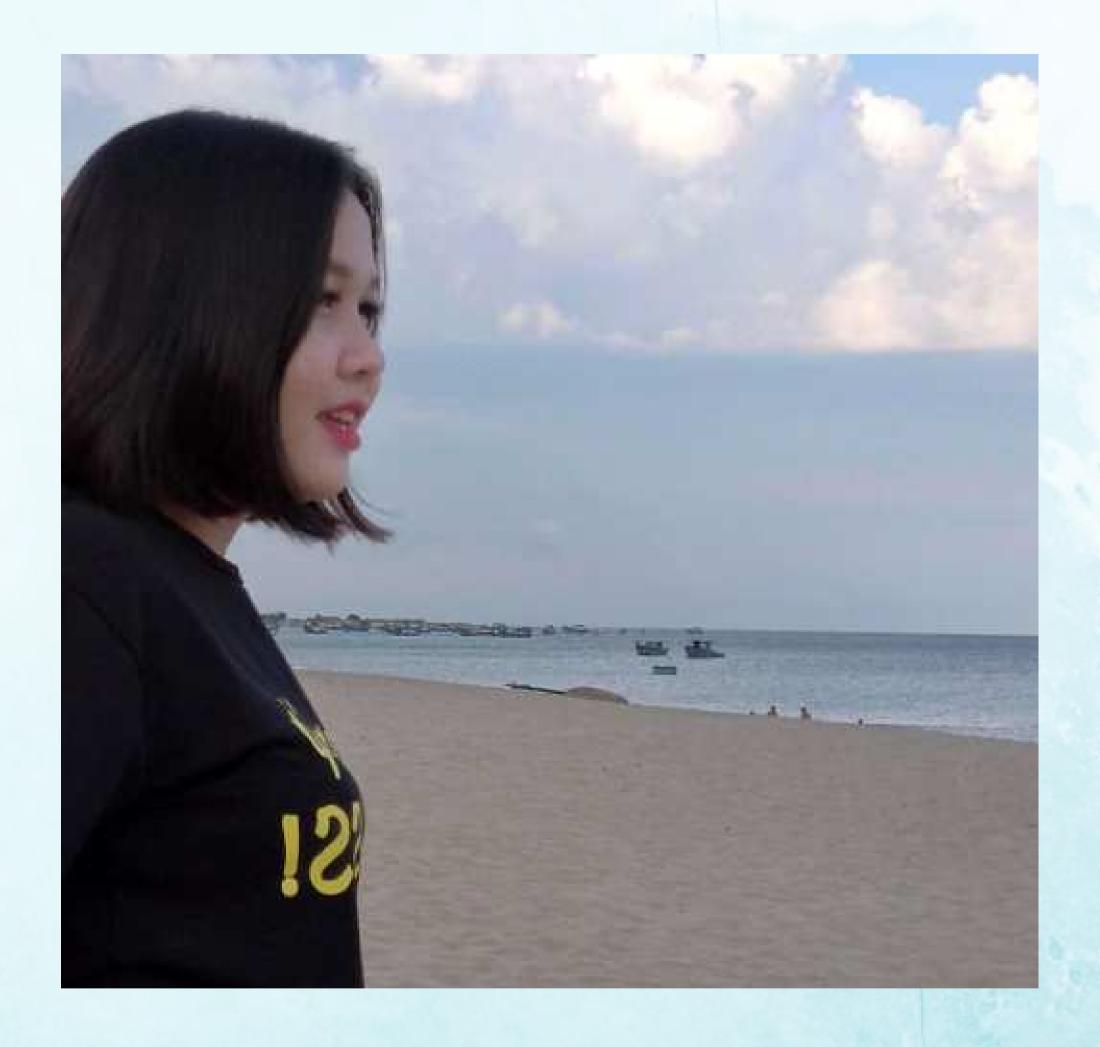
I know that my mother works hard to find enough money for us to survive. I always try to be quiet and study hard so my mother will feel happy.

If I had a wish, I would like to rebuild my house. I would build an extra floor with a separate room for my mother and another for my sister and I. The walls would be painted blue and there would also be a desk to do our school work and a television.

What I am most proud of is having a very pretty little sister who lives with me every day."

Calla describes herself as:

CUTE QUIET & SOCIABLE



"I am proud to be a good person. I may have inherited that from my mother. She always teaches me "others come first". I not only learned words from my mother, but also practices. When I was a little girl, I remember that she took me to charity events to help the poor."

# Words from Acacia

"I live with my mother, my big brother and two more cousins.

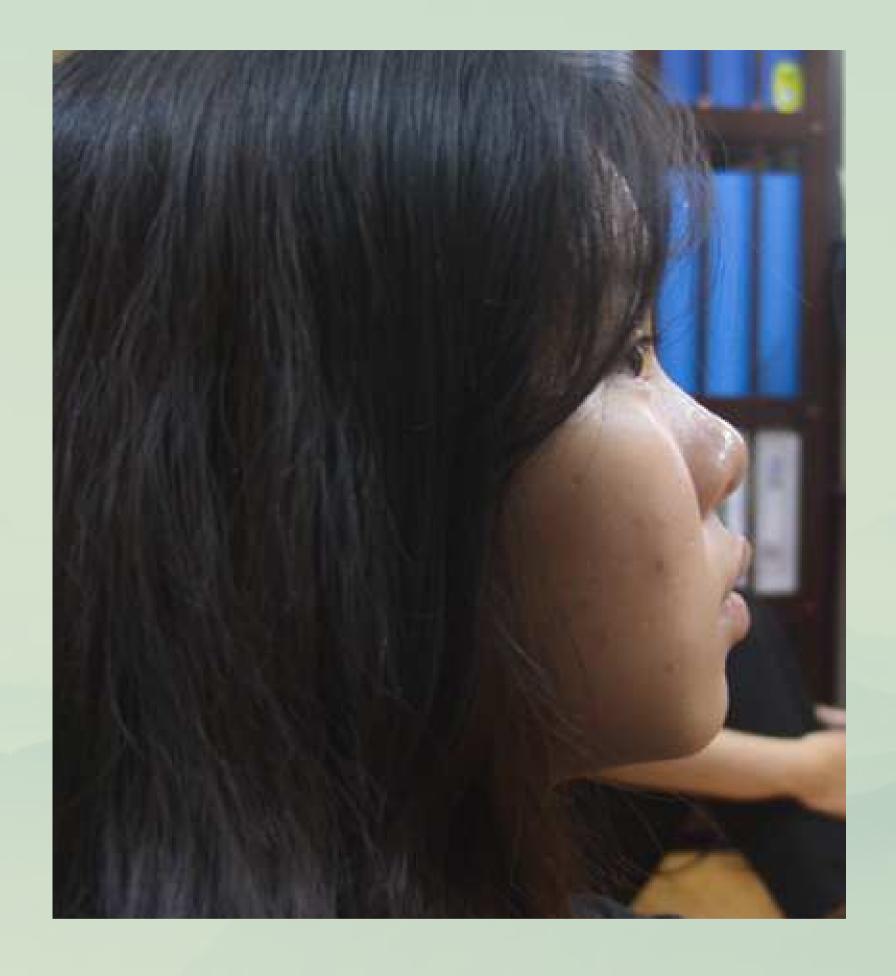
In my family all of us live happily and comfortably together, despite the fact my cousins have now been living with us for a while. Of course we sometimes have quarrels together, but we can always overcome that because we are all family.

My mother and my brother have to go to work every day and so my cousins and I have a lot of time together at home. I'm very happy to play with them and I'm sure that they like it too. Maybe it's easy to share our secrets and passions together because they're just a year older than me, I guess (smiling).

When I'm an adult, I want to become a performant social worker like my mother."

Acacia describes herself as:

HAPPY EASYGOING & SHY



"I do not know which job I will do in the future, but I will definitely become a good citizen. In addition to the main job, I will work as a volunteer participating in many activities to support girls who have a difficult life."

# Words from Ivy

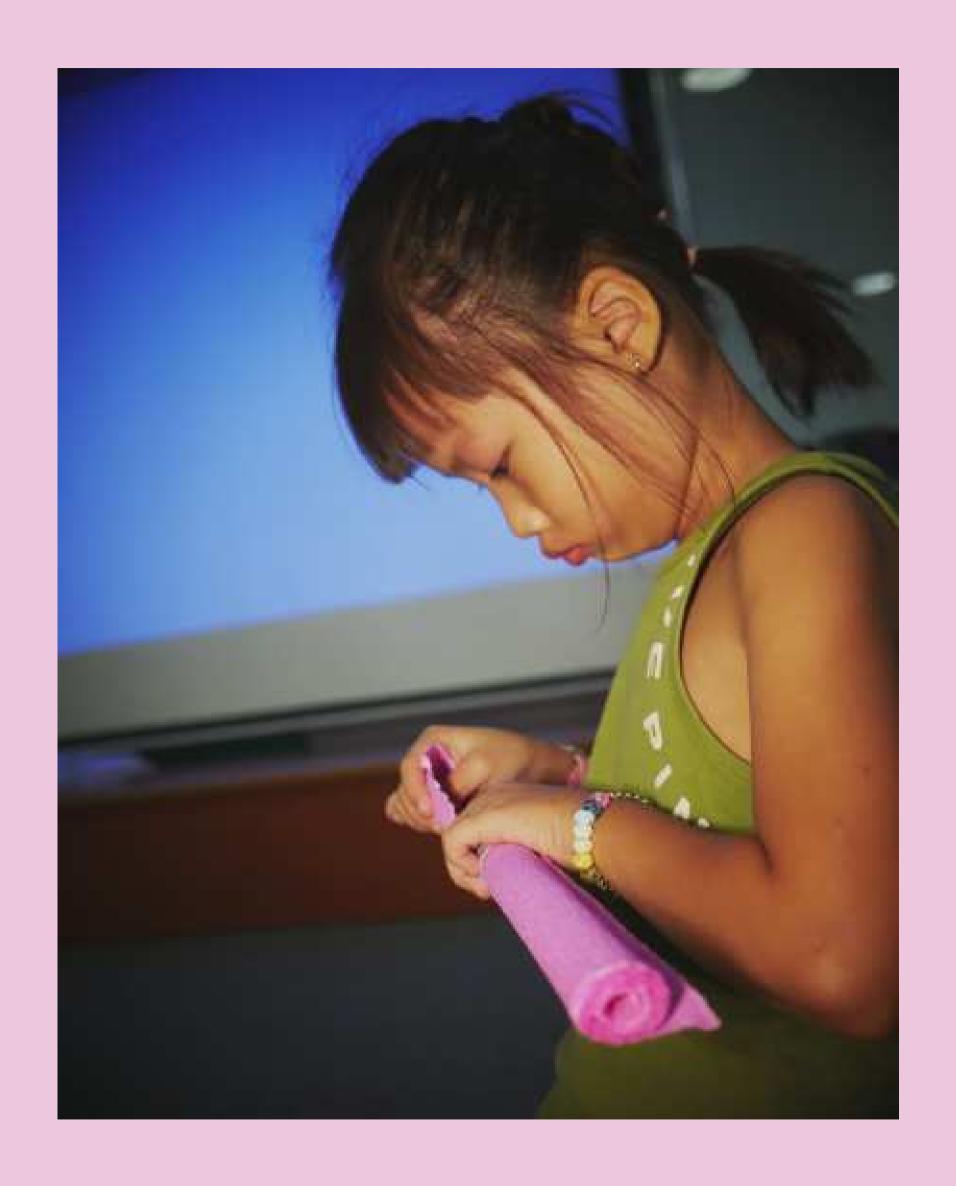
"I am living with my auntie, my older brother and two cousins. Three words to describe my family are happy, understanding and trustworthy. My aunt is like a second mother to me who takes care of me like her own daughter. Every time I am sad or happy I tell her everything because she is understands me the best. I am grateful to her for taking care of me and my brother. I want to grow up quickly so that I can show my gratitude and recompense her nurturing and love.

People often tell me that I am easygoing. However, I have a bit of an inferiority complex because I think that I am not beautiful and live in difficult circumstances. I always try to study well and get along with people to increase my self-confidence.

I passed a prestigious high school by working hard, which is what I am most proud of myself for."

Ivy describes herself as:

SOCIABLE GENTLE & EASYGOING



## Words from Crocus

"I live with my parents and brother. Everyday when I wake up and see them, I feel very happy. My family often eats and watches TV together. In the morning my parents go to work for the day and my brother and I go to school. Every summer I stay with my grandmother. I am happy everywhere I go because I am around my loving family.

When my brother and I play hide and seek, he is usually the one who searches for me. Most of the time he cannot find me. I don't penalize him when this happens because I love him.

Out of all the colors, my favorite is pink because of how beautiful it is. When I am an adult I want to become a painter and artist. The first thing I want to draw is my mother because I love her the most. After I draw her, I will hang the picture in my house because everyone in my family loves her as well."

Crocus describes herself as:

BEAUTIFUL SHY & SMART



# PART 3

FORMER PARTICIPANTS



"I work to assist my mother with her business in Ho Con Rua place. I am very happy to be able to support her, communicate with many people and gain business experience. Although I am sad because I cannot go to school, I am also very proud of myself for having real life experiences in society.

Three words that describe myself are: timid, uncertain and sociable.

I live happily with my family. I feel more confident and joyful when I'm with them. My mother cares for me the most and I have a very cute and mischievous little sister."

"What I want to tell the girls in the Where Dreams Bloom program is that you should be happy every day no matter what happens. It is especially important to smile more because smiling can help you relieve sadness. I tried it and it worked!"



"What I want to tell the younger girls in Where Dreams Bloom is this: Do not stop dreaming and try your best every day to make your dreams come true."

"I am a first year accounting student at a University. I remember how stressful exams were for me because I wanted to do well so I could make my dream come true. Now i'm happy to have achieved what I hoped for, thanks to AAT and my own efforts.

I wish that I could do something meaningful in the future like what I have learned from the Where Dreams Bloom program such as fighting for women's rights or protecting our environment.

I also want to become a self-made person and get a stable job to help my family and girls who are under difficult circumstances just like me."



"I am studying Japanese Language in Ho Chi Minh city's University at the moment. I live with my mother and brother. Three words that can describe me are simple, hardworking and humble. I like having a comfortable spot to sit and read books. I then think about all the things I have read so that I can learn from it.

When I feel tired I usually like to listen to music without words and write in my diary. In the future, I want to have a permanent job in a Japanese company and, after gaining enough experience, I will find a scholarship to study in Japan."

"My message to the children of the Where Dreams Bloom program is: Do not think about going to school everyday but instead think about your life experiences. Seeing your friends on a daily basis is an opportunity to discover new things together."



"I currently live with my grandmother, mother and two sisters.

I am 17 years old and studying for a job where I do eyelash extensions with the support of AAT. They support me by paying for my tuition and equipment so that I can attend this course. I am taking this course because it is something I think I will be good at. I worked at a shop near my home for a while before deciding to officially go to school.

I think this career will provide a more stable source of income to help take care of my mother and sister. After school I won't need to open a salon or buy complicated and expensive equipment. I will be able to either go to the customer's house or work from home.

I see myself as an impatient but passionate and emotional person.

I am happy with my life now because I am doing what I like and have the motivation to be successful. If I had one wish I would open my own eyelash extension shop (laughs). After that, I would have enough money to share my mother's financial burdens."

"My advice for the girls in the program would be for them to stay strong. I would also tell them that when they get to high school they should start thinking about their future. That way they can have more time to plan for their dreams."



"I am a social, happy and enthusiastic person. I am proud of myself because I know that I can live independently and take care of my needs. I am proud of this because my independence helps me grow up which, in turn, helps my mother and sister.

I want to adopt my own way of life so that others can look at it and understand that women are also intelligent, strong and resilient and do not need to rely on anyone. Women do not need to be beautiful but need to be polite and knowledgeable. It is especially important to always love your life and love the people around you.

I hope the little girls joining this program try to learn as much as they can and that they all love their parents and grandparents."

"What I would tell them is this: If you have a dream, then you should confidently pursue it. However, if you do not have a dream, do not worry. Just study, explore and discover everything around yourself. At some point you will have your own dream."



#### Lilac

After graduating from high school AAT connected and supported Lilac in applying for a scholarship from the Tuoi Tre newspaper to help her continue her education. She is currently living with her mother and, in addition to attending school, she has a part-time job as a cashier at a convenience store. She will graduate from college by the end of this year with a degree in international trade. She plans to work at a logistics company in the future.



# Magnolia

Magnolia recently passed the college entrance exam in order to major in Marketing. She is currently a first year student at a university in Ho Chi Minh City. As a result of her family being in a good economic position, her mother was able to pay for her college education. She is looking for a part-time job in order to earn an income for herself, grow as a person and gain more work experience.



#### Lotus

In early 2018, Lotus and her family moved back to the countryside from Ho Chi Minh due to personal reasons. With the lower cost of living and help from relatives in the countryside, they could afford to cover their daughter's tuition. They hope that AAT will use their resources to provide support to other girls who need it more.

# Hyacinth

We lost contact with Hyacinth one month after she graduated high school. Her mother and grandmother wanted her to find a job so she could help support her family. She had expressed that she did not want to start working so our staff met with her to advise on future plans and introduce her to the vocational programs of LP4Y (Life Project 4 Youth). Unfortunately, we lost contact with her and her mother because their family changed their address and phone number.

#### Lavender

Lavender left the program almost two years ago because her family was able to cover her school tuition by themselves. She is now living with her aunt and grandmother in Ho Chi Minh city. Lavender passed the college entrance exam with high scores so now she can become a first year student at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities.

## Buttercup

In 2016 Buttercup received support from AAT to attend a course where studied to become a nail technician. She finished the course with good scores and worked as a nail artist for two years before deciding to work at her friend's factory. She chose to do this so that she could save money to open her own nail salon in the future. One of the things she told our staff was: "I am proud of myself because I am in control of my life and I know what I want to do".

# Marigold

Since graduating highschool Marigold has been working as a cashier at a supermarket. She is happy with her life because she is doing what she wants and is able to earn a living by herself.

# Alliance Anti Trafic Programs

# Child Protection Program and French Award

#### **Child Protection**

Where Dreams Bloom: counseling, scholarships, trainings, life skills, and support. The girls in this program are considered at risk and are between the ages of 7 and 18.



#### **Award of the French Trophies**

2019: AAT Vietnam has been nominated laureate of the Social and Humanitarian Award of the French Trophies of Asia and Oceania.



# Prevention and Training Programs

#### **Training the Trainers**

1,473 civil servants and community trainers trained to provide prevention education and protection in their communities.

Training other trainers gives AAT the ability to have a much greater impact.



#### **Preventative Education**

113,079 people trained, Children at school, Young adults, parents, Ethnic minority groups: Pa Cô, Tà Ôi, Cơ Tu, Pa Hy and Bru Vân Kiều

Programs in Ho Chi Minh City, Thanh Hoa, Thua Thien Hue, Binh Thuan, Hau Giang and Quang Ninh.



# Human Trafficking and Outreach Programs

#### **Human Trafficking**

**5,579** victims of trafficking supported. This includes boys, men and women who have all recieved training and assistance from AAT. Repatriation made from 22 countries.



# Prostitution Outreach by Peer Educators

The program provides harm reduction activities, prevents the risk of HIV/AIDS transmission, finds alternative income solutions, and provides assistance for women and girls involved in prostitution.

62,288 meetings with women and girls.



# Thank you!

Over these past five years we have experienced so much love and beautiful memories with our beneficiaries and partners. We are proud to see that, despite our small team and very low budget, our projects have still had a huge impact.

These girls would not have access to the abundance of opportunties and experiences they recieve if it wasn't for generous supporters like you.

We greatly appreciate each and every one of you.

If you are not yet a sponsor of our program and are interested in supporting a child from this book please contact us at the email listed below.

Email: vnaction@allianceantitrafic.org

Website: allianceantitrafic.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/aatvietnam/

#### Contact us:

# ALLIANCE ANTI TRAFIC

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Binh Thanh District, Ho Chi Minh City.



