



Nguyễn Thanh Bình

Little Chorus

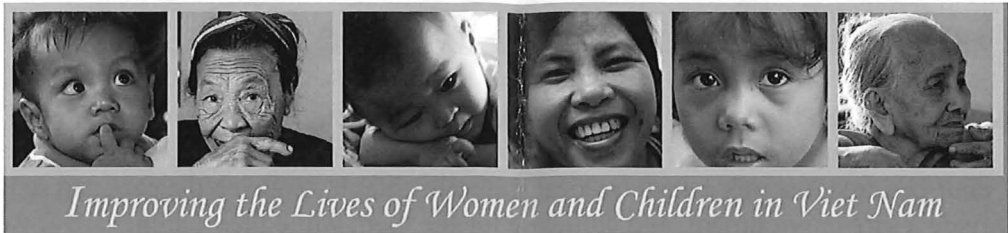
*To donate online via  
Colorado Gives:  
[www.bridging-hope.org](http://www.bridging-hope.org)*

*Bridging Hope's 15th Anniversary  
Art & Vietnamese Cultural  
Fundraiser Event  
Fall 2022*

# MISSION STATEMENT



*Bridging Hope  
is a Colorado nonprofit organization  
whose mission is to provide assistance  
to indigent, ill, disadvantaged,  
and disable women and children  
in Viet Nam  
both by raising awareness of their needs  
among citizens of Colorado  
and other Americans  
and by creating opportunities for charitable giving  
to support programs and projects  
in Viet Nam.*



Dear Friends of Bridging Hope,

Wishing you a blossom Mid-Autumn Fest! (The festival of the Moon Celebration of the children in Viet Nam). It has been more than two years – now it's the time for us to re-energize our energy. Bridging Hope wholeheartedly invites us to come, once again, to bridge the HOPE that seemed forgotten due to the pandemic.

## THE 2023 PROGRAMS

Though 2021 was another year under the pandemic, Bridging Hope was able to raise enough income 2022 to support the women and children as they requested. Many thanks to our faithful and generous friends and donors, especially to the Sisters of St. Francis, Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Sisters of Blessed Virgin Mary, and friends at Christmas for Breakfast (C4B). Our solid collaboration has strengthened the *Bridge of Hope* for us here as well as for the women and children in Viet Nam.

### 1. MAI TAM CHILDREN



Since 2007, Bridging Hope started a breakfast program to support the Mai Tam children who are also victims of HIV/AIDS. This is to keep the children maintain their good health to fight the disease. Currently, Bridging Hope provides daily breakfasts for about two hundred and eighty children, who are residing at both: Mai Tam Center and the community.

## 2. CỒN ẸN SCHOOL and DAYCARE



Preschool-aged children live on the island of Cồn Ẹn in the Mekong Delta of Viet Nam. The children are often unsupervised, and unsafe, especially during monsoon season. Desperate for the safety of their children, parents asked the local Catholic church to open a daycare and school that would provide a safe environment, and childcare for the them while their parents are at work. Since 2009, Bridging Hope has provided nutrition and education for about seventy children.

## 3. PHÚ HOÀ ORPHANAGE



Since 2018, Bridging Hope assumed sponsorship of the Phú Hoà Orphanage in Vĩnh Thông Tây, Quảng Ngãi to care for about thirty abandoned children. During their time at the orphanage, the children are well cared for and able to go to school. This enables them to get jobs once they leave the orphanage. Bridging Hope works with a local group of Sisters to provide the children with nutrition and tuition.

## 4. MẪNG LĂNG ORPHANAGE



Located in Măng Lăng Village, Phú Yên, Măng Lăng Orphanage houses thirty-three orphan children and eight disabled adults. Collaborating with local staff, Bridging Hope provides nutrition for adults and children, plus tuition for the children.

## 5. THÔNG XANH ORPHANAGE and SCHOOL



Located on the outskirts of Đà Lạt, Thông Xanh Center provides daycare and education for thirty underserved children and thirty-two orphans. Over 90% of the children are of the ethnic minority from the highlands of Viet Nam. Collaborating with a group of the local Sisters, Bridging Hope provided the children with medication, tuition, and nutrition to help improve their lives.

## 6. DAILY BREAD (MAI TAM MOTHERS) PROJECT



Located in Saigon, Daily Bread is a program at Mai Tam that works directly with women who are HIV/AIDS positive. Since 2007, collaborating with local staff and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Bridging Hope has provided daily nutritional meals to twenty mothers, and supports Mai Tam's capacity to provide other programs such as housing, healthcare, and vocational training.

## 7. ELDER OUTREACH



Homeless elders are a growing population in Viet Nam. Younger generations are leaving their villages in search of better economic opportunities elsewhere. As a result, the elders are left vulnerable without the traditional family support network. Since 2012, Bridging Hope, together with a local Vincentian Volunteers Women's Program, provided meals and healthcare for forty elderly women living in the Phan Thiet community.



## 8. THIÊN PHƯỚC ELDER CENTER



Located in Mũi Né, Phan Thiết, Thiên Phước is another of Bridging Hope's elder programs. This year Thiên Phước houses thirty-nine homeless and/or underserved elderly women. Partnering with local staff, Bridging Hope provides nutrition and healthcare to improve their physical and mental health.

## 9. CỒN ÉN TEACHER SALARY



Located in the Mekong Delta of Viet Nam, Cồn Én Teacher Salary is another program at Cồn Én School. Since 2014, Bridging Hope has provided salaries for 8 teachers. In return, the children receive good care in a safe and nourishing environment. Partnered with the BVM Sisters, Bridging Hope will continue this program this year.

## 10. THREADS' WOMEN



Since 1991, Sr. Sen has worked closely with the women of the THREADS co-op, most of whom have polio. Sr. Sen bought their embroidery, clothes, and other products and sold them in the U.S. Now, as they are getting older and experiencing problems that come with age, they are no longer able to produce the work they once did. Bridging Hope continues to support them with food, medicine, and emergency help.

*See You Soon!*

## *Please Call Me By My True Names*

*Do not say that I'll depart tomorrow because even today I still arrive.*

*Look deeply: I arrive in every second to be a bud on a spring branch,*

*to be a tiny bird, with wings still fragile,*

*learning to sing in my new nest,*

*to be a caterpillar in the heart of a flower,*

*to be a jewel hiding itself in a stone.*

*I still arrive, in order to laugh and to cry, in order to fear and to hope.*

*The rhythm of my heart is the birth and death of all that are alive.*

*I am the mayfly metamorphosing on the surface of the river,*

*and I am the bird which, when spring comes,*

*arrives in time to eat the mayfly.*

*I am the frog swimming happily in the clear pond, and I am also the grass-snake*

*who, approaching in silence, feeds itself on the frog.*

*I am the child in Uganda, all skin and bones, my legs as thin as bamboo sticks,*

*and I am the arms merchant, selling deadly weapons to Uganda.*

*I am the twelve-year-old girl, refugee on a small boat,*

*who throws herself into the ocean after being raped by a sea pirate,*

*and I am the pirate, my heart not yet capable of seeing and loving.*

*I am a member of the politburo, with plenty of power in my hands,*

*and I am the man who has to pay his "debt of blood" to my people,*

*dying slowly in a forced labor camp.*

*My joy is like spring, so warm it makes flowers bloom in all walks of life.*

*My pain is like a river of tears, so full it fills the four oceans.*

*Please call me by my true names,*

*so I can hear all my cries and laughs at once,*

*so I can see that my joy and pain are one.*

*Please call me by my true names, so I can wake up,*

*and so the door of my heart can be left open, the door of compassion.*