



maison chance



Dear friends of Maison Chance,

On July 26, 2025, late in the afternoon, as I was getting ready to go to the airport, I suddenly felt faint. Within moments, I felt as though the blood was no longer reaching my heart or my head. I lay down on my bed and raised my legs to keep myself from passing out. I remained like that for two hours, without the strength to call for help. During that episode, I felt I was very close to losing consciousness, and it took me a long time to fully come back to myself.

That same evening, I received a call from the daughter of one of my closest friends, Patrick, telling me that her father had just passed away. A construction engineer, Patrick had lived in Hanoi for thirty years. Ten years ago, he was introduced to me by Laetitia Hallyday, who, through her association La Bonne Étoile, helped fund the construction of the Maison Chance school in the Central Highlands. Patrick was responsible for overseeing the site. We became friends, and he accompanied me as a volunteer until the very end of the project. A precious confidant, a beautiful soul was gone in an instant.

Then, within a matter of weeks, a painful chain of events followed: disappointments involving people I had loved unconditionally, the loss of loved ones, and difficult news about those who were ill. Among them was Vu Khac Minh, the first person living with paralysis whom I helped more than thirty years ago, hospitalized with a brain tumor. When I visited him, his wife told me that tumors had spread throughout his body and that his condition was terminal, but he did not know. He spoke at length, and I listened, nodding. I held back my tears.

The next day, I continued to fulfil my responsibilities, but I could not stop myself from crying. By the end of the day, I had another fainting spell. This time, I was not alone, and I was taken to the emergency room. I was hospitalized for ten days for acute stress, generalized anxiety disorder, and insomnia.

Six months later, I am still under treatment, but I am doing much better. I have learned to face my fears, to grieve those I have lost, and to accept that some people cannot change even when we love them deeply.

This illness helped me reset my priorities, learn to delegate more effectively, and step back from negative people and situations. It also taught me to accept what is beyond my control, and it has given me the joy of finally spending more time with those I love.

There will always be obstacles to overcome, but from now on, I welcome them with greater serenity. I also know how fortunate I am to have your support in carrying out the mission entrusted to me. Without you, nothing would be possible. I feel deeply grateful to have met you on this path in life, and I look forward to continuing to do beautiful things together with you in 2026.

With warm regards,
Tim



TIM ALINE REBEAUD
HOANG NU NGOC TIM
Founder and Director of Maison Chance



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At an age when many children are already familiar with blackboards, chalk, and their first notebooks, school remains a distant and fragile concept for Eban - like a door he can only stand outside of, never quite daring to enter.



Y Manh Eban (born in 2018) is a young boy from the E De ethnic minority. His life has been shaped by absence. The absence of a father's protection, his father frequently disappears, returning only occasionally under the influence of alcohol, bringing violence that falls upon both mother and child. Without a home of their own, Eban, his mother, and his younger sibling rely on his elderly maternal grandparents, whose health is failing. Their only stable income is a monthly allowance of VND 500,000 received by his grandfather, who still collects recyclable materials each day, scraping together just enough to get through one meal at a time.



Eban's mother struggles with mental health challenges and is unable to work. He has a younger sibling born in 2020, and another baby sibling who passed away at just ten months old due to heart disease. These losses have quietly piled up silent, yet deeply heavy. Because his mother is unable to complete the necessary legal procedures, Eban and his sibling still do not have birth certificates. This means that, despite being seven years old, Eban has remained outside the education system, standing before a door that many take for granted but that is painfully out of reach for him.

Understanding his situation, we have gradually supported the family in completing the required documentation, allowing Eban to finally step into his first classroom. The road ahead remains long and filled with challenges, but with a few more helping hands, what once seemed impossible no longer feels so far away.

We hope that with the companionship of compassionate hearts, not only Eban but many other disadvantaged children will have the opportunity to access education, be protected, and nurture their dreams. Every act of kindness today can become a turning point - one that changes a life for years to come.

Blaih is a young woman from the Gia Rai ethnic group, born into fractures she never had the right to choose. Her father, addicted to alcohol and unemployed, filled the household with constant shouting and tension. Her mother worked as a hired farm laborer, surviving from season to season, often unsure where the next meal would come from. Crushed by hardship, prolonged depression and anxiety, her mother took an overdose of medication while pregnant. Blaih was born with severe physical disabilities: missing one leg and both arms.

The lack of care and support from her family only deepened her sense of isolation. When she could no longer find a place to lean on in her hometown, Blaih came alone to Saigon, staying temporarily with a friend, hoping to find a job and become self-reliant. But in a vast city, doors to employment were nearly closed to her because of her severe disabilities.

Yet Blaih has never allowed herself to give up. She learns quickly and shows remarkable dedication to improving herself. In daily life, she manages her personal care and hygiene entirely on her own, without any assistance. Though shy, quiet, and reserved in manner, she carries within her a powerful inner strength.



After arriving at the shelter, Blaih bravely expressed her wish to learn embroidery and to join the 3D resin art class. It was there that her hidden abilities began to awaken. As if nature were offering a gentle compensation, Blaih possesses exceptional dexterity and a refined sense of aesthetics: every stitch is careful and precise, every brushstroke full of feeling. Unafraid of hardship and tireless in effort, she practices and learns day after day.



From limitations that once seemed impossible to overcome, Blaih is slowly mending the broken pieces of her own life - through resilience, perseverance, and a quiet yet steadfast faith in a brighter future.

The Take Wing Award 2025 has been presented to Nguyen Van Toan, a young man whose resilience and steady journey through adversity have been shaped by discipline, perseverance, and a quiet faith in life. Behind his calm smile and composed manner lies a childhood marked by profound change.



Once a healthy boy like any of his peers, his life took an unexpected turn at the age of 13, shortly after completing Grade 7, when he was diagnosed with transverse myelitis. After a prolonged period of treatment, he was left with complete paralysis and loss of sensation from the waist down. A childhood in motion suddenly came to a pause, replaced by a wheelchair and the challenging process of learning to accept a new reality.



A chance encounter at an event for persons with disabilities, where he met others facing similar circumstances yet living with optimism and determination, became a turning point. Those moments rekindled his belief that life still held possibilities worth striving for. With renewed resolve, he applied to Maison Chance, beginning the journey of rebuilding his life, step by step.

Since 2016, he has diligently pursued vocational training and skill development in sewing, stone crafting, information technology, English, and various personal development courses. What truly sets him apart is not only the skills he has gained, but his unwavering commitment to self-directed learning. His diligence, curiosity, and drive for improvement have gradually opened wider opportunities.

In 2021, he officially joined the Projects Office (current Representative Office) of Maison Chance as treasurer, while also taking on responsibilities for document translation. In addition, he supports English-speaking volunteers, contributes to grant writing, and actively participates in fundraising activities. His discipline is widely recognized - punctual, reliable, attentive to detail, and always willing to support colleagues when needed. Even as he performs his role with excellence, he continues to grow, currently studying French to further strengthen his contributions.



The Take Wing Award 2025 is not the result of a single breakthrough moment, but the culmination of a long and steady journey. Through daily discipline, quiet perseverance, and a constant determination to do a little better each day, Nguyen Van Toan has turned resilience into wings - carrying him beyond the limits once imposed by circumstance.



This year, the Rebeaud Award was presented to Ms. Tran Thi Mui, Deputy Director and Head of the Social Department at Maison Chance Lam Dong, in recognition of a journey marked by quiet dedication and unwavering service to those most in need.

In 2014, shortly after graduating from university, Mui began her path at the Take Wing Center in Ho Chi Minh City as a social worker - a role demanding resilience, patience, and a heart wide enough to hold the pain and stories of others.

During the early development of Maison Chance Lam Dong, Mui volunteered to relocate and take part in field research at the local level. Long journeys through rugged terrain, heavy rain, and muddy, slippery roads never deterred her. She traveled to reach those facing the greatest hardship - lives easily overlooked in remote mountainous areas.

When the center officially came into operation, she stepped into a leadership role while remaining deeply present on the ground. She worked side by side with staff and department heads, caring for beneficiaries' daily needs while shouldering extensive administrative responsibilities. For her, this work has never been merely a duty, but a bond built on listening, understanding, and care as if for her own family.

Eleven years, from a hopeful young intern to the person she is today, mark a journey worth honoring. Her perseverance may be quiet, but its impact is profound. The Rebeaud Award is our heartfelt tribute to her life of purpose, compassion, and unwavering commitment to others.



This award honors not only Ms. Mui, but also a belief worth holding onto: when a person chooses to live for others, the most meaningful values will always endure and spread.

At Maison Chance, many members with disabilities live and work with underlying health conditions that require regular monitoring and long-term care. Alongside them are orphans and disadvantaged children at our two centers in Saigon and Lam Dong. For all of these individuals, good health is vital to overcoming adversity and building a safe, stable life.



With this understanding, and especially thanks to the vital support of our benefactors, the general health check-up has become an essential annual tradition at Maison Chance.

This year, made possible by our sponsors, the program was extended to all beneficiaries, including residents with disabilities and children under our care. Each individual arrived with silent signals from their body, signals that deserve to be heard and attended to in time.

The check-up process was tailored to the specific needs of each group. While the children received essential school health screenings, adults and high-risk members underwent comprehensive examinations, including X-rays, blood tests, ultrasounds, vision screenings, and electrocardiograms. Early detection allows for timely treatment, risk reduction, and greater peace of mind for the journey ahead.



At Maison Chance, healthcare goes beyond clinical treatment; it is about restoring dignity, confidence, and hope. Through the support of our community, we work to protect both physical and emotional well-being. This ensures that every member has the resilience to continue learning and working toward their dreams with dignity and confidence, no matter the challenges life brings.

Truong Thi Van Anh and Nguyen Thi Le Quyen, two members of Maison Chance, have concluded their journey at the 13th ASEAN Para Games, recently held in Thailand, where they proudly represented the Vietnam Paralympic Team.

For the first time, both athletes competed in wheelchair fencing at a regional sporting event. Entering a discipline in which they had limited prior experience posed significant challenges, yet it also offered invaluable opportunities for learning, adaptation and real-world competition.



Their preparation was defined by rigorous discipline, consistent, and resilient training. As athletes with disabilities, each training session required overcoming distinct physical and mental demands, from managing physical limitations to continually adapting techniques and pushing personal boundaries. Through perseverance and determination, Van Anh and Le Quyen steadily built confidence, refined their skills and stepped onto the competition piste with focus and composure.

Throughout the tournament, they demonstrated strong sportsmanship, commitment, and respect for fair play. While there remains room for further technical development, this participation marked an important milestone, providing meaningful experience, strengthening a competitive mindset, and laying a solid foundation for future growth.



For Maison Chance, the presence of its members at a regional sporting arena stands as a powerful testament to a long-term commitment to inclusion and empowerment, creating pathways for persons with disabilities to access broader opportunities and realize their potential. The journey of Van Anh and Le Quyen is not only a sporting achievement but a compelling reflection of resilience, courage and the transformative power of opportunity, a source of pride for the athletes themselves, for Maison Chance and for Vietnam.

Beyond sustaining livelihoods, we continually ask ourselves a larger question: *how can our members grow further, adapt to today's market, and expand their employment opportunities?* From that reflection, the 3D Epoxy Resin painting course was introduced, marking a new step forward to keep pace with market trends and create more sustainable career pathways.



Epoxy Resin is a contemporary artistic technique that blends painting with transparent industrial materials. Through the careful layering of resin, each artwork gains not only color but also depth, spatial effect, and a sense of texture, almost as if it could be touched. Every piece becomes more than a painting; it is a miniature world, where images appear to move, take form, and come alive with character.

Through this course, members are guided from foundational knowledge to advanced techniques: color mixing, surface preparation, creating 3D effects, controlling transparency and opacity, and finishing products to meet market standards. While some participants were initially hesitant to work with a new material, after just a few sessions, focus, patience, and passion became evident in every attentive gaze and in the steady movements of their hands.



What matters most is not only the acquisition of new techniques, but a shift in creative thinking, one that allows for product diversification and opens up broader choices for customers. We believe that as skills are elevated, employment opportunities naturally follow, becoming more stable and sustainable for each member as they build a livelihood through their own abilities.

As Lunar New Year 2026 approaches, a gentle sense of spring fills the classroom at Maison Chance. The children pause for a quiet moment, looking back on the year that has passed and expressing their thoughts through handwritten Tet cards, words they do not always have the chance to share aloud.



Alongside familiar symbols of Tet, such as apricot and peach blossoms and the green bánh chưng, are simple sentences and modest drawings. Though imperfect in form, each card carries a sincere wish for health, peace, and happiness. More than anything, these messages reflect the children's heartfelt gratitude for the care, stability, and daily support they receive.



This moment is part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring that children at Maison Chance grow up with nourishing meals, a safe learning environment, and the quiet reassurance that they are cared for. Through small gestures like these cards, the children begin to understand that behind each peaceful day at school lies the steady kindness of many compassionate hearts.

As spring arrives, we extend our warmest wishes to you for a new year filled with good health, peace, and lasting joy. May these humble cards bring gentle warmth - reminding us that when care is shared with sincerity, it creates connections that quietly endure.

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