





PHOTO CONTEST

This year, the NGO Maison Chance celebrates its 20th anniversary. To mark this birthday, the NGO dedicated to helping disabled people, street children and orphans in Vietnam is organizing a photo contest entitled «Love is our focus, no barrier between us.» Participants have to, through a single photo, highlight this topic.

Prizes:

- First prize: 1 digital single-Lens Reflex camera with an approximate value of 400 euros
- Prize for originality: 1 compact camera with an approximate value of 150 euros





EDITORIAL

T wenty years ago, a young Swiss national named Aline Rebeaud was backpacking through Asia. When she arrived in Vietnam, the country was then barely recovering from a civil war that left millions dead. The economy was about survival of the hardiest, basic health care was primitive, potable water and food were scarce. Many orphans, handicapped, or homeless people had to fend for themselves since they were not able to contribute much and were extra mouths to feed.

Aline witnessed first-hand the suffering of the down and out. She visited a psychiatric ward for the poor and saw a twelve year old boy named Thanh, curled up in a corner in near death state. Thanh suffered from severe heart, liver, and lungs disorders. Aline did what her gospel musician parents taught her about compassion, she took Thanh to a hospital and personally assisted the doctors in caring for him. For about three months she brought him meals, fed him, changed his bandages, and sat by his side while his health improved. Other patients and hospital staff who witnessed the love the "foreign girl" gave to the child decided to give her a Vietnamese name, they called her "Tim", which means "Heart" and represents Love in their language.

Tim stopped further wandering, she rented a simple hut in the country side and opened its door welcoming unwanted people. Many children of the streets, orphans, and the handicapped came to live in this modest place. They all shared in whatever they had to eat, they cared for one another as brothers and sisters, and sympathized in their common condition as "outcasts" of society. As for the young Aline, she became their mother and they called her by her Vietnamese nickname "Me Tim" or "Mom Tim" in English. The refuge grew from a hut to what many people in Vietnam and around the world today refer to as Maison Chance, translated to English as House of Luck.

Indeed, many of the disadvantaged people in Maison Chance are "lucky" to be here today, Me Tim continues to give from her heart and welcomes new comers. Maison Chance has now built two additional facilities to promote and assist its beneficiaries in achieving self sufficiency: The Take Wing Center and Village Chance. Sixty people who are disabled commute to the Take Wing Center daily to receive training and earn income from skills such as sewing, crafts, computer technologies, painting works of art, etc.... A mix of 150 orphans and children from poor families attend school at Village Chance, their uniforms are Maison Chance sky blue t-shirts. All this and more were achieved by one young woman and a little boy. Today, Maison Chance has five offices in Europe and North America, these facilities function as extensions to spread the Maison Chance mission of love.

Maison Chance now enters its twentieth anniversary. It has been gathering resources and sharing them with others, it has been encouraging its handicapped beneficiaries to gain their independence, it has been educating children in hope of their better future, it has provided employment to countless people, it has been doing all it can to integrate the disadvantaged back into mainstream society as productive citizens. What will the future bring? Me Tim, a "foreigner" who speaks fluent Vietnamese, whose love for her "children" has no limit, she also works ceaselessly at improving the Maison Chance's mission. Her hopes and dreams are for the Vietnamese people in all walks of life to follow in her footsteps, to continue developing the facilities, to support the efforts of contributors in sharing the Love to all those who need it most.

You too can contribute your time and resources to support this monumental effort at helping people help themselves. This story needs to be retold to others all over the world, wherever you are. The seed of Happiness is already here, please join Maison Chance in spreading the love. Perhaps one day, together we can build a Grande Maison Chance.



AN EXCITING JOURNEY FOR A NEW CENTER IN DAK NONG



Following the completion of the nursery and restaurant, Maison Chance keeps moving forward. For the elderly as well as for mentally disabled, the organization has plans to open a new center in the highlands. A team left for a trip a few days to distribute wheelchairs and to assess the possibilities of opening a center.

With twenty years of experience, Maison Chance can now face the future with actual knowledge of the needs of the poor population. The NGO plans to

open a new center for elderly and the mentally disabled in the poor highland province of Dak Nong. The population of this region is mainly composed of ethnic minorities and lives principally from agriculture.

Before starting such a project, a team from the project office traveled to the area in order to assess the real life and work conditions. The finding did not bode anything easy. The travel in this region of the country was very complicated. The road, in a very bad condition, sometimes required people to leave the bus in

order to continue the travel on foot. Bad weather didn't improve the situation and increased the difficulties, filling potholes and leaving no visibility for the driver, who rushed innocently in these gaping holes. But the desire to help the disadvantaged popula

tion was greater than the concerns of comfort. MC's team went, by bus, to deliver 40 wheelchairs, noodles and comforting words to those families who made the request. On the way, local people spontaneously stopped to help them by clearing the bus from the mess it was filled. And the journey continued!

Dak Nong province belongs to the mountain of the Truong Son, strongly affected by dioxin during the war. Therefore, a large number of the population of

> this rural area is either very poor or disabled. In recent years, queries from Dak Nong have never stopped coming to Maison Chance. The team then moved from family to family. Two social workers explained the use of equipment and showed basic physiotherapy exercises tailored to each disease. Y Sung's family has five members. An elderly couple, one of which moves with difficulties, and three young children. When Tim tried to persuade the couple to provide children with an education and thus to give them the opportunity to foresee a happy future, they clearly

disapproved. Coming from the ethnic M'Nong, it's unthinkable for them to entrust their children to others. We do not negotiate with traditions. The team then left the wheelchair and information contact, in case of ...





To reach the village of Nam N'Dir, technical complications cameback. Theyleft the busat the foot of the mountain and climbed the road. The hamlet of the Thai ethnic group is completely cut off from the outside world. One of the houses of 12m² accommodates the family of Van Ban Chung. With the arrival of the team of Maison Chance, a horde of children entered the small hut to contemplate the curious newcomers. The young Chung is affected by congenital palsy since birth and has never moved from his bed. He lives with his 70-year-old mother and for 20 years, these four walls have always surrounded his world. When the child was offered a wheelchair, it was a whole new world, which was opening up to him.

The last meeting, the one with Luong Van Su, proved to be one of the most intense. Born in 1990 and married last year, the young man just had a little boy. However, three months ago, he got a fever. Then this was the numbness and paralysis. Su was unable to speak anymore and to find sleep for two months. After two days of hospitalization, he was forced to return home due to lack of financial resources. To treat him, the shaman of the village required a goat, four pigs and twelve chickens.... But Su was unable to meet so many requests. He was forced to stay home and let the time flew. Tim decided to pay for his trip to Saigon to get him treatment. When Tim asked the young man, dumb for the last two months, to see if he has ever been to Saigon, he managed to articulate a «already». Everybody got into the car for the next twelve hours back home. Once again, the magic happened. While these two months were as insomnia for Su, he fell asleep. His mother, overtaken by events, burst into tears before the treatment opportunity that was offered to her son. The outcome of this short visit was mixed. Lots of smiles and hope but many difficulties and poverty too. We will have to overcome many challenges to see the implementation of new center, based on the model Maison Chance in Saigon. But the meeting with these families has been a source of happiness and a real driving force to move forward.









THE RESTAURANT: THE FIRST STEPS TOWARDS REINTEGRATION

After creating several vocational training, Maison Chance opened a restaurant in Village Chance building. Here, disadvantaged people cook and serve a quality food for good price.

Since its inception, Maison Chance is helping disabled people, poor children and orphans. They are supported and educated within the organization. Today, they can continue to grow through the creation of a restaurant in the Village Chance. Restoration training is indeed the latest idea of Maison Chance. Beneficiaries interested in the occupations offered by this field, have several choices: cook, waiter or bartender.

The idea began to take shape in July 2012. The current restaurant manager held a bar-restaurant for several years. Eight apprentices support him: 2 chefs trained in Koto, an experienced cook, 2 assistant cooks, two waiters and an accountant. To be effective, training has to combine flexibility and professionalism. It should especially take into account the abilities of each and help them to gain confidence. Ultimately, it will enable them to live responsibly and be useful to society.

The three Maison Chance's centers are located in Binh Tan district, on the outskirts of Saigon. People, who migrated from the countryside to the city in hopes of finding a better



life, populate this new booming area. But in this district, there is no restaurant with an impeccable hygiene, service and atmosphere suitable for family celebrations or business meetings. The only food places are small rooms along the dusty road. So Tim had this project in mind for a long time. After two months of preparation, the restaurant finally opened to the public on September 26, 2012. Hundred and twenty persons were invited to gather around a buffet of vietnamese and european dishes as well as western cakes.





The restaurant welcomes guests from 6am to 9pm and offers the possibility to organize birthdays, holidays or business meals. A service of food delivery for offices is planned for the coming months.



How Thuong chooses to become a cook

Thuong Nguyen Hoang is one among the three cooks at the Maison Chance Restaurant. He is a young man of 25 year-old with a shy smile who can speak three languages with fluency. Whenever there are requests to meet the cook, Thuong presents a tall and handsome look to the patrons. For those who personally know him, he came to Maison Chance at 8 yearold and became a member of this family of many. As a child, while learning how to read and write, he spent much of his free time looking at images of delicious dishes in various cook books, and this instilled the love for all kinds of food within his heart. Finally when he became an adult, Maison Chance sent him to an Australian operated culinary school for disadvantaged people, KOTO (Know One Teach One), to learn how to cook and fulfill his dream of

becoming a chef. Thuong said: «I like to eat, I like different kind of dishes. I want to help my mom Tim and this restaurant offers me an opportunity to do it». The two years Thuong spent at KOTO meant a lot to his future. Now he wants to visit France, and when asked what his specialty dish is, he glowingly said: "Boeuf Bourguignon".

Now, thriving in his work, Thuong enjoys every moment of his life. And this year is very special for the young man who has just celebrated its 25th birthday and had the first birthday party of his life. By seeing the shining smile of Thuong and his stirring speech intended to all of those who came to surround him, it will not be the last birthday party. Congratulations to Thuong and we wish him much success in his endeavor.



Thuong presenting his work





















A BAKERY LIKE IN FRANCE

Croissants, chocolate croissants, tarts ... So many words that make your mouth salivate. Based on Western methods and using quality products, the bakery at Maison Chance offers delicious pastries.

Finding a good croissant in Vietnam? Difficult ... When we say «good croissant», we think of pure buttery taste and a crispy crust. Adding something in it would be a sacrilege. Faced with this challenge, Tim decided to create a bakery within Maison Chance's walls, a bakery where we could find the taste of France. In fact it is liken to a Proust's Madeleine.

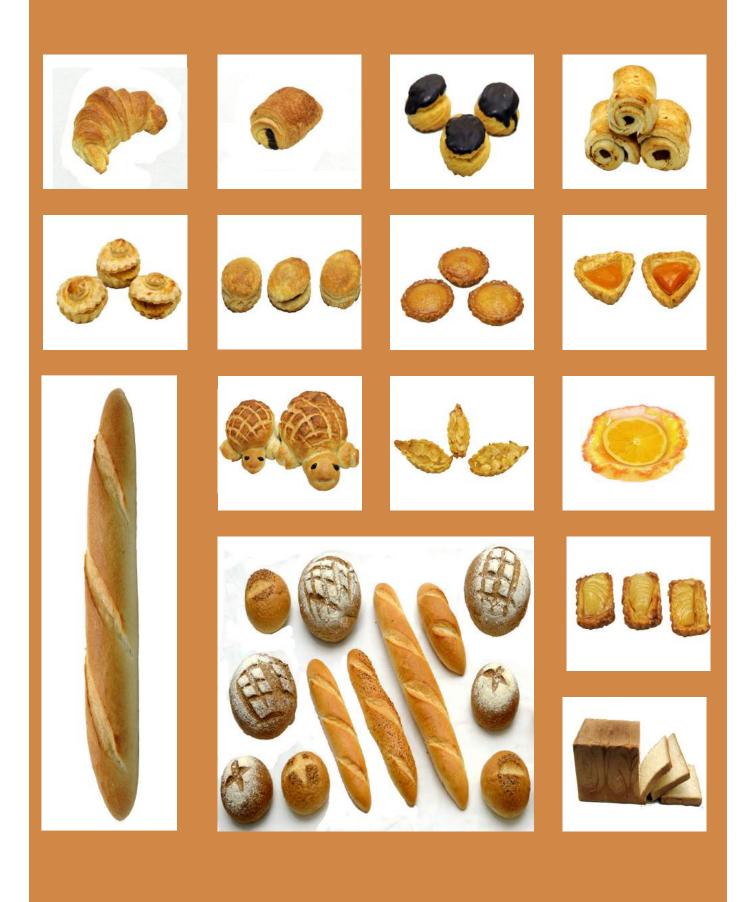
A pastries training program was implemented to provide employment for several beneficiaries of Maison Chance. Their teacher, Thay Huy, a former disadvantaged child who grew up in Vietnam, worked as a pastries chef in Belgium for 6 years. Thay Huy finally came back to Saigon to pass on his know-how to members of the NGO. His teaching proved to be very efficient, as this former street child knew how to talk to his students and was immediately accepted by the children, who were living in the same situation as he was years ago. His mastery of the pastries made him the best person for the job. Thay Huy knows how to select the best ingredients for their nutritional quality: cow's milk, wheat and butter, instead of margarine. In Vietnam, such requirements are rarely taken into account ... This Vietnamese baker knows how difficult it is to conceive very good croissants here, but with the knowledge of both his job and his country, he met the challenge with success.

From December 2011 to September 2012, students trained hard to make croissants, chocolate puffs, fruit tarts and pastries of all kinds. Their only concern is quality. Today, the bakery Maison Chance is capable of producing tasty products, when nobody in Ho Chi Minh City is able to deliver good croissants. That's why in the near future, the bakery Maison Chance may advertise to provide pastries to various hotels in the city.



Working based on demands, simply place the order 24 hours ahead and the final products will be delivered to the clients at home. (Orders are made by phone at 08 6265 9566 or 0938 30 77 39 or by email at: banhmayman@ maison-chance.org)

So be greedy and do it for a good cause!





A UNIQUE NEW BUS ADAPTED TO THE DISABILITY OF ITS PASSENGERS

How difficult was to find a suitable bus for disabled beneficiaries of Maison Chance. But determination finally paid off. The new 29-seater bus can now hit the road.

T im Aline Rebeaud won the Henri Dunant prize in 2001, and applied the grant toward the purchase of an old 16 seaters' bus that had been in service all over Asia for over 20 years. Maison Chance has expanded its facilities and responsibilities since then, now it needs a larger bus to transport its handicapped members to and from. The fresh air and change of sceneries are beneficial to keep the spirit of the physically handicapped uplifted. Transporting wheelchairs take up much space, so only a few can go at a time. Thankful to another grant that assisted Maison Chance in purchasing the new bus, a 29 seaters' was found in Korea with the right economy and proper width to maneuver in Saigon's traffics.

After delivery, it was proved difficult for care givers to lift a disabled person up higher steps and man handling many wheelchairs is back breaking work. Maison Chance is too familiar with spinal injuries suffered by the beneficiaries. We think safety first to prevent senseless



injuries. The solution is to create a lift capable of lifting both the wheelchair and its occupant, up, in, out, and off the bus. No such lift exists commercially in Viet Nam; no such bus equipped that way either, so we had one custom built by a machine shop. The sight was wonderful when the newly refitted bus, sky blue in color, arrived at the Take Wing Center to test its new lift on its handicapped family members.

People in wheelchairs poured toward to gate to see this new wonder lift, it can make their lives better because



now more of them will be able to travel safely to and from work, visit distance beaches and traverse mountains. What a great success, there are some fine tuning to do, mean while, the bus swallowed one disabled person after another then headed toward Village Chance to pick up some more. A sight to behold, children crowded around the blue bus to see this wonder lift works... swallowing more people and their wheelchairs. A few kids hitched a ride on the return trip to Maison Chance for supper.

Upon arrival, the Big Blue began to disgorge its

riders one at a time. On their way they went, happy and thrilled at the experience of being lifted mechanically for the first time ever. Big Blue best asset has to be that it only took the driver himself to handle the whole operation. Maison Chance gave itself a pat on the back for the work well done.

The smaller old bus is still in service, its enduring labor to transport members of the Maison Chance's family is well documented. It will remain with the family for a long time to come, and when it is too tired to travel anymore, it can serve as a big toy for the children to play with.



A WONDERFUL DAY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

At Maison Chance, the day for people with disabilities is celebrated like nowhere else. Sports, games but above all laughs and joy make this day very special.

April 18th is the National day of people with disability in Vietnam and at Maison Chance, it is a day for partying. The celebration lasted from 9 am to late evening, residents had a whale of a time. There were competitions in sports and recreational activities, the participants contributed to this beautiful day with many smiles.

The morning was devoted to swimming competitions. The therapeutic pool had been prepared for the occasion, divided into two lanes for



the races. Six matches for the boys and two for the girls were cheered on by hordes of fans on the sideline. With energetic vigor, the disabled people took part in these games with enthusiasm. Breathlessly competitive, it was Tuan and Quyen who finally won it all. Regardless of who was the winner, there were no unsportsmanlike conducts nor pettiness, all competitors and their performance was cheered. Then there was a volleyball game, which took place in the pool. Volunteers and disabled competitors divided into two teams of 10 players. The game was spirited, therefore, the young and old people alike shared this fun time together.



After lunch and the traditional daily nap, it was time to play basketball. Three games were scheduled for the afternoon. The cheering shouts of pupils in the school echoed loudly through the spirit of the games. On the court, wheelchairs moved at full speed, arms outstretched and basket rattled. Despite the fatigue, the players continued playing with a large smile on their face when the ball scored. Following the sport events, it was time for art competition. Two teams, with paintbrushes held between their lips competed to write this sentence: «20th anniversary of Maison Chance». Smoothly following each other, wheelchairs rolled adding letters to the board. For some, writing with their mouth was not their speciality... They had to approach the table,

to not tremble and to control the brush... A unique technique requiring much practice!

There was also a food challenge to fill hungry tummies. Participants must eat rice cakes placed on the table without using their hands. The first player mashed the rice cake with his forehead, the following participant applied his chin to the task. Both teams threw themselves at it and ate with vigor. The children also had their competition, involving the ability to eat quickly. Blindfolded, as a duo, one tried to make his partner eating a banana. It was very difficult to distinguish the mouth and the chin. The situations were funny and all bursted out laughing. Active competitions always make people hungry. After all the hard work, best efforts, and much laughters, a buffet dinner prepared by the staff of Village Chance's restaurant had been served for participants. During supper, trivia questions were asked, songs were sung, and gifts were given out to



each person. Everybody had a great time. Vision of this mixed generation remind us how beautiful and big is Maison Chance's family.



Maison Chance products





Maison Chance products





A FOLLOW UP VISIT FULL OF HOPE

After spending one month at Maison Chance, Sang, a young 20 year-old boy seriously disabled, went back to his family. Three people of Maison Chance came to visit him. This was a great surprise!

On April 6, 2013, the two of us, Mylène Griere and Pauline Poreye visited a young man named Sang, a former patient of Maison Chance. Sang is 20 year-old and lives with his parents in Di Linh, a town in Lam Dong province. In November 2012, a tragedy happened: an electrical cable came loose and Sang was electrocuted. The accident inflicted Sang with third and fourth degrees burns, requiring amputation of both of his arms above the elbows, and left painful sores on his lower limbs which required many skin grafts.

The "real" healing for Sang began when he arrived at Maison Chance, accompanied by his father and brother, Tuan. In the beginning, Sang's rehabilitation was laborious, hampered by severe pain that accompanied the slightest movement, it took much effort for him to just stand up.



But Sang was willful and a determined person. Coupled with constant encouragements from the health care team, unswaying emotional support from his brother and his new friends from Maison Chance; a month later, he was able to walk a few meters with assistance, and developed new "grips" capabilities with his chin, mouth, and feet. Then it was time for him to return to his family.

During this trip, we were accompanied by Khuyen, our health executive. We had the opportunity to visit his home in order to assess the condition of his progress, his living condition, review his needs and those of his parents. We were all surprised: Sang walked well and improved better and better, his parents were very attentive and diligently applied the exercises we prescribed to him. We made some adjustments, fine-tuned



our reccommendations and made improvements to the premises. We also provided the additional necessary equipment for Sang's basic needs.

As visitors, we were touched by the warm reception given to us by Sang, his parents and siblings. Sometimes, Sang's mind becomes discouraged, he is facing great difficulties because he has a long way to go and far from becoming independent.

A month after our visit in Sang's family, he finally came back to Maison Chance with his brother Tuan, for the arrival in Saigon of Nick Vujicic, the popular disabled person borned without limbs. For the occasion, Tim Aline

has been invited as a special guest to the conference given by Nick. So she brought Sang with her. The young man recently injured saw a light of hope in Nick's story. He realized that everything is possible when you work hard on it. His mind positively changed by considering all the new possibilities that is now accessible for his future. A big smile and glimmering eyes overcame the sadness of his face. Besides, many TV cameras highlighted him during the evening, interviewing him with many questions and making him a celebrity for a night. Thanks to this wonderful evening, Sang now believes in the future.



TRAINING TO IMPROVE THE DAILY LIFE

Maison Chance makes caring for disabled people and the staff, a priority. Therefore, health care volunteers have set up two training courses, one is for the beneficiaries regarding wheelchair mobility and one dedicated to educating and familiarizing the staff within spinal injuries.

Two-wheelers facing obstacles

The roads leading from the disabled beneficiaries residences to their workplace are full of potholes. Skills in mastering the wheelchair's rear axle movements allow them to maneuver across sidewalks and over obstacles, are essentials for all people traveling in manual wheelchairs. The objective was to promote independence.

Two French volunteers, one physiotherapist and one occupational therapist, trained the disabled on wheel chair's axle maneuvering. The exercises ranged from easy to difficult, maneuvered on even grounds, over rough terrains and dealing with obstacles. The trick was to find the proper point of balance to move forward, slalom, and back up in slalom. Tien, a paraplegic patient who has mastered the axle's technique perfectly, performed a trial test. Once validated, these exercises were applied to Ha, Lien, Uyen, all are paraplegic, willing and athletic.

The "back" school to anticipate the pain

To lift a disabled person, move heavy loads or seating ourselves in front of computer screens at the office are all behaviors that require awareness. The spine is easily injured. The staff of Maison Chance is confronted daily with these dangers. To help avoiding injuries, two healthcare volunteers prepared training class in lifting. The purpose? The weight of the load must be the person's strength and not his pain.

Various staff members have been through this training (which is costly in France but was provided free of charge to Maison Chance) from the highest risk category of healthcare workers exposed to the danger of back injuries to the lowest risk. First are the nurses' carers and physiotherapists, followed by other beneficiaries, guardians, drivers, cleaning staff, kitchen staff, administrative staff and volunteers as well. Each training class lasted a couple of hours per group. First part was theory and the other one was more pratical with real life scenarios. Each group had their sessions tailored to their knowledge and were taught in an uplifting and fun manner.





SWEET ATTENTION FOR THE WOMAN'S DAY!

The Women's Day in Vietnam is a great party. Smiles, attention and games have proven to us, volunteers, that the best place to celebrate this day is in Maison Chance!

The way people celebrate Women's Day in Vietnam and especially how it was done at Maison Chance should be a model for the world to emulate. There were plenty of thoughtful deeds of kindness on this day dedicated to the fairer sex.

As an important tradition, men offer flowers while women gladly receive them. We are five women volunteers at Maison Chance, far from our european traditions in celebrating such event. Therefore, we were amazed at all "Happy Women's Day" gestures that surprised us throughout the day. For example, there were generous slices of cake brought to us before lunch by the people working in the Vietnam Office of Maison Chance. This made us, women, felt that this is one day we are going to love. Later in the evening, we, volunteers for a



6-month mission, were invited to Maison Chance's Shelter at 6pm to share some time with the beneficiaries. The program for the evening: three recreational games pairing one beneficiary with one volunteer.

Emma, who came in mid-January from Roquebrune-sur-Argens, southern France, is working for communication in the project office at Maison Chance. Her area of expertise is in IT communication and anything that has to do with the web. She teamed up with Phuong, a 25 year-old paraplegic. Myself, Armelle, I come from central France and now live in Paris. I also work in the project office for the NGO and am responsible for editorial and video communication. I paired up with the little Quế Nhung. She is 14 and has lost the use of her legs since she was 3 year-old. Nathalie came here from Paris in late February. She is in charge of fundraising. She teamed up with Lien, who is 30, a paraplegic seamstress from the sewing workshop. Pauline, originally coming from Lille and now living in Paris, was a physiotherapist in a center for the disabled in Garches. She teamed up with the dynamic Quyen, who is 24 and became paraplegic after a fall from a coconut tree. She has been a beneficiary



at Maison Chance for the last 3 years. Then there is Mylène, who comes from Toulouse and has worked in Versailles. She works as occupational therapist, helping people with disabilities in achieving autonomy and independence in mainstream society. Her partner for this beautiful evening was Van Han, a seamstress of 23 years old and paraplegic as well.

The first game was about rebuilding a puzzle as quickly as possible. This got messy very quickly with the



pressure of time limit. We were not as good as we thought. Some strategized to begin with the corners, some just tried figuring out the puzzle in whichever way they can. The girls encouraged each other, some distracted others by laughing. Each team had a different strategy. The final winners were the team of Van Han and Mylène. Then we played another game. Each volunteer had to travel 10 meters while inflating a balloon. Once we arrived in front of our teammate, we had to pop the balloons by placing them between our bodies and squeezing hard. Despite the best efforts of all participants, the winners of this game were Quyen and Pauline.

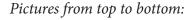
The third and final game challenged our dexterity. Our teammates stood few meters away from us with cups in hands. With a full plate of candies we had to aim, throw them at the cups and to try filling them as much as possible within 5 minutes. Again, the time pressure was very unsettling, our shots were hasty... and we shot badly. We were shooting, getting angry and time was ticking away. The duo Van Han and Mylène did very well and won the challenge easily.

After all the fun and hard work, the social workers team led by Hien planned a delicious reward: cream puffs made by our in-house bakery and fresh fruits. Always in good spirit, some people were clowning around making funny faces, others bickered by spreading whipped cream on themselves and all busted out laughing. It was a great surprise when Hien arrived with a whole bag of prizes given by Bong. Bong is a cheerful 24 year-old who arrived at Maison Chance 5 years ago. A fall from the mast of a boat rendered him quadriplegic. Each beneficiary received a little gift of something: a photo frame or teddy bear. The winners of the games, in order: Van Han and Mylène, Quyen and Pauline Lien and Natalie were given extra prizes. Each one of us also received a beautiful rose. The conclusion was unanimous among the volunteers: we have to export these wonderful moments of celebration to France!









Armelle & Quế Nhung Quyen & Pauline Natalie & Lien Mylène & Van Han Emma & Phuong





Newsletter Special Edition 20 years

MEALS OFFERED BY MAISON maisonchance Chance to a PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

Once or twice a year, a team from Maison Chance distributes meals in a mental asylum. This is where Tim met Thanh 20 years ago.

 Υ he initiative came from Thanh, twenty years after being rescued by Tim in the psychiatric hospital of Thu Duc. He has not forgotten where he comes from. He has not forgotten those who are still there. Each year, one or two visits are organized to give love to confined patients who do not have any relative. Meals are often made for them.

This time, the cooks, also beneficiaries of Maison Chance, got down preparing over 1,200 meals to distribute. And there was no question to lower the requirements. On the menu: Banh Uot, rice filled pancakes, typical dish of Vietnam. The bakery workshop also gave a hand to make 1,300 cakes.



A bus for 50 people from Maison Chance had been chartered. Children, adults, students, employees, volunteers and beneficiaries, all have vigorously participated in this excursion. After loading the vehicle with immense food containers and milk cartons, the bus left the Village Chance early in the morning. Once on site, it was necessary to pack cakes and milk cartons in plastic bags. Good will was not missing though. Hundreds of hands reached out to make their contribution and to make this action a global event. Distribution time has led to the same enthusiasm. Each patient in the hospital was given a meal as well as a bag containing a cake and milk.

Maison Chance's team went through every common room and thus was able to meet everyone. The visit began with the women's quarters and continued with men. The welcome was very warm. Some widely opened their arms, others sported bright smile and some even sang a song, clapping, welcoming the arrival of visitors. Plenty of "Thank you" rang out and handshakes were exchanged by dozen.



In the men's quarter, two of them have started break dance's spins, later joined by a topless dancer, whirling on the concrete floor. We even talked about football. «Oh, you're French? a French volunteer was asked - I know Djorkaeff, I even played with him.» Tim Aline came closer to each of them, questioning them about their history, listening carefully and providing them with soothing words.

This exchange between disadvantaged children, disabled people and patients of the hospitalwas held in a cheerfulness environment. At Maison Chance, everyone was committed to this task, and providing assistance to

those poorer than themselves led to a real source of joy for the disabled and children of Maison Chance. By late afternoon, the bus left to return to Maison Chance with heads full of memories and hearts full of joy.





Thank you to the beneficiaries and volunteers who helped to make this newsletter.

20 years Anniversary of Maison Chance Program

Friday July 5th, 2013 • 6 P.M.

Take Wing's Night • Place: **Municipal Theater of Saigon**Hors d'oeuvres • Show • Meeting with Maison Chance's residents • Silent Auction

Sunday August 4th, 2013 • 10 A.M.

Outdoor activities • Place: Attraction Park - Dam Sen

Games with MC's residents • Sport Activities • Hors d'oeuvres

Saturday December 7th, 2013 • 6 P.M.

Gala 20 years of Maison Chance • Place: Village Chance

Show • Concert • Hors d'oeuvres • Meeting with MC's residents

Novembre

Art Exposition

Painting exposition • Presentation of the book • Hors d'oeuvres

All entrances are free of charges except for Attraction Park - Dam Sen

MAISON CHANCE - Nhà May Mắn

Trung Tâm Chắp Cánh

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