



Hairdresser
The Roosters

School **Dak Nong 3D**
Internal information

Dear friends of Maison Chance,

I hope you have started well into the New Year and that the year of the rooster brings you happiness, health, and good fortune!

During the second half of 2016, Maison Chance Vietnam realized several projects: the opening of a semi-precious stone workshop for people in wheelchairs at the Take Wing Center, the integration project for children with autism in our school and infrastructure development in Dak Nong.

Establishing a center in Dak Nong, which favors the environment, has been an aspiration of mine for about ten years. The Maison Chance model in the

countryside is a place of life for people in the aging population, people with a disability and orphaned children. I've been thinking about it for 10 years, and for more than five years I have been exploring Dak Nong province in the highlands of Vietnam, next to Cambodia, to create a new Maison Chance center. After making numerous social surveys on the needs of those in need in the region, as well as numerous administrative steps, we finally started building the social center Maison Chance in Dak Nong. This site includes nearly 30 building: accommodation, schools, training rooms, adapted workplaces as well as nursing and therapeutic spaces.



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This place will welcome about a hundred permanent residents of all ages, handicapped and orphans. They will receive daily care and will benefit from literacy and vocational training. Those who cannot find work outside will have the opportunity to receive a job adapted to their capacities within our social center. They can do gardening and look after the animals. A school comprising eight classes will meet the needs of 200 illiterate and disabled children who will be able to benefit from this free education.

To ensure the full funding of this new construction project we still have to find a remaining quarter of the budget, which is about 575'000 USD.

If we continue our present rate of work, the construction of the center will be completed by December 2017.

For this reason, various events are held abroad to find the funds to finalize the construction and purchase the required equipment for our new center.

Places and dates of upcoming events: Cheb in Czechoslovakia May 5, Rotterdam in Netherlands May 6, Manchester, England May 7, 8, 9 and Paris May 21. On June 10 in Montreal, Canada and 17 in Toronto July 29 in Helsinki, Finland and finally in Oslo, Norway on September 23. Other galas are being prepared for the autumn.

In order to maintain the long-term function of the center as well as generate sustainable income, we will develop agricultural farming. We will hire people from the neighboring ethnic groups (Ede, M'Nong minorities). We will assure them a stable

work, and at the same time their production will yield revenues for the functioning of the future center.

Here is a few lines of news as well as the plans for 2017. Thank you for being always hand in hand with us. Everything realized by Maison Chance would not be possible without your precious support. Together, let us continue to give a chance to the least fortunate in Vietnam.

Sincerely,

Tim



The stock of roosters prior to delivery to Roche Vietnam

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IMPRESSUM: A friendly little team of Maison Chance in Saigon and also outside.

Couverture : © McFreddy.

This is Phuong Lan, an office member who greets you with a warm smile, Hello from Maison Chance.

Final Message To Nhi

Nhi left us much too early.



In 1994, I met Nhi, who at the time was about 12 years old, at the Trauma Hospital.

He was taking care of Môn, who was 35-year old and has been a paraplegic as a result of work accident – related spinal injury. Môn explained to me that Nhi was an orphan, that his biological mother had abandoned him and that he had been «adopted» by a family of peasants from his village. Nhi had accompanied Môn to the hospital because he was available and he was not in school at the time. This illiterate boy did not know the flag of his country and used laundry powder to bathe. He was very shy and sensitive to the welfare of others.

Môn had four daughters with the youngest being three weeks of age. To pay for his hospitalization, he had to sell his modest house. I proposed to help Môn on the condition that Nhi comes to Maison Chance to be educated and have a future. Nhi grew up in Maison Chance. He attended school and learned to draw. He even had the opportunity to go to France to learn textile design. In 2005 he met Anne-Laure, a Swiss volunteer with whom he married and had a little girl named Thu. Nhi worked in the painting workshop. In recent years he had found a concierge job in the province of Dong Nai, several tens of kilometers from Saigon.

On December 18, 2016, when Nhi returned to his workplace, he was the victim of a motorcycle accident. He lost his life two hours later in the hospital. His body was brought back to Maison Chance where we watched over him day and night and made prayers, which would allow him to find serenity in another world.

Maison Chance lost one of their first children. He was only 35 years old. He was always smiling and was always supportive of his «brothers and sisters» of Maison Chance and his adopted family. One of our great family members has left us, but he will always remain in our hearts.

Text: Tim, photos: Maison Chance.



Laure

Psycho-Motor Therapist.

Having graduated in 2014, she talks about her job and her experience. Psycho-motor therapist makes it possible to find a bodily and physical balance from sensorimotor, emotional, affective and cognitive experiences.

Non-verbal communication in action is what interests me most in my training. Working for two years, and wishing to go to Vietnam, it was time I started. After contacting two associations, Maison Chance was in favor of my request. The new project is to take care of children with autism. The project is a perfect challenge for me. Very attracted by autism and its different communication, I accepted this humanitarian mission of 6 months. I am more than delighted and surprised by this unforgettable experience

Text: Laure

Martin

Kinesiologist.

The kinesiologist is a health educator and can complement the skills of the doctors as well as other healthcare professionals. Martin comes from Quebec. He brought his smile and his inimitable accent. Being active is very important to him. In love with sport he practiced football, rugby and athletics. With a size of 179 cm he is an enthusiast for basketball. He believes that physical activity is essential for mental health as it is for physical health. Prior to his 3-month mission at Maison Chance, Martin worked with people with a physical disability, and children and adolescents with autism. For them, he adapted exercise programs.



At Maison Chance, he spent a lot of time in the physiotherapy room to help: Young adults with a physical disability. He says: What I like is the relationship developed with them when I see the progress made.



The Village's Roosters

Preparing for the celebration of Tet.



Têt

Tet is the Vietnamese New Year. It follows the lunar calendar. It takes place between the 21st of January and the 20th of February. The country's largest festival is a minimum of three days. Vietnamese people often like to prolong it. Each year corresponds to an animal sign of the zodiac.

2017 is the year of the rooster.
Beginning of the festivities
January 28

Tet is also a celebration where gifts are made and offered to significant others. For Tet, «Roche Vietnam» ordered 3790 boxes of cookies with each box placed in a rooster-shaped cloth. 3790 cockerel-shaped cloths were manufactured by the sewing workshop, which required 2 months. The cookies were also made by Maison Chance.

Each box contains a mixture of 52 biscuits some of which have blueberries and chocolate. The bakers used 17055 eggs, 1000 kg of flour and 900 kg of sugar. This is not the first time that «Roche Vietnam» requested Maison Chance's products for its customers and partners.

Text : Maison Chance, Photos © McFreddy



“HATS OFF”

Mister Minh's Creations.

Minh is the first person with a disability who I reached out to. We met in 1994 in a Franciscan foster home that housed a dozen paralyzed individuals. He is a paraplegic as a result of an occupational accident and had severe pressure sores. I decided to take him to the emergency room, where he was hospitalized. After his operation, he was welcomed at Maison Chance, where I gave him daily care. Once he recovered, he worked at the sewing workshop.

In 2000, Minh married Van, a young able-bodied woman. She came to visit the residents of Maison Chance and it is there that they met.

His first son is Vinh, he was born in 2001, his second son Hien was born in 2004

The couple made cloth hats, a specialty for children. The small company manufactures around 100,000 hats per year.

Text: Tim et Photos © McFreddy



All the singers and artists

New Year's Eve Souvenirs



Text and photos © McFreddy



The evening of December 31

The evening began with the dressing of large round tables surrounded by chrome metal stools. The atmosphere quickly passed to joy, to the party, to the fraternity as well know how to do all the residents of Maison Chance. In front of the small stage, the circus artists demonstrated their qualities by playing with strings. Then, from the smallest to the greatest, all gave voice to charm the audience.

After the death of Nhi, Christmas was calmer than usual, while December 31 was a joyful holiday for all.



The obsession named "Agent Orange"

3 generations affected by agent orange



It's a hot afternoon. Towards the Su family's house, everything is closed but the noise of our car will change everything. Inside the home, the grandfather awaits us. He hears us and struggles to open the door. Kids run, and appear to be having fun. He invites us and repositions himself on his hard bed. If the house holds more than the garden shed of the villa, the interior is particularly clean. The minimum subsistence level is well maintained. Su remembers well, from the day when a cloud of Agent Orange fell over him. His daughter was also affected.

In addition Su and her daughter suffer from bone deformation of the lower limbs. The little granddaughter «Chip, the flea» still lives with the carelessness of childhood and for the moment feels no pain. Her arched legs do not prevent her from playing with her little neighbor friend. It is full of vitality and generous sighs. Without knowing why we're here, «Chip» is happy and she sings what she learned at school. Tim, is there to reflect on what she can do for the little one. «Chip» and her mother will be invited to Saigon for a meeting with specialists. It's just a beginning.



The agent orange is a highly toxic product was spread by airplanes over the forests of the region. Very concentrated in pink-brown hormones and dioxin, it was used until 1971. The name Agent Orange comes from the orange band imposed on the storage drums. It's invented by the media.

Text and photos © McFreddy



01 Fence and main entrance

02 Security house

03 Parking

04 Office

05 Coffee shop

06 Physicaltherapy room+ infirmary

07 Place for horse therapy

08 Teacher room

09 05 primary classes

10 03 specialized classes

11 Multipurpose room

12 Training workshop

13 Wheelchair repair workshop

14 Refectory + kitchen

15 Staff housing

16 Volunteer housing

17 Visitor housing

18 Beneficiary housing

19 Laundry

20 Dressing room

21 Pool

22 Water tower

23 Underground water reserve

24 Main pond

25 Retention basin

26 Octogonal arbor

27 Warehouse farming

28 Medicinal garden

29 Vegetable garden

30 Grazing area

31 Area of fruit trees

32 Adapted garden area

33 Stable

34 Dog pen

35 Goat shelter

36 Hen coop

Surface Area : 27'000 m²
Start date of construction 8 may 2016





Tim's meeting at the worksite
Entrepreneurs, engineers, as well as other construction personnel were present.



Building No. 16 on the map is under construction. It will serve as a temporary office and management room during construction. This construction is representative of the traditional ethnic minority houses that inhabit the region.



Text : Maison Chance, Photos © McFreddy



To the left, the outlet head of one of the two deep wells of 70 m.

To the right, the walls of the building refectory and kitchen.



The large heart-shaped basin will soon be readjusted and paved on its upper periphery.



Members of the Team: Mr Patrick a consultant in civil engineering. Mr Bui – construction engineer and controller works field for Maison Chance. Tim the director of Maison Chance. There is also Ms. Binh hydraulic engineer and project coordinator Dak Nong project



Workers are busy building the foundations of the first two buildings dedicated to the **accommodation of beneficiaries**. These pavilions, number 18 on the map, are 10 identical constructions. It is hoped that all foundations will be completed before the wet season.

The school: The construction of the 3 buildings is progressing well. In June everything will be under roof for the wet season. The funding of the school is covered by the welcome help of «La Bonne Étoile» the NGO of mutual support of Laeticia Hallyday. The brick walls already give an idea of class space. The 4 pictures at the bottom of the page.



The Office Members

Behind the scenes.

In this office, all these people work in the shade and are rarely in pictures. That is why today we present them to you. Their work,

their knowledge accompanied by smiles and seriousness help Maison Chance in its good stability. This is in the light of screens,

that they regulate a quantity of daily facts. In this large room with blue chairs, there is a boy for every 3 girls. Nghia, Lan, Loan and Chi.

Nghia

Born in 1978. Responsible for administration and IT.

Has been serving Maison Chance for 14 years.

He has a 6-year old son.



Lan

Born in 1978. Responsible for accounting.

Has been serving Maison Chance for 12 years. She has two daughters, 3 and 10 years old..

Chi

Born in 1960. Vice director of Maison Chance.

Has been with Maison Chance for 18 ans years.

She has a 36-year old girl who works also at Maison Chance



Loan

Born in 1977.

Responsible for employees. Has been serving Maison Chance for 3 years.

She has a 9-year old daughter

Nghia is the providential man who tackles the small and the big problems. He dwelled to provide the large paperwork during the checks of the state administration. **Lan** masters all the meanderings of the accounting. She is also responsible for the Vil-

lage Chance restaurant.

Loan, is a young responsible for the dynamic staff. Her professional skills help her to manage 90 employees of Maison Chance.

Chi knows all the situations of the

people of the Social Center. She arrived as a volunteer 18 years ago and still has her room at the Shelter.

Text: Maison Chance,
Photos © McFreddy

The Yesterday and Today of the School



When Tim arrived in Vietnam, she realized that it was her ambition to help those in need and with time, she established a school. She sets an example by taking Vietnamese courses at a university. She thinks that improving oneself is also to better understand others and to give back to those who are in

need. In the first home, **The shelter**, Tim created a class and two children whom she had welcomed and protected are the first beneficiaries. Out-of-school children in the vicinity are also associated. Some come from a far by foot or by bicycle. In 2005 there were 108 school children.

Tim established a schooling system as the primary step of Maison Chance



The Shelter

These images which were taken December 2005 are memories of Maison Chance's beginning.





The Take Wing Center

With the opening of the Take Wing Center the school has been given more room to expand. New computers were donated. It was possible to practice sports near the Take Wing Center.



The Village Chance. On January 20, 2011, Village Chance was inaugurated and a new school class was relocated. At the primary school there are now 250 pupils who follow the official curriculum dictated by the country. Teaching is composed of Vietnamese, mathematics, history, geography. There are also: sports, computers, music,

Drawing, English and swimming. The students attend school from 7:40 to 11:00 in the morning and from 13:30 to 16:45 in the afternoon. They eat a meal prepared by the canteen kitchen. After the meal there is a break, where students sleep in class on or under their desk! There is also a nursery with 50 small toddlers from 6 months to 6 years old.



*Text and Photos
© McFreddy*



Each day, the children are exposed and in contact with people with a disability. It is a formidable integration for all. The pool for swimming is also a therapeutic pool. This is where disabled people and physiotherapists work.



This is also where the schoolchildren learn to swim. In Vietnam few people know how to swim. Learning how to swim is an opportunity to avoid many drownings.



Fresh New Haircut in 4 Minutes !



It is a school of hairdressers who comes from time to time to give a hand! Armed with their scissors, they disembark to the Village. It is time to refresh these children with new hairstyles. Attention here are the hairdressers! We cut free of charge! Despite the grimaces, no one is wounded. *Text and photos © McFreddy.*



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