

# MAISON CHANCE

AN INTRODUCTION TO MAISON CHANCE



# OUR STORY

Maison Chance began in 1993 when 21-year-old Swiss painter Aline Rebeaud embarked on a journey across Asia. During her visit to a mental asylum in Vietnam, she encountered Thanh, a 12-year-old boy whose tragic circumstances moved her deeply. Suffering from cardiovascular disorders affecting his vital organs, the hospital staff had given up on him. Determined to help, Aline took him under her care, admitted him to a cardiac hospital, and stayed by his side day and night. During this time, Aline was given the Vietnamese name “Tim,” meaning “Heart.” After Thanh’s recovery, she rented a small house on the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City, opening her doors to orphans, abandoned children, street children, and individuals with disabilities. This house became a refuge—a new family and a home for many in need. This humble house, located in Binh Tan District, then a poor suburb of Ho Chi Minh City, was lovingly named “Maison Chance” (House of Luck) by its residents. Over the years, Maison Chance has continued to grow and flourish.

In 1998, Maison Chance was officially recognized as a non-governmental organization operating in Vietnam.



Tim and Thành (1993)



First children



Maison Chance (Lucky House Shelter)



Being together



*“What makes me  
happiest is the smile that  
illuminates a child’s  
face.”*

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**TIM ALINE REBEAUD**  
Founder of Maison Chance





## VISION

Paving the way to a better future for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in Vietnam.



## MISSION

Providing accommodation, food, healthcare, education, and vocational training to orphans, underprivileged children, and people with disabilities, empowering them to live with dignity and independence





## UNITS

Maison Chance Vietnam operates through four specialized units: the Shelter, the Take Wing Center, Village Chance in Ho Chi Minh City, and the Maison Chance Social Center in Lam Dong province.

- **The Shelter:** A home for orphans and individuals with disabilities, providing accommodation, meals, and healthcare.
- **Take Wing Center:** A vocational training center where beneficiaries acquire skills and crafts through workshops in sewing, painting, stone cutting, and IT.
- **Village Chance:** Offers kindergarten, primary school, and special needs classes. The complex also includes wheelchair-accessible apartments, guestrooms, and a bakery.
- **Social Center in Lam Dong:** A permanent residence for members with severe disabilities. It also hosts a primary school for underprivileged local children and vocational training workshops.

1993

## MAISON CHANCE TIMELINE

Tim Aline Rebeaud founded Maison Chance, a shelter for orphans, street children, and individuals with disabilities, in Binh Tan, a disadvantaged district on the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City.





1998

## Non governmental organization (NGO)

The Association was officially recognized as NGO in Vietnam in 1998. Maison Chance Switzerland had been founded one year earlier.

2006

## Inauguration of the Take Wing Center

After seven years of preparation, the Take Wing Center was inaugurated, providing vocational training opportunities for people with disabilities.





2011

## Inauguration of Village Chance

Village Chance is a community that includes a kindergarten, a primary school serving around 200 underprivileged children, and apartments specially designed for wheelchair users.

2016

## Construction of the Social Center in Lam Dong

This project, initiated in 2012, aimed to meet the needs of elderly beneficiaries with severe disabilities while expanding support to communities in the Central Highlands.





2018

## First new school year ceremony in Lam Dong

The primary school at the Social Center in Lam Dong opened its doors to the first 118 children. All are disadvantaged children from ethnic families who cannot afford their schooling.



2019

## Inauguration of the Social Center in Lam Dong

Officially inaugurated on December 14, 2019, the Maison Chance Social Center in Lam Dong province spans approximately 2.7 hectares and includes various facilities.





2023

## Maison Chance – A 30-Year Journey

On the occasion of its 30th anniversary of operations in Vietnam, Maison Chance organized charity galas in Ho Chi Minh City as well as in the six countries where the organization is active, to express its deep gratitude to the benefactors, sponsors, and supporters who have always stood by its side.

These events also provided an opportunity for the organization to reflect on its journey and to reaffirm its commitment to supporting the most disadvantaged.






2024

## Maison Chance – A 30-Year Journey

As part of Maison Chance's 30th anniversary celebrations, a special evening was also organized by the Embassy of Switzerland in Hanoi to pay tribute to the organization and in particular to its founder – Tim Aline Rebeaud – for her unwavering commitment to vulnerable populations.







*“With time and the love of every member of our family, they were all aware of a new life and vision and from this point onward, the unlucky handicapped people would step up from the bottom rung of the ladder.” (Tim)*



# OUR PROGRAMS

Our goal is to enable destitute people to regain self-confidence in a welcoming home atmosphere and give them opportunities for reintegration into society.



OUR PROGRAMS

## Welcoming into a home atmosphere

Maison Chance offers abandoned individuals a welcoming home where they receive shelter, care, and a nurturing family atmosphere.

Able-bodied members, often orphans, take on the role of assisting those with disabilities, while members with disabilities provide companionship and share valuable life experiences with the younger ones.







## OUR PROGRAMS

### Education & training

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Our educational project focuses on three key goals:

- Ensuring equal educational opportunities for all
- Providing tailored vocational training to empower people with disabilities to achieve independence.
- Helping the most disadvantaged regain dignity, secure stable and suitable employment, and contribute meaningfully to society.

#### **Kindergarten education in HCMC**

Since September 2012, Maison Chance has operated a kindergarten. Most Vietnamese children attend nursery from the age of two. Some of our disabled beneficiaries having infants find it difficult to bring them to the kindergarten, not to mention the financial burden due to high childcare costs. Therefore, Maison Chance offers this service at a symbolic price. Our kindergarten welcomes toddlers and babies as young as six months. Since 2016, Maison Chance opened special needs classes.

#### **Primary school education in HCMC and Lam Dong**

The primary school at Maison Chance Village provides grade 1 to 5 education for underprivileged children, those without birth certificates, and overaged students. Following the Ministry of Education's curriculum, it also emphasizes English, music, swimming, sports, martial arts, and circus performance. Children with disabilities can join regular classes if able. Also, an inclusive education program for children with special needs has been provided at Village Chance and Maison Chance Lam Dong.

**Today's children, tomorrow's world!**



Students at Village Chance primary school



Playing football in the schoolyard



Playing chess



A man in a white shirt is focused on sewing at a white industrial sewing machine. He is in a workshop setting with other people and sewing machines in the background. The floor is made of large, light-brown tiles. A red chair is visible to the left, and a yellow chair is in the background. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, italicized font.

*At Maison Chance, the Vietnamese saying "Give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, feed him for a lifetime" is practiced every day.*

SEWING WORKSHOP AT TAKE WING CENTER





## TAKE WING CENTER



### OUR PROGRAMS

## Vocational Training & Production Workshops

Take Wing Center provides tailored vocational training for people with disabilities, helping them build skills based on their unique abilities. Graduates can choose to seek employment outside the center or join its production workshops, where they earn wages. To foster financial independence, members receive 30% of the value of the products they create immediately. The remaining 70% is saved in a separate account and paid out in full when they are ready to live independently, giving them a small capital to start a new chapter.

- At the **Sewing Workshop**, trainees acquire basic sewing and embroidery skills, enabling them to produce clothing, handbags, and stuffed toys after completing the course.
- The beneficiaries working in the **Information Technology Workshop** receive training in graphic design, website development and management. They provide services to businesses and individuals in Vietnam and overseas.
- At the **Painting Workshop**, beneficiaries create graphics and pictorial work, such as advertising boards, hand-drawn greeting cards or paintings made on request. They receive ongoing training including courses like observational art and oil painting.





## Income generating activities



- At the **Stone Cutting Workshop**, apprentices are taught how to shape gems, later used to decorate necklaces, bracelets, and earrings. They also shape precious and semi-precious stones into small Buddha sculptures and other figures.
- At the **Embroidery Workshop**, beneficiaries learn basic to advanced embroidery techniques. Upon completion, participants will be capable of managing all stages of the production process, from designing patterns and selecting appropriate embroidery thread colors to crafting the final product.

Maison Chance has also developed income generating activities for its beneficiaries such as **guesthouse at the Village Chance (HCMC) and in Lam Dong**.

**Guesthouse** – In HCMC and Lam Dong province, visitors are able to stay for a long period to learn about Maison Chance and its beneficiaries, connect with underprivileged individuals, and gain a deeper understanding of the lives and experiences of people with disabilities in Vietnam.

**Restaurant** - The restaurant at Maison Chance Lam Dong offers local dishes, cooked and served by young people with difficult social backgrounds. We also offer visits in the region, which is known for its beautiful waterfalls.

OUR PROGRAMS

## Promoting self-sufficiency

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Maison Chance programs aim to empower beneficiaries to regain independence in their lives. After accidents resulting in disabilities, individuals often feel discouraged, hopeless, and view themselves as burdens on their families and society. Maison Chance helps them overcome these feelings by guiding them toward professions or jobs aligned with their abilities and circumstances, enabling them to earn a living and support their families.

Yet, finding housing that is both wheelchair-accessible and affordable remains a significant challenge for people with disabilities after leaving Maison Chance. To address this, Maison Chance built accessible and reasonably priced accommodations tailored to their needs. In 2011, Maison Chance Village was established as a comprehensive complex, featuring housing facilities designed for wheelchair users alongside a school.





A photograph of a woman and a man smiling while holding a baby. The woman is on the left, wearing a red top, and the man is on the right, wearing a grey shirt. The baby is in the center, wearing a white floral dress. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. A white circular graphic element is on the right side of the image.

*“We had to sell our home and our land to pay for my father to go to the hospital. We therefore ran into severe financial difficulty.” (Tram)*

# OUR BENEFICIARIES

Maison Chance currently serves approximately 765 beneficiaries daily

**30**

**SHELTER**

Children and people  
with disabilities

**40**

**TAKE WING CENTER**

People with disabilities

**320**

**VILLAGE CHANCE**

Students, handicapped  
and their families

**208**

**LAM DONG**

Children & people with  
disabilities

**167**

**OUTSIDE**

Children receiving a  
scholarship

- **Maison Chance Shelter** provides care and support for 13 orphaned children (ages 6 and up) and children with disabilities, as well as 17 adults with disabilities.
- **Take Wing Center** offers vocational training and employment opportunities for 40 individuals with disabilities, customized to their skills and interests.
- **Village Chance** includes a primary school, kindergarten, and special needs classes, serving around 220 students. Moreover, its specialized housing complex accommodates 40 families, comprising self-reliant individuals with disabilities living with their relatives, totaling approximately 100 residents.
- **Maison Chance Social Center in Lam Dong** supports 176 underprivileged local students, primarily from ethnic minority communities. Among them, 30 children have physical disabilities or intellectual challenges. Additionally, 32 individuals with disabilities and disadvantaged youth are receiving vocational training and working at the center.
- 167 underprivileged students (68 in Ho Chi Minh City and 99 in Lam Dong) receive annual scholarships from Maison Chance to pursue secondary, high school, or university education.



## STAFF

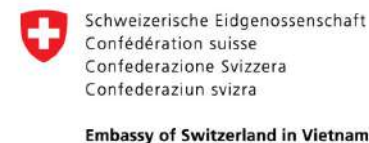
Maison Chance Vietnam employs 75 staff members in Ho Chi Minh City and 63 in Lam Dong. The organization also welcomes around 100 volunteers annually, participating in both short-term and long-term commitments. Most staff work directly with beneficiaries, focusing on education, vocational training, healthcare, social work, communications, logistics, and maintenance.

Ms. Aline Rebeaud/Hoang Nu Ngoc Tim, the founder of Maison Chance, serves as the Executive Director and Vice President of the Management Board.



## BUDGET


**Financial Resources** - Donations from Europe (Switzerland, Belgium, Germany and France), North America (United States, Canada), Vietnam and many other foundations, associations, businesses and individuals...



... help to stabilize our annual financial requirements.

**Expenditures** - In 2024, Maison Chance Vietnam's total expenses amounted to over **US\$ 1'274'791**. 90% of the annual budget was allocated directly to the development of our projects, while 10% covered administrative costs.



A young boy with dark hair, wearing a blue t-shirt, is lying on a light-colored surface. He is holding a string attached to a large, bright pink balloon. The background is blurred, showing more of the same pink balloons. A white, thin-lined oval frame is drawn around the boy's head and shoulders. Overlaid on the right side of the image is a quote in a white, italicized serif font.

*“I often wonder for those who were unlucky like me, if there was no Maison Chance, where would we be? What would become of us? How would we survive?”  
(Dinh Cong Duy)*





FIRST 118 CHILDREN AT MAISON CHANCE SOCIAL CENTER IN LAM DONG

## MAISON CHANCE SOCIAL CENTER IN LAM DONG

Over the years, it became clear that rehabilitating individuals with severe disabilities is more complex than supporting other beneficiaries. Many of these residents, originally from rural areas, are aging and struggling to adapt to life in Ho Chi Minh City, often due to limited education. Concerned about their well-being and future, our latest project gradually took shape starting in 2012 - the construction of the Maison Chance Social Center in Lam Dong.

Following the same principle of coexistence between disadvantaged adults and children as in our centers in Ho Chi Minh City, the new center is designed to improve the quality of life for a wider range of beneficiaries. It welcomes individuals with physical and mental disabilities, regardless of age, as well as children and teenagers in need, offering them a chance to feel valued and contribute to the family community we have built.



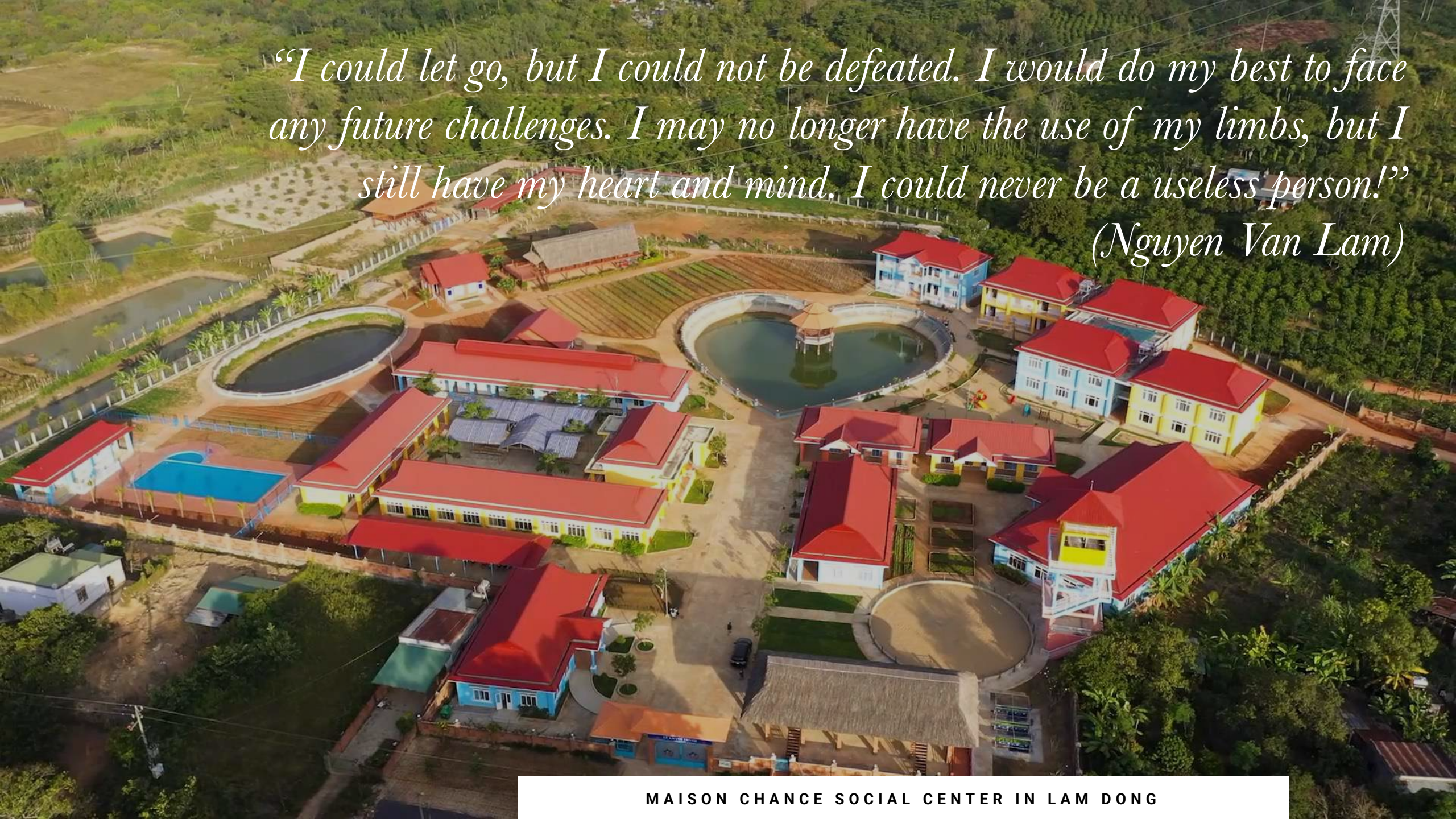
## Concrete objectives are:

- Provide housing and food to beneficiaries (orphans, people with disabilities);
- Improve their health through adapted care and various therapies;
- Support their reintegration into society with education and vocational training programs;
- Offer elders a place to spend their remaining years in peace;
- Teach families how to care for disabled relatives to facilitate family rehabilitation.



Construction of the Social Center in Dak Sor commune (Krong No district, Lam Dong province) began in May 2016 and was completed in September 2019. In August 2018, the center welcomed its first beneficiaries - disadvantaged children and children with disabilities from poor minority villages. The children receive free schooling, food, and accommodation during weekdays, and on weekends and holidays, a bus takes them home to visit their families.





*“I could let go, but I could not be defeated. I would do my best to face any future challenges. I may no longer have the use of my limbs, but I still have my heart and mind. I could never be a useless person!”*  
*(Nguyen Van Lam)*



## Projects in Lam Dong

Building on the success of our centers in Ho Chi Minh City, we carry on supporting beneficiaries with our programs in education, health care and housing. In addition, we launched new projects ready to spring into action after the completion of the construction and official formalities.



### Horse therapy

Our primary goal is to nurture our beneficiaries' well-being and foster their personal growth. Horse therapy, a therapeutic approach involving animals, enhances mental and physical well-being. We are collaborating with local and international experts to train a skilled team that can independently provide therapy services at the center.



### Agricultural activities

Organic cultivation is currently underway at the center. The farm includes many kinds of vegetables, fruits, and animals, enhancing the quality of meals served to beneficiaries. An additional 1000 m<sup>2</sup> plot of land near the site is intended for planting vanilla. This project, in its development phase, will create job opportunities and generate income to sustain Maison Chance's activities.





### **Aquatic therapy**

The 273 m<sup>2</sup> pool aims to improve the health of hundreds of beneficiaries in Lam Dong. It provides an opportunity to learn swimming, reducing the risk of drowning, a common accident in remote areas. A smaller heated pool with jets offers aqua therapy for paralyzed individuals, helping them relax their muscles and improve their well-being.



### **Ecotourism**

Another source of income is expected to come from the sustainable ecotourism project promoted by the Maison Chance Social Enterprise. The location, near a national park famous for its beautiful waterfalls, offers the following at the Social Center:

- Apartment rentals (adapted for people with disabilities)
- Tours to natural sites and nearby regions
- Participation in activities together with beneficiaries
- Intercultural and intergenerational exchanges







### **Snoezelen Therapy**

To complement the therapeutic services offered to beneficiaries, a dedicated Snoezelen space for multisensory stimulation was recently established. This gentle and innovative approach aims to promote sensory regulation and support the development of sensory perception in children with autism or developmental delays.



### **House of Music**

Designed for primary school students and people with disabilities, this workshop offers a space for expression and creativity to musical souls. Instruments such as the guitar, ukulele, and keyboard are made available to participants. Singing and dance sessions also enrich the program.





### **Workshop for Agricultural Product Processing**

A new adapted workspace has been established to welcome young people from underprivileged backgrounds as well as adults with multiple disabilities, as part of the production of agricultural products such as cashew nuts, coffee, pepper, dried fruits, and essential oil. This initiative aims to provide stable employment for these vulnerable individuals, while also generating income to help cover part of the center's operating costs.



### **Kindergarten**

A kindergarten has also been established in Lam Dong to welcome children aged 6 months to 5 years from poor families in the region. Due to a lack of resources, their parents or relatives are often forced to leave them at home alone while they work. This daycare center will thus provide a safe and stimulating environment conducive to their overall development and well-being.







*“I made long journeys to different parts of the world to share the lives of less fortunate individuals with all my heart.” (Tim)*



# CONTACT & SUPPORT MAISON CHANCE



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