Annual Report

2014 - 2015

blue dragon
CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

About Blue Dragon

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation is an Australian charity rescuing children in crisis in Vietnam. From humble beginnings in 2003, we have grown to an organisation of over 70 dedicated social workers, psychologists, teachers, lawyers and support staff reaching out to over 1,500 of the most vulnerable children throughout Vietnam every year.

Blue Dragon kids are street kids, children with disabilities, children from rural families living in extreme poverty, and victims of human trafficking and slavery. Our aim is to rescue kids from danger, reunite them with their families when we can, and provide all the services needed for recovery and growth.

At Blue Dragon, we offer a range of services tailored to the individual needs of each child, including education, nutrition, health care, counselling, physical and creative activities, legal advocacy and safe shelter. Our five Program Teams, Legal Department and support staff do whatever it takes to change the lives of the children we meet every day.

While individualised services are an important focus, we also create long-term impact through advocacy, the delivery of training to government agencies and local communities, participation in law reform, and leadership in the fight against human trafficking in Vietnam.

In this report you will find...

03
MESSAGES FROM BLUE DRAGON'S FOUNDER AND THE BLUE DRAGON BOARD

04
2014-2015 IN BRIEF

06
OUR WORK
Step Ahead
Safe and Sound Hue
Safe and Sound Dien Bien
Project X
Stay in School
Legal Department

22
OUR SUPPORTERS

28
OUR PARTNERS

29
OUR STAFF

34
OUR VOLUNTEERS

36
FINANCIAL REPORT

Note: None of the children's real names are used in this report.

Message from the Founder

Every year we watch as the children of Blue Dragon grow. Many of the girls and boys we met and worked with back when we were starting in 2003 are now parents themselves, some with their own businesses and some even living abroad. In 2014-2015, 76 of the Blue Dragon kids studied at university and college, and we take great pride in seeing them become young adults.

Our organisation, too, grows year by year. While growth is not an end in itself, we find ourselves now able to reach more children in crisis, provide more professional services, and reach the furthest corners of Vietnam.

This report details the successes we have achieved in the past year, both for the children and for Vietnamese society. One stand-out feature of our work has been our ability to learn from children and young people in crisis, and use this information to advocate for policy and legal reform on a national basis.

We look forward to growing further with our children, our partners, and our supporters around the world. Thank you for being a part of our growth.

Michael Brosowski AM

Message from the Board Chair

This year has been an exciting one for Blue Dragon. Despite the difficulties encountered by direct service staff in Vietnam, the organisation continues to rescue trafficked children, support street children in Hanoi, and offer a lifeline to many young people who do not have anywhere else to turn. The Board has been impressed by staff efforts and determination in supporting children to reach their potential, regardless of the child's situation.

The Board is also grateful to all our donors and partners, who enable this work to be done.

In addition to the corporate governance provided by the Board, two Board Directors visited Vietnam to provide assistance directly to the organisation during the financial year. To be able to do so, all Board Directors now have completed a Working with Vulnerable People check in Australian jurisdictions.

The Board continues to be proud of the work completed by Blue Dragon Children's Foundation, as detailed in this annual report.

John Oliver

2014-2015 in brief

WE SUPPORTED...

956 KIDS TO STAY IN SCHOOL

106 NEW KIDS ON THE STREETS

580 KIDS THROUGH SOCIAL WORK

70 KIDS EVERY DAY TO HAVE SAFE SPACE IN DROP-IN CENTRES

47 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH INDIVIDUAL CARE

69 STUDENTS WHO GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL

76 TERTIARY STUDENTS WITH SCHOLARSHIPS

408 KIDS WHO HAD BEEN TRAFFICKED OR WERE AT RISK OF TRAFFICKING

68 VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING TO THE SEX TRADE

WE BUILT...

A NEW KINDERGARTEN IN A REMOTE AREA

8 NEW HOUSES FOR AT-RISK FAMILIES

WE PROVIDED...

LEGAL REGISTRATION PAPERS FOR **1,832** PEOPLE

LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR **7** VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX ABUSE

TRAINING ON ANTI-TRAFFICKING, CHILD LABOUR AND CHILD RIGHTS TO **386** LOCAL OFFICIALS

165 COUNSELLING SESSIONS FOR TRAFFICKED GIRLS AND WOMEN

4 VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE WITH REPRESENTATION IN COURT

33 TRAFFICKED VICTIMS WITH SUPPORT TO GIVE STATEMENTS TO THE POLICE

WE SERVED...

32,325 MEALS

AND DISTRIBUTED...

6,940 KILOGRAMS OF RICE

WE CONDUCTED...

23 RESCUE MISSIONS AND DIRECTLY RESCUED

130 VICTIMS OF SLAVERY

FINANCIALS...

TOTAL NET INCOME
$1,500,612

TOTAL EXPENDITURE
$1,460,028

OVERALL SURPLUS
$40,585

Street kids in Hanoi: Step Ahead

Step Ahead reaches out to street kids, children with disabilities and children from very poor families. It equips children with the education, health, life skills and confidence they need to move forward independently with their lives.

Step Ahead social workers, teachers, psychologists and carers take a holistic approach to meeting the needs of each individual child through Individual Assistance Plans. These plans, developed in cooperation with the child and a family member, scope the education, training and life goals that can be achieved with the support of Blue Dragon. Step Ahead focuses on improving the education, training and youth engagement opportunities for the children and works closely with families.

Social work

The social work team plays a critical role in providing direct services to the children, including referrals, counselling, advocacy and care. Each social worker manages 15 to 20 cases and provides a variety of services from crisis care to family support. This year, social workers supported 244 children on Individual Assistance Plans.

Children with disabilities

The Disability Coordinator assists children with disabilities to access the medical assistance and community referrals they require and supports them to re-engage with education and training opportunities. This year, Step Ahead supported 47 children, aged from 7 to over 20, with disabilities including hearing impairment, chronic skin disease, cerebral palsy, Duchenne muscular dystrophy and intellectual disabilities.

Shelter

Blue Dragon operated three shelters in 2014-2015: Outreach House, providing emergency accommodation for street children who were living and working on the streets or whose routines were not yet stable; The Shelter, for children and young people attending school or vocational training; and Transition House, for teens in transition. During the year, Transition House evolved into the Transitional Living in the Community program. We also provide a daily safe space at the Drop-in Centre where kids can meet their peers and social workers, and join in games, arts and crafts, music and physical activities.

Nutrition and care

Many of the kids who come to Blue Dragon are malnourished after time spent living on the streets. Through the shelters and the Drop-in Centre we provide three nutritious meals a day, plus afternoon snacks, to help the kids grow healthy and strong. The Step Ahead nutrition program provides daily lunches at the Drop-in Centre; individualised nutrition plans for undernourished children; and a quarterly BMI measurement to ensure the kids are healthy and growing. We provide clothing, shoes, toiletries and the personal items they need for daily care.

We provide health care when needed, including regular health checks. In April 2015, Blue Dragon recruited an in-house psychologist to provide targeted services to vulnerable boys. The boys were also supported to access psychological services outside Blue Dragon at a local clinic.

STEP AHEAD ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014-2015

- Supported 244 children to achieve the goals set out in their Individual Assistance Plan
- Provided accommodation at The Shelter (29 kids aged 12-20); Transition House (24 children and youth aged 15-20); and Outreach House (short-term accommodation for 90 kids aged 9-19)
- Provided safe space and activities to an average of 50 kids (aged 5-19) per day who visited the Drop-in Centre in Hanoi
- Served 32,325 meals and distributed 6,940 kilograms of rice
- Measured an average weight increase of 5 kilograms and an average height increase of 14 cm among children receiving targeted nutrition
- Increased the number of children participating in physical and social activities including hip hop, drama, gym, swimming and football
- Held a training course for nine former street kids to introduce the social work profession as a potential career path
- Participated in a formal independent evaluation
- Finalised a Social Work Manual (to be published next year) which documents the Step Ahead work with a view to training other social workers and organisations in Vietnam
- Hosted two workshops for around 100 parents on parenting skills
- Organised a successful one-day Disability Family event with 89 participants
- Developed deeper relationships with schools and communities in six districts across Hanoi through an agreement with our local partner, the Hanoi Relief Association for Handicapped Children (HARAHAC), until 2018
- Supported three staff to complete their Masters of Social Work, with five other staff also undertaking a Master's program as at the end of the year

Education, training and youth engagement

The Step Ahead Education and Training Team provides educational services for children and their families at the Blue Dragon Learning Centre, through individual and group tuition, life-skills workshops, reading time and financial support. Two teachers assist the children, supported by over 30 volunteers. An Educational Psychologist provides psychological support and career and education guidance.

In 2014-2015, we developed a mandatory Career Preparation Program (CPP) for all Blue Dragon kids aged 15 and over. Through field trips, individual career counselling, workshops and training, the aim of the program is to help prepare Blue Dragon kids for their future studies and careers.

The Tertiary Students Program thrived this year, with an increase to 76 students and excellent results and engagement.

Blue Dragon's Youth Engagement Program supports young people to develop leadership, participate in shared decision-making, and gain a sense of ownership. Young people are supported to drive youth-initiated activities and are consulted on the delivery of services. Through Youth Engagement, we have been able to develop a more youth-friendly and youth-driven service at the Drop-in Centre and Learning Centre.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014-2015

- Developed a CPP for all Step Ahead youth over the age of 15 to prepare them for their future studies and careers
- Delivered the CPP to 31 youth, with eight young people securing paid employment and 16 young people entering vocational training courses
- Adapted the Career Preparation workshops for 15 children with disabilities (for example, by providing sign language translation)
- Developed new partnerships with eight organisations and companies providing field trips, work experience and internships
- Revised the in-house curriculum for soft skills and life-skills training
- Delivered 32 life-skills workshops to more than 100 children on topics including anti-smoking, sexual health, teamwork, conflict resolution and communication
- Facilitated workshops and discussions with over 200 children to raise awareness of sexual abuse and trafficking
- Supported 76 students to enrol in tertiary education and celebrated the attainment of scholarships and prizes
- Enhanced the leadership of youth in Step Ahead activities and trained staff in youth participation and engagement

Huynh

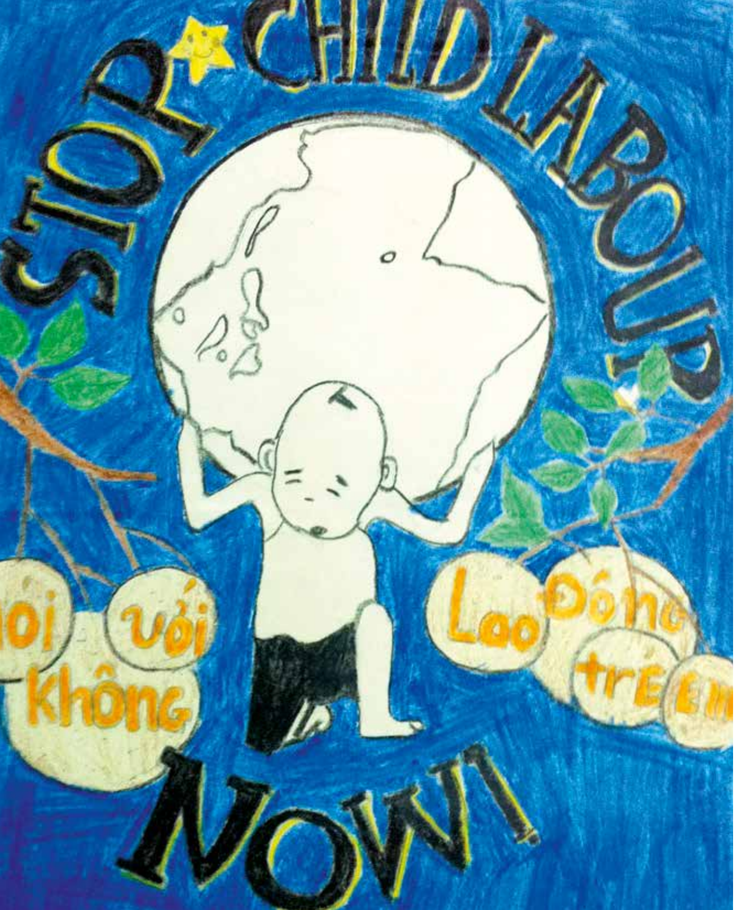
Huynh was born into a poor family in Nam Dinh province. He has four siblings. While Huynh was growing up, his eldest brother was in jail and the second oldest brother worked far away from home and could not support the family. His father has an intellectual disability so his mother had to work and care for the whole family.

Being constantly reminded by the teacher to pay school fees and teased by his neighbours that he was the son of a 'crazy' man, Huynh was ashamed and could not focus on studying. He quit school and went to Hanoi looking for work.

In Hanoi, Huynh had no friends, nowhere to shower or to sleep, and not enough food to eat. He hid from the police by sleeping in trees at night. He took up many different casual jobs, such as builders' assistant, noodle shop server and shoeshine boy; but, to have enough money to survive, he had to do something that he didn't want to do – sex work.

Blue Dragon met Huynh in 2013 and supported him to go back to school in his hometown in Nam Dinh. However, it was too difficult for him to adapt, so in 2014 he came back to the Blue Dragon Centre in Hanoi.

The Step Ahead social worker supporting Huynh continued to encourage him to go back to school and, since all the schools in his area refused to accept him, Blue Dragon's legal team met with the District Education Department to persuade them to allow Huynh to re-enrol. As a result, Huynh was accepted into high school. Step Ahead now supports him with school fees, a monthly allowance, clothes, and all his basic needs. Step Ahead also covers his sister's school fees so that Huynh can focus on his study rather than worrying about his family. Even though he still faces difficulties, Huynh has made some progress and has received positive comments from his teachers who have recognised his strong effort to improve his life.



Child labour trafficking: Safe and Sound Hue

Safe and Sound Hue is an anti-trafficking program offering a comprehensive range of support to children and families who have been victims, or who are at risk of becoming victims, of labour trafficking in central Vietnam. Activities range from rescuing trafficked children, to paying school fees and building homes for families. To date, 12,533 people have benefited from Safe and Sound Hue activities, including 3,868 children.

Many children from poor families living in rural communities in Thua Thien-Hue province in central Vietnam are at risk of being trafficked and exploited by garment factories in Ho Chi Minh City. Safe and Sound Hue works in 14 communes in the province to prevent trafficking and to rescue and support victims. Safe and Sound Hue is in its ninth year of operation.

Of particular note this year is the very small number of children rescued from garment factories compared with previous years. During this year, the number of children trafficked from Thua Thien-Hue province to the southern factories fell considerably; and while there is no reliable data to compare year on year figures, the number of cases we encountered has dropped despite us having a much wider reach in more communes.

SAFE AND SOUND HUE ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014-2015

- Rescued nine children from factories and returned them home in cooperation with our partner, the Hue Women's Union, and local government and police
- Directly supported 303 children and young people on an ongoing basis
- Provided educational support for 290 children through the payment of school fees and compulsory health insurance levies and the provision of textbooks and uniforms to keep the children in school and safe from the dangers of trafficking
- Built four new houses and 10 toilets to provide safe living spaces for at-risk kids and their families
- Helped 1,800 people obtain their legal registration papers
- Provided 17 children with medical checks
- Provided welfare support to 50 children
- Provided tutoring assistance and extra lessons to 150 children
- Provided career advice, support to find employment, supplementary tuition and counselling services
- Supported four young people to start their first year of university
- Organised social activities and ten special events for over 300 children including Moon Festival, Tet celebration and International Children's Day
- Organised 20 workshops on child labour, child rights, anti-trafficking and social issues for children, parents, teachers and local officials
- Facilitated three workshops and training sessions to build the capacity of Hue Women's Union staff and government officers
- Distributed over 2,000 brochures on labour trafficking to schools and local communities; promoted a website and social media highlighting child labour issues and anti-trafficking messages
- Launched an Anti-Trafficking Manual for provincial and local government officers
- Organised a study tour for members of the Hue Women's Union to travel to Dien Bien province to share experiences in anti-trafficking work

Mai

Mai was born in Hue in 1995. Her family has five members: her parents are fisherfolk, her older brother works in Ho Chi Minh City, and she has one younger brother. Mai was rescued from a garment factory in Ho Chi Minh City in 2006. After her rescue, Mai returned home and re-entered school at Grade 7. She comes to Blue Dragon's Hai Tien Centre in Hue regularly to learn maths and English with staff and to play with friends. Mai is talented at drawing, so she helped decorate the Hai Tien Centre and Blue Dragon's Hue office.

Over the summer, Mai helped teach the younger kids and went out with staff to talk to other children and encourage them to stay in school. Mai participated in a radio program on the topic of anti-trafficking and drew a picture on the theme of 'Stop Child Labour' that was included in the Anti-Trafficking Manual. Mai is always keen to participate in workshops on child labour and also likes to join the social activities at Blue Dragon.

Mai dreams of becoming a designer and now her dream can come true: she is studying at Hue University, College of Art with a graphic design major.

Child labour trafficking: Safe and Sound Dien Bien

Safe and Sound Dien Bien targets the trafficking of children and young people from Muong Ang and Tuan Giao districts in Dien Bien province, a remote mountainous area in north-west Vietnam.

There are 21 ethnic minority groups in Dien Bien, mostly residing in the remote and mountainous areas of the province. Safe and Sound Dien Bien provides direct support to members of ethnic minority communities who are the poorest and most at-risk of trafficking and exploitation.

Working with Blue Dragon's local partners, Safe and Sound Dien Bien raises awareness of the risk of trafficking, repatriates and supports the reintegration of trafficking victims, and creates a protective environment for children in order to reduce their vulnerability to trafficking. To date, 1,072 people have benefited from Safe and Sound Dien Bien activities, including directly assisting 69 children. Importantly, the program builds the skills of local people and government officials to strengthen their capacity to fight trafficking.

Safe and Sound Dien Bien supports a growing number of children who are successfully completing secondary school. It is expected that the need for assistance in the form of vocational training and tertiary education support will increase in coming years.

SAFE AND SOUND DIEN BIEN ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014-2015

- Trained 386 local officials in 11 workshops on anti-trafficking, child labour and child rights
- Supported 33 children who had been trafficked or were at risk of trafficking to stay in school
- Built a new kindergarten with a well-equipped classroom, kitchen and toilet to serve up to 20 Khmu ethnic minority children in the remote village of Co Nguu
- Hosted a school service trip for international students to construct a playground for the Co Nguu village kindergarten
- Built four new houses in Muong Ang and Tuan Giao districts for four families whose children were at high risk of trafficking
- Supported four youths to participate in vocational training in Hanoi, following which three found jobs
- Organised a study tour for Dien Bien government officials to visit Hue to share experiences and lessons learned on how to protect communities from trafficking

As also noted in Safe and Sound Hue, the number of Dien Bien children rescued from slavery in southern garment factories dropped markedly in 2014-2015: no new cases were reported in this period. We are optimistic that the communities we work with have built greater resilience against trafficking, and the local government has been able to enforce the law more rigorously to prevent and deter potential traffickers.

Safe and Sound Dien Bien was managed by the Legal Department during the 2014-2015 year.

Luan

Luan is a teenage boy from the Thai ethnic group in Dien Bien province. In 2013, he was a victim of forced labour in a garment sweatshop in Ho Chi Minh City and was rescued by Blue Dragon.

Luan's family has five members, including his parents and two younger brothers. The family's only income came from their work in the fields. There was nothing of value in their house. Poverty forced Luan to quit school and look for work. He followed other kids to work in Ho Chi Minh City, a city he had never heard of before, with the hope that he could send money back to help his parents raise his brothers. However, the three months working in the sweatshop were the worst days he had ever experienced. He had to work 14 hours per day without payment and was not allowed to go out.

After being rescued by Blue Dragon and reunited with his family, Luan returned to school at Grade 5. In 2014, with support from Blue Dragon, a new house was constructed for Luan and his family.

Sex trade trafficking: Project X

Project X provides emergency and long-term support to survivors of sex trade trafficking who have been rescued from China by Blue Dragon's Legal Department. The Project X team provides the girls and young women with safe shelter through emergency accommodation and access to counselling, healthcare, legal support and nutrition. In the longer-term, survivors are offered psychological and social support, access to education, vocational training and income-generating support.

The survivors vary in age from 13 to 35, and come from all over Vietnam. Traffickers tend to target poor, vulnerable populations, so many of the survivors are from ethnic minority communities in remote and rural areas. While Project X is based in Hanoi, the team travels throughout the country to reunite survivors with their families, support survivors and families in the transition process, and provide ongoing psycho-social support.

When survivors are rescued from slavery in China, they are brought to safe emergency accommodation where they are met by the Project X team. Tired, and often frightened and stressed, they are offered a safe space with access to counselling and support to meet their immediate needs like toiletries, clothing and food.

Blue Dragon aims to reunite survivors with their families wherever possible; however, sometimes it is not possible for them to return to their communities. In these cases we support them to live away from their homes and resume their schooling or engage in vocational training.

Survivors who live in and around Hanoi have access to more intensive psychological support through one-on-one and group counselling. Project X has developed a unique supportive therapies approach to working with survivors, including creative and physical activities and yearly retreats. This approach combines psychological interventions with therapeutic activities that provide opportunities for survivors to recover from their trauma.

With an increasing number of girls and women being rescued from sex trade trafficking by Blue Dragon's Legal Department, so too does the number of survivors being supported by Project X increase. The small team of just two staff have not hesitated to respond to the growing number of survivors and works around the clock to provide the support so desperately needed.

PROJECT X ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014-2015

- Supported 68 girls and young women
- Provided 165 counselling sessions
- Provided 24 girls with long-term psychological support
- Helped 14 girls to enrol in school
- Helped five survivors to attend university

Tu

Tu was born and raised in a city just outside Hanoi. Growing up, she lived with her mother, who sold tea, her father, who drove a motorbike taxi, and her older sister.

Tu was trafficked to China and sold into forced commercial sex work. Tu worked in slavery in China for one year.

Blue Dragon's legal team rescued Tu from China and brought her back to Vietnam where, through Project X, she received psychological support and accommodation.

Tu's life has changed completely since Blue Dragon's intervention. With further support including the payment of school fees, Tu is now studying in Grade 10 and hopes to continue on to tertiary education.

Children from poor rural families: Stay in School

Children in rural areas of Vietnam who are forced to drop out of school due to poverty are at high risk of drifting to the cities to live and work on the streets, being exploited for labour, and becoming victims of trafficking. Stay in School is a preventative program, aiming to keep children in school and reduce the school drop-out rate.

Stay in School provides targeted support for students in Bac Ninh province, north of Hanoi. The students are in Grade 5 up to university level. They are typically from families affected by financial hardship or chronic illness, as well as orphans and young people with disabilities.

Each child is provided with all the necessary school equipment – including a school bag, textbooks, notebooks, stationery and uniform – plus school fees and compulsory health insurance levies paid directly to the school. Financial and career planning support is also provided to high school graduates.

Stay in School also encourages and empowers vulnerable children and their families through activities, events, family visits and life-skills workshops.

STAY IN SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014-2015

- Supported 503 students in 24 schools
- Celebrated 117 students receiving the grade of 'Excellent'
- Celebrated 69 students graduating from high school
- Supported 38 tertiary students, of whom five graduated and obtained jobs
- Held ceremonies for the opening and closing of the school year and a Tet celebration
- Built two classrooms and one toilet block
- Presented 21 workshops about hygiene, career preparation and sexual health for students and teachers
- Provided 13 children with bicycles to enable them to travel the long distance between home and school

Chu

Chu is a twelve-year-old boy from a very poor family in Bac Ninh province, a rural area of Vietnam. Chu loves to study mathematics. He thinks that maths is an important subject and dreams of becoming a doctor in the future. He wishes he could cure everyone, especially people who are ill like his father. Chu always works hard and achieves good results at school.

Chu lives in very poor conditions with his family in a dilapidated house which gets very hot in the summer and very cold in the winter. Chu's father has a mental illness and does not work. He sometimes breaks things in the house when he gets angry. Chu's mother is the only income earner for the family and her pay is very low so she can't afford the school fees for two children. Ha, Chu's sister, has been receiving support from Blue Dragon for a number of years. Ha and Chu wouldn't be able to stay in school without help.

Legal advocacy and reform: Legal Department

Blue Dragon's Legal Department is a small team with a huge impact, providing a diverse range of legal services and legal advocacy, taking responsibility for the organisation's legal requirements and government liaison, undertaking law reform work, and leading Blue Dragon's anti-trafficking rescue work and training.

Our passionate lawyers provide free legal advice and assist disadvantaged children and their family members to obtain the legal registration papers necessary for school enrolment and government assistance. The team represents victims of human trafficking and child sexual abuse in court.

The Legal Department is also engaged in the fight against child and sex trade trafficking. Since the beginning of 2005, we have implemented 83 rescue missions to help free victims of trafficking. Some had been trafficked into the sex industry or forced marriages in China. Others were deceived into thinking they were being offered jobs or training, but instead were enslaved in sweatshops, farms or mines in Vietnam and China. Wherever they are trafficked, the rescue team finds them and returns them to their communities.

The work of the Legal Department extends to the repatriation of victims to their hometown and accompanying them through the process of making statements to police and arresting and prosecuting the traffickers.

Along with legal services for individual children and young people, the Legal Department focuses on building the capacity of government officials in the areas in which Blue Dragon works. This includes liaising with the government agencies responsible for law enforcement in the fields of human trafficking, child labour exploitation and sexual abuse throughout Vietnam.

In this financial year, Blue Dragon has been dealing with the issue of street boys being sexually abused by paedophile rings in Hanoi. The Legal Department took a major step in the search for justice on the boys' behalf by holding a conference with the Vietnamese Police Academy to address the shortcomings of the law on child protection. Until the Penal Code is reformed, boys cannot be safe from abuse. The legal team will keep on working with children, families, communities and police to do everything possible to protect Vietnam's vulnerable children.

During the 2014-2015 period, the services provided by the Legal Department continued to grow and expand to meet the complex needs of disadvantaged children and families and the victims of trafficking throughout the whole of Vietnam.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014-2015

- Implemented 23 rescue missions and directly rescued 130 victims from slavery
- Supported 77 trafficking victims who had been rescued by Vietnamese or Chinese police to return to their homes from the Vietnam–China border
- Held nine training sessions and workshops to build the capacity of 948 local officials and police officers on the issues of human trafficking, labour exploitation and sexual abuse
- Delivered six workshops to 232 kids, parents and carers in Hanoi to raise awareness of child rights, child protection and child sexual abuse
- Supported 1,832 individuals to obtain their legal registration papers including two campaigns in Thua Thien–Hue and Dien Bien provinces for identification cards, birth certificates, family record books, marriage certificates and passports
- Provided legal advice to 271 children, family members and victims of human trafficking
- Provided legal representation for seven victims of child sexual abuse and legal support to prosecute the offenders, leading to the sentencing of seven offenders to a total of 53 years in prison
- Launched a media campaign to raise awareness of the sexual abuse of boys; this included working in liaison with senior government officials and legal experts to advocate reform of the law
- Carried out anti-trafficking activities in new locations including Ha Giang province and Nghe An province, while continuing to expand the ongoing anti-trafficking work in Dien Bien province
- Launched a manual for local government officials on preventing the trafficking of children into forced labour
- Provided monthly financial assistance including the payment of school fees for seven repatriated children in Ho Chi Minh City, Ha Giang province, Ha Tinh province and Ninh Binh province
- Held nearly 300 meetings with local officials and police officers at all levels

Rescue #60

In early March 2015, Blue Dragon's legal team received a call for help from a former victim of trafficking who had been rescued by Blue Dragon from a sweatshop in 2012. He rang to report that many people in his village had been invited to go to China to work. His elder sister, aged 20, was one of the villagers who intended to look for an opportunity in the neighbouring country. With our experience in this field, we were immediately alert to the likelihood of trafficking and exploitation.

After collecting more information, we learned that sixty people were being organised to illegally cross the Vietnam–China border in the coming days. The traffickers had promised them good jobs with high salaries in China, working in factories or planting sugarcane. The villagers were farmers and ethnic minority people who didn't have any idea about what was really waiting for them in a foreign country. They would be held against their will. They would be forced to work hard and given little food. They would not be paid for their hard work.

We asked the police in Dien Bien province for their support to stop this ring. On 5 March, the first busload of 27 people was stopped before crossing the border. On 8 March, another two busloads of 33 people were stopped. The police arrested five traffickers.

Thanks to Blue Dragon's intervention, 60 people – including 35 children – are safe at home. Our contact's sister now realises the danger she was in and has found work in her hometown. Once again we are reminded that poverty, unemployment and lack of awareness are the root causes of people's vulnerability to trafficking. We have a lot of work still to do.

Our supporters

Donors 2014-2015

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation has received the support of many committed individuals and groups since it was founded in 2003. We are grateful to all who have given us the benefit of their expertise, moral support and tireless fundraising, and the in-kind and financial support that sustains our activities. In 2014-2015, 1,595 donors contributed to the work of Blue Dragon, ranging from primary school students to corporations. We value each and every contribution made to create opportunities for the kids in crisis.

Financial and material support has come from a variety of sources and locations around the world. A particular thank you goes to World Vision Singapore and World Vision Vietnam for funding a major component of our work with street kids. We also thank the Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP).

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS, FOUNDATIONS AND TRUSTS

24 Hour Race
AFAP Action on Poverty
Australian Philanthropic Services Foundation
Catholic Relief Services
Choice Foundation
CLSA Chairman's Trust
EMpower
English Family Foundation
Glencoe Foundation
Indochina Arts Partnership
Intrepid Foundation
ITO Supporting Comity
Jenour Foundation
JUST Foundation
Magnolia Foundation
Marcil Family Foundation
McKesson Foundation
Morris Family Foundation
Passion Foundation
Rees Family Foundation
Ryan Cooper Family Foundation
Sagitte Yom-Tov Fund
Sing Me a Story
The Big Umbrella
The Duggan Foundation
The Nelumbo Trust Fund
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
Vandermark Foundation
Wietlisbach Foundation
World First UK Limited
World Vision Singapore
World Vision Vietnam
W. P. Schmitz Foundation
Youth VIP

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANISATIONS

Blue Dragon International Fundraising Committee
Blue Dragon International Melbourne Supporters
Blue Dragon Children's Trust New Zealand
Blue Dragon Taupo
Blue Dragon USA
Cosmo Amateur Football League
Coup de Pouce Vietnam
Donna Akers & Group
Emu Park Lions Club
Hanoi International Women's Club
Liz Ryan Group
Nonprofit Network for Aid, Assistance and Acceptance
New Sunlight Charity Group
Reuters Foundation Consultants Ltd
Rotary Club of Randwick
SE Asian Student Association at Boston College
Travelfish Pty Ltd
Veterans United Home Loans
Viet Vo Dao LEVDA
Vietnamese Student Association at Southern Methodist University

GOVERNMENTS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Australian Embassy
Diplomatic Partners Association of Hanoi
French Embassy in Singapore
Irish Aid
New Zealand Embassy NZAid
Population, Health, and Development Institution
United States Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

CORPORATE SPONSORS

Accor
AcornRent Ltd
Al Frescos Group
ANZ Bank (Vietnam) Ltd
Austnam
AuxiliaOnlus
Blue Dragon Restaurant
Blue Illusion
Bookworm Hanoi
Caxton FX Ltd
Dinh International
DV8 Leather
Evergreen Invest, Jsc.
Fairfield RSL
Green Tangerine Hanoi
Hilton Hotel
Hotel L'Opera De Hanoi
PAYCE Management Pty Ltd
Pharmasave Drugs Ltd
Qualcomm Incorporated
Red Apron
Roland Schatz
Rolld
Rolls Royce International Ltd
Smackfunyc Limited Liability Company
Softcube Network
Son Ha Spice Company
Tan My Design
TryBooking
UMA
Weily Inc

SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

British Vietnamese International School Hanoi, Vietnam

Christian Brothers' Lewisham, Australia

Edukingdom College Footscray, Australia

Ferron Elementary School, USA

German European School, Singapore

Hanoi Academy, Vietnam

Hanoi International School, Vietnam

Hutt International Boys' School, New Zealand

International School of Luxembourg, Luxembourg

International School of Singapore, Singapore

Keiraville Public School, Australia

Lasell College, USA

London School of Economics, Saw Swee Hock Student Centre, UK

Lycée Français de Singapour, Singapore

Mercy Catholic College, Australia

Nesoddtangen School, Norway

Newington College, Australia

North Sydney Girls High School, Australia

Peakhurst Public School, Australia

International School of Geneva, La Grande Boissiere Campus, Switzerland

Rietberg Montessori School, Switzerland

RMIT University, Vietnam

Saigon South International School, Vietnam

Santa Sabina College, Australia

Shalom College, Australia

Shenton College, Australia

Singapore American School, Singapore

Singapore International School, Hanoi, Vietnam

South Hobart Primary School, Australia

St Aloysius' College, Australia

St. Elisabeth University of Health and Social Sciences, Slovakia

St. Paul's International School, Vietnam

Tanglin Trust School, Singapore

Triabunna District School, Australia

Trinity Grammar School, Australia

Tuggerah Public School, Australia

United Nations International School, Vietnam

United World College Singapore

University of Washington Foster School of Business, America

Waverley College, Australia

INDIVIDUALS

Hundreds of supporters from all around the world fundraise for Blue Dragon, make personal donations even when times are lean, and help us spread the word about the plight of disadvantaged kids in Vietnam. Many are old friends who continue their support year after year. Many are visitors or volunteers to Blue Dragon who stay connected. Some donations are small, some are substantial – and all are equally important and appreciated.

Our staff

In the 2014-2015 period, Blue Dragon services were delivered and supported by 62 staff (58 full-time and four part-time staff; 40 female staff and 22 male staff). Thank you to all our staff for their invaluable support and dedication.

Our volunteers

During 2014-2015, 56 volunteers taught English, maths, arts and crafts, photography, music, skateboarding, DJing, swimming, football and rock climbing, as well as providing social work support. Thank you to all our volunteers: You are instrumental in helping Blue Dragon care for kids in crisis and providing the knowledge and life skills necessary for growth, development and a positive future.

Fundraising activities 2014-2015

Blue Dragon supporters around the world have done amazing things to raise funds for the kids in crisis who are cared for by Blue Dragon. They have traversed mountain paths on bikes, blown their horns, developed blisters on their feet from long hikes, and bought bricks – all to ensure a great fundraising event. We are grateful for everything they have done, and continue to do.

MAJOR FUNDRAISERS

Rally Indochina 2015 and Great Minsk Charity Rally

When it comes to Vietnam, motorbikes are the most popular mode of transport. Organised annually, Rally Indochina and the Great Minsk Charity Rally raise funds to combat child labour trafficking in central Vietnam. It has been six years since the first Rally Indochina. Thank you for your amazing support!

Ride for Blue Dragon Kids 2015

Fulton Smith, Dave Sproule and Don Silcock smashed their fundraising target to raise funds to help build a new shelter and provide support for the survivors of sex trade trafficking. For many years, Fulton and Dave have hopped on their motorbikes for Blue Dragon kids. This year, their ride across the Tibetan plains and Himalayan slopes to reach Mt Everest Base Camp raised AU$8,000.

Team Marathon Dragon Walk

The Blue Dragon International Melbourne Supporters Group signed up 21 people to the 40 km Team Marathon Dragon Walk along the scenic Great Victorian Rail Trail. They raised over AU$22,000 towards safe shelter and long-term care services for street children.

150 for 150

Rolld in Melbourne organised the 150 for 150 fundraiser in March 2015 to raise funds to build a boarding school in a remote region so kids can be safe in school. A celebrity MC and auctioneer kept the crowd entertained. A good time was had by all for a great cause.

Concert with a Cause

Sixty musicians and a world-class opera singer got together in Sydney for a Concert with a Cause in August 2014. Blue Dragon's Sydney-based supporters organised an afternoon of music featuring the Warringah Concert Brass Band, St Ives High School Band and one of Australia's finest opera singers, Amelia Farrugia, to benefit Blue Dragon kids.

Courage Appeal

The Courage Appeal ran from May to July 2015 and raised a total of $362,405 to provide safe homes, protection and care to trafficked, abused and at-risk children in Vietnam. As well as raising money, the Courage Appeal motivated and engaged Blue Dragon kids. Over a two week period, they worked with Blue Dragon social workers to explore what courage meant to them and to express their ideas through photography. The photos and storyboards formed the basis of the Courage Appeal's communication activities and can be viewed on the Blue Dragon website: http://www.bluedragon.org/courage-appeal-thanks/

Christmas Campaign

The 2014 Red Stocking Christmas Campaign raised $49,700 to:

- Feed 70 hungry street children for six months
- Provide 31 sets of clothes, six meals, seven health checks, nine counselling sessions, 22 educational support and three therapy sessions for survivors of sex trade trafficking
- Build six houses for very poor families so their children are safe from danger

Thanks to Blue Dragon supporters, we can provide care and protection for children in crisis not just at Christmas but for years to come. Street children received emergency support and became less vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Rescued girls and young women were supported to stand back on their feet and rebuild their lives. Six families have a safe home and their children are protected.

Our partners

BLUE DRAGON INTERNATIONAL

Blue Dragon International is the Australian partner of Blue Dragon Children's Foundation. Blue Dragon International is based in Australia and is driven by a voluntary Board of Directors and members.

Blue Dragon International provides professional and strategic support for Blue Dragon's work in Vietnam and assists in building the profile of Blue Dragon through fundraising and community events. In this way, we maximise opportunities and resources to assist the most disadvantaged children in Vietnam. Australians can make tax-deductible donations to Blue Dragon through AFAP Action on Poverty.

BLUE DRAGON USA

Blue Dragon USA was founded in 2011 by former volunteers and staff of Blue Dragon Children's Foundation, including one of the original co-founders, Chung Pham. Blue Dragon USA is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible public charity.

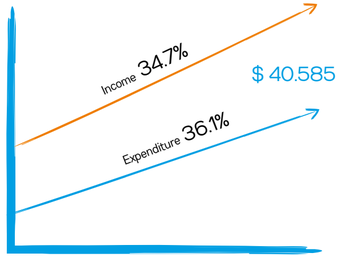
With the aim of providing resources and support to disadvantaged Vietnamese children, Blue Dragon USA is a growing charity seeking to establish chapters throughout the US.

BLUE DRAGON CHILDREN'S TRUST NEW ZEALAND

Blue Dragon Children's Trust New Zealand was set up in 2010 to provide an easy way for New Zealanders to support Blue Dragon's work in Vietnam. The trust organises fundraising activities, including an annual book fair, raising funds for specific projects and services such as The Shelter. The trustees personally cover the trust's administrative costs, which means 100% of every dollar raised and donated in New Zealand goes directly to the care of vulnerable children in Vietnam. New Zealand citizens can make donations direct through the Trust's website: https://bluedragonnz.wordpress.com/

Financial report

Highlights of the 2014-2015 financial year (1 July-30 June)



- A considerable growth in total income of 34.7%
- An increase of 36.1% in expenditure on direct services
- An overall surplus of $40,585 compared with $41,687 in 2013 - 2014

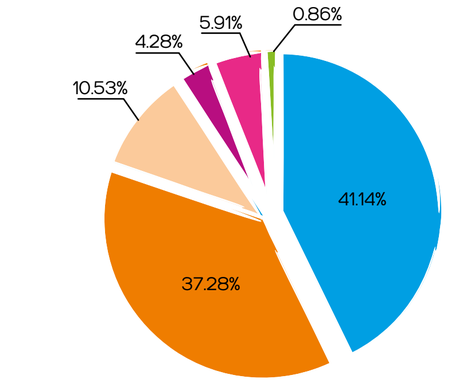
Financial audit

Blue Dragon's accounts were audited for the sixth consecutive year by an independent, external auditing firm, Russell Bedford KTC SCS Audit Company Limited (formerly KTC Assurance and Business Advisors). On 29 October 2015, the auditors concluded that:

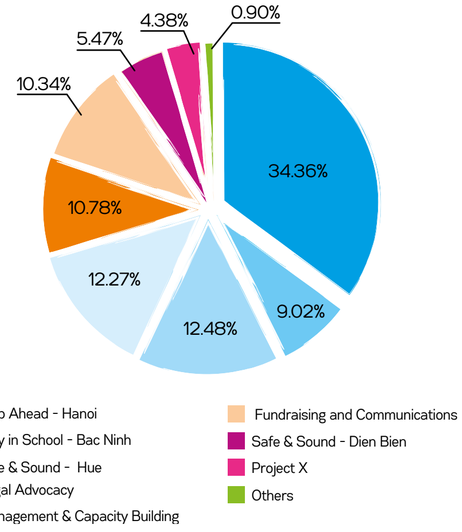
The financial statements of the Organisation as at 30 June 2015 and for the year ended 30 June 2015 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies as described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

Income and expenditure at a glance

INCOME BY SECTOR



EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAM



Statements of Financial Position and Financial Activities

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - As at 30 June 2015 (USD)

	2015	2014		2015	2014
Current Assets			**Current Liabilities**		
Cash & cash equivalent	639,079	474,293	Payables	58,858	25,470
Receivables	0	0	Tied Funds for Future periods	319,559	263,661
Prepayments	94,321	96,930			
Stock on Hand	5,436	5,466			
Other current assets	42,727	48,796			
Total Current Assets	**781,564**	**625,485**	**Total Current Liabilities**	**378,417**	**289,131**
Non-Current Assets					
Equipment at WDV*	8,808	12,021			
Computers at WDV	14,325	19,637			
Vehicle at WDV	7,156	12,207			
Leasehold improvement	87,049	99,681			
Total Non-Current Assets	117,338	143,546	**Non-Current Liabilities**	0	0
Total Assets	**898,902**	**769,031**	**Total Liabilities**	**378,417**	**289,131**
Net Assets	520,485	479,900			
Available Funds					
Balance at beginning of period	479,900	438,213			
Currency variations	0	0			
Current year surplus	40,585	41,687			
Total Available Funds	**520,485**	**479,900**			

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - For year ended 30 June 2015 (USD)

Income	**2015**	**2014**
Donations	1,487,700	1,095,311
Other income	12,912	18,984
Total Income	**1,500,612**	**1,114,295**
Expenses		
Salaries and Employee costs	572,898	456,315
Office Supplies & Equipment	37,106	20,221
Education	173,229	135,731
Health	7,393	8,066
Nutrition	34,248	34,056
Relief supplies	228,965	141,637
Travel	158,096	79,584
Occupancy	148,833	125,465
Hospitality & Events	23,457	24,373
General & Administrative	62,542	39,152
Finance expenses	13,260	7,487
Other expenses	0	520
Total Expenses	**1,460,027**	**1,072,608**
Operating Surplus	**40,585**	**41,687**

blue dragon
CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation

PO Box 297, International Post Office,
Hanoi, Vietnam

Phone +84 4 3717 0544
Email info@bdcf.org