ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

blue dragon

CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

CONTENT

03 MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

04 WHO WE ARE

07 WHAT WE DO

09 HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015-2016

10 BLUE DRAGON'S PROGRAMS

10 Step Ahead

12 Stay In School

14 Safe And Sound (Hue)

16 Safe And Sound (Dien Bien)

18 Project X

20 Legal Advocacy

22 FINANCES

26 BLUE DRAGON'S SUPPORTERS

32 CONTACT INFORMATION

MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER

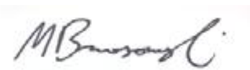
Blue Dragon Children's Foundation works on the frontline with children in crisis throughout Vietnam.

From day to day, we meet children and families who are experiencing trauma, or suffer serious health conditions, or live in a spiral of poverty. It would be easy to fall into despair at the state of our world and to give up hope that it can ever be any better.

And yet, we also see the wonder of changed lives and the resilience of young people recovering from the experience of trafficking and abuse. We see teens who have been through the worst of the worst returning to school, gaining employment, and turning their fortunes around.

Despite the hardships that we see, all of us at Blue Dragon continue to believe in this important work of serving children in need. We continue to believe that what we do makes a long and lasting difference on many thousands of lives here in Vietnam.

And we continue to be thankful for our many friends around the world, without whose support we could do nothing. Thank you.



Michael Brosowski, AM

blue dragon

OUR MISSION

To provide opportunities and tools that empower the most disadvantaged children and their families to break out of poverty, forever.

OUR VALUES

Blue Dragon cares for the children in our programs. They are a part of our extended family, and not just program beneficiaries.

Blue Dragon provides safe shelters for children who need a place to escape turmoil.

Blue Dragon hopes that our children will grow up to share our values and concerns for those who are disadvantaged.

Blue Dragon treats the children with the greatest of respect and we include them in every part of our planning.

Blue Dragon sees children as individuals, with their very own needs, dreams and personalities.

» WHO WE ARE

COLLABORATION, NOT CONTROL

Our staff work alongside the children and their families, so that the beneficiaries are involved in all stages of our programs, rather than simply being recipients of charity.

RESPECT, NOT PITY

The children we work with are treated with at least the same respect that we would treat our own sons and daughters, brothers and sisters.

EMPOWERMENT, NOT DEPENDENCY

Our role is to provide opportunities for children to pursue as individuals, rather than to force our views or values on to the children.

MASSIVE INTERVENTIONS, NOT QUICK-FIX SOLUTIONS

We tackle the problem of poverty from every angle, rather than focusing on one obvious cause or effect. Our interventions may take years, as we persist until we are successful.

DEVELOPMENT, NOT CHARITY

Our work is to help children develop fully as they grow, through providing a broad range of experiences and opportunities. Rather than simply provide a handout, we provide a hand up for those who choose to better their circumstances and themselves.

WHAT WE DO

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation is a grassroots Australian charity working with kids in crisis throughout Vietnam. Our kids come from many backgrounds, but all are in difficult circumstances and need a chance to make a change. We meet children on the streets, at their workplaces, or in their homes, and we support them until they can stand on their own feet, living happy, prosperous and self-sufficient lives. Our range of services to children includes:

SOCIAL WORK

individual planning for the care and education of children in crisis.

ACCOMMODATION

giving kids a place to grow and thrive while they study and begin employment.

CAREER GUIDANCE

helping teenagers and young adults as they choose their career path.

A DROP-IN CENTRE

providing a safe haven for children to play and learn.

TERTIARY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS

offering grants and loans to young adults seeking to further their education at college and university.

CHILD RIGHTS ADVOCACY

standing up for kids when they are in conflict with the law or victims of crimes.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

individual and group counselling to assist young people with issues such as grief, trauma and behavioural problems.

SCHOOL FEE RELIEF

enabling the poorest of the poor to afford a basic education.

“We see the girls and boys as part of our extended family, and we care for them accordingly.

All of our experience and first-hand knowledge is shared with other agencies and organisations also seeking to help Vietnamese children, and with government departments to advocate for lasting change at a national level.”

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015-2016

Supported **936** children to return to or stay in education.
Granted **42** tertiary scholarships.
Assisted **50** children with disabilities to access rehabilitation, education and job placement.
Rescued **83** kids off the streets and permanently
reunited **66** of them with their families.
Placed **22** young people into new jobs.
Provided safe accommodation
for **82** children.
Assisted **60** female survivors of trafficking to reintegrate back into their communities.
Rescued **81** children, men and women from trafficking.
(**22** from labour exploitation and
58 from sex trafficking) & assisted with police rescues of
another **176** people.
Assisted **2,777** people to get legal registration papers.
Trained **1,908** government officials in anti-trafficking and child rights.
Represented trafficking victims
in **14** court cases,
in which **34** traffickers were convicted.
Represented **81** children in child protection cases.
Provided training and parents' support groups
for **894** parents and carers.
Built **1** classroom and playground in central Vietnam.

BLUE DRAGON'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

PROGRAM 1: STEP AHEAD
LOCATION: HA NOI

ASSISTING HOMELESS AND IMPOVERISHED YOUNG PEOPLE IN AN URBAN CONTEXT

WHO WE SERVE

Step Ahead operates in Ha Noi, serving over 450 highly disadvantaged children and teens. Most are street kids or children living with families affected by drugs, disability, crime or poor health.

HOW WE WORK

Each child in Step Ahead has an Individual Assistance Plan created through a process of negotiation between Social Workers, the child, and the child's family or caregivers (if any).
Step Ahead operates a drop-in centre for teens; 2 long-term shelters; and a host of outreach and social activities specifically for street children and children with disabilities.

STEP AHEAD IN 2015-2016

- 224 children received ongoing support based on Individual Assistance Plans, including 48 young people with disabilities.
- 106 homeless children were met and assisted by the Street Outreach team.
- Provided accommodation for 93 young people.
- Awarded tertiary-level scholarships to 8 students, while another 6 students graduated from university and college courses.
- Delivered a Career Preparation Program to 50 youths.
- Provided individual career counselling for 32 youths.
- Assisted 22 youths to take part in work experience placements, and another 7 youths to gain permanent employment.
- Delivered 6 life skills workshops to 77 teenagers.
- Blue Dragon United Football Club played 342 games, including its 2000th game since we began.

PROGRAM 2: STAY IN SCHOOL
LOCATION: BAC NINH PROVINCE

KEEPING IMPOVERISHED RURAL CHILDREN IN THE FORMAL EDUCATION SYSTEM

WHO WE SERVE

Stay In School provides educational support to disadvantaged children in Yen Phong and Thuan Thanh districts of Vietnam's northern Bac Ninh Province. The program provides targeted support for students in Grades 5-12 from financially disadvantaged families, particularly orphans, young people with disabilities and families affected by HIV/AIDS.

HOW WE WORK

Stay In School keeps vulnerable rural children in school by providing practical assistance and Social Work support to them and their families where necessary.

Each child in Stay In School receives support to enrol in, or continue at, school. The program provides all essential school equipment – including a school bag, text books, note books, stationery, and school uniform – and pays mandatory school fees and insurance.

Apart from direct school support, Stay In School provides encouragement to the children and their families through activities, events and additional support, including:

- An Opening Ceremony to celebrate the start of each school year (August).
- A Tet (Lunar New Year) celebration (February).
- A Closing Ceremony to mark the end of the school year (May/June).
- Bicycles for children who live far from school.
- Learning facilities, such as desks and lamps, for families and schools.
- Occasional workshops for students on topics such as human trafficking and drug use.
- The offer of tertiary scholarships for Year 12 graduates.

STAY IN SCHOOL IN 2015-2016

- Provided direct support to 398 students from Grades 5 to 12 across 23 schools.
- Gave scholarships to 11 tertiary-level students.
- During the year, 35 high school students graduated from Grade 12, while 7 tertiary students graduated from their university and college courses.

PROGRAM 3: SAFE AND SOUND (HUE)
LOCATION: PHU VANG, PHU LOC, NAM DONG DISTRICT, THUA THIEN HUE PROVINCE

RESCUING TRAFFICKED CHILDREN AND PROTECTING COMMUNITIES IN CENTRAL VIETNAM

WHO WE SERVE

Safe And Sound (Hue) is Blue Dragon's anti-trafficking program for children in Hue province. The program operates in Phu Vang, Phu Loc, and Nam Dong districts

These are very poor areas of the province where the main source of income is from fishing, which is dependent on seasons and climatic conditions. Many children, as well as parents, are illiterate and unschooled.

HOW WE WORK

Safe And Sound works with communities and families who have been targeted by child traffickers. Program staff co-operate with the local government to rescue trafficked children and take them home. They are then supported to live with their families and return to (or begin) education.

The program offers a comprehensive range of support, including the building of homes, paying school fees, support to find employment, a community centre in one village, a fish breeding program for parents, and emergency relief during natural disasters. These activities are tailored to prevent child trafficking and support the reintegration of trafficked children who have been set free and returned home.

SAFE AND SOUND (HUE) IN 2015-2016

The program has directly supported 400 children and young people on an ongoing basis. Program achievements include:

- Provided material assistance to a total of 514 children.
- Assisted 6 new children who were rescued from sweatshops to return to their families.
- Built one new kindergarten classroom; one playground for a secondary school; upgraded a community center; and built 3 new houses for families.
- Provided tuition for 252 children.
- Organised 16 workshops on social issues and financial management for children, parents, and teachers.
- Delivered over 1,200 brochures on labour trafficking to school teachers, children and communities.
- Awarded tertiary scholarships for 20 students.

PROGRAM 4: SAFE AND SOUND (DIEN BIEN)
LOCATION: TUAN GIAO AND MUONG ANG DISTRICTS, DIEN BIEN PROVINCE

RESCUING TRAFFICKED CHILDREN AND PROTECTING COMMUNITIES IN NORTH-WEST VIETNAM

WHO WE SERVE

Muong Ang and Tuan Giao districts of Dien Bien province are remote areas of north-west Vietnam, home to largely ethnic minority communities including the Hmong, Thai and Khmu minorities. People here are highly vulnerable to human trafficking due to both their remoteness and their poverty.

HOW WE WORK

Safe And Sound (Dien Bien) was established in 2013 to protect and support children and young people in Dien Bien province at high risk of being trafficked for labour and sex.

The program actively finds and rescues children and young people who have been trafficked, and brings them home. Ongoing support is then provided, including school fee relief, training for police and government officials, community development activities, and a comprehensive range of services for impoverished children.

SAFE AND SOUND (DIEN BIEN) IN 2015-2016

- Provided school fee relief for 46 children and school equipment for 340.
- Supported the reintegration of 14 survivors of human trafficking.
- Delivered emergency aid to 138 impoverished families after a flood.
- Provided teaching aids and facilitities for 2 schools.
- Established two youth groups for 192 children living in boarding houses.
- Built 3 new houses and renovated houses for 4 families.
- Renovated a toilet, built a fence and installed a new gate for a kindergarten.
- Provided career advice for 114 students.
- Supported 2 families to access drug detoxification programs.
- Supported 2 human trafficking survivors to develop their own business at home, raising cattle.
- Distributed over 400 brochures on human trafficking in local communities.

PROGRAM 5: PROJECT X
LOCATION: NATIONAL

DELIVERING REINTERGRATION CARE AND SERVICES TO SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

WHO WE SERVE

Project X is a rehabilitation service for Vietnamese girls and young women who have been trafficked into the sex industry and have escaped or been rescued. Most survivors in Project X have been sold into China for forced marriages and commercial sexual exploitation. While most are aged 14-18, some are in their 20s or above; and while most program participants have been rescued by Blue Dragon's Legal Advocacy Department, others are referred by police or other agencies.

HOW WE WORK

Project X provides psycho-social support to newly returned survivors of sex trafficking, including psychological counselling, meals, safe accommodation, and health checks. When they are ready, survivors are assisted to return home to their families, or supported to stay in Hanoi. Project X provides survivors with the intensive long-term psychological, emotional and financial support they need, encouraging their return to education and financial independence.

The program uses an individual case management approach, and a mix of individual and group therapy is applied. A model of supportive therapies has been developed to engage survivors with therapeutic approaches that aid their recovery. Supportive therapies may take the form of trips to the countryside; visits to provide community service at orphanages; dance classes; learning support and massage.

PROJECT X IN 2015-2016

During the year, Project X achieved the following:

- Assisted 36 survivors to receive medical checks at hospitals and clinics.
- Delivered 12 group therapy sessions and 86 individual counselling sessions.
- Provided ongoing living support, such as accommodation and study fee relief, for 17 young women.
- Supported 4 survivors to return to school and another 9 to attend vocational training.
- Trained 53 students from the Vietnamese Youth Academy in counselling skills for survivors of human trafficking.
- Awarded 3 tertiary scholarships.

PROGRAM 6: LEGAL ADVOCACY
LOCATION: NATIONAL

OFFERING LEGAL ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW, AND RESCUE FOR PEOPLE HELD IN SLAVERY.

WHO WE SERVE

Blue Dragon's Legal Advocacy Department offers advice, rescue and representation to any Vietnamese child in crisis who meets the criteria for Blue Dragon programs. While the team is based in Hanoi, our advocacy work is delivered anywhere around Vietnam and, in human trafficking cases, in China as well.

HOW WE WORK

Legal Advocacy is a service that operates across all Blue Dragon programs, providing legal advice and practical assistance to children, families, staff and management.

The Blue Dragon Legal team consists of three Vietnamese Lawyers who are passionate about children's rights, and are engaged in the fight against child trafficking. They are supported by two paralegals.

LEGAL ADVOCACY IN 2015-2016

During the year, the Legal Advocacy service achieved the following:

- Implemented 44 rescue missions and directly rescued 81 victims from slavery.
- Assisted 176 victims of human trafficking who had been rescued by Vietnamese or Chinese police to return to their homes.
- Supported 2,780 people to obtain legal registration papers such as identification cards and birth certificates.
- Provided legal representation in 12 court cases for 16 victims of trafficking, leading to the sentencing of 29 traffickers.
- Provided legal representation for 4 female victims of child sexual abuse and legal support to prosecute one foreign and two Vietnamese pedophiles.
- Held 18 training sessions/ workshops to build the capacity of 1,573 officials and police officers on human trafficking, labour exploitation and sexual abuse
- Provided 1,682 copies of Blue Dragon's anti-trafficking handbook to government officials and local communities.
- Delivered 3 workshops to 600 children, parents and carers on child rights, child protection and child sexual abuse.
- Provided legal advice to 229 children, family members and victims of trafficking.

In addition, the work of the Legal Advocacy department was recognised through 4 awards bestowed by the Vietnamese government, and one international award for the Chief Lawyer.

OUR FINANCES

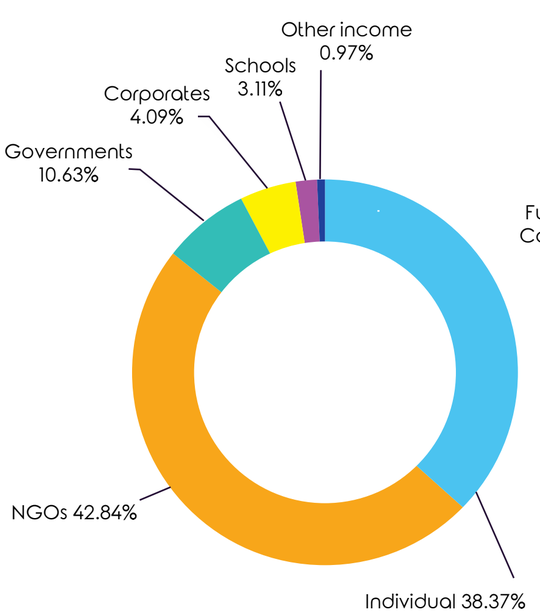
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2015 – 2016 FINANCIAL YEAR (JULY 1 – JUNE 30)

- A strong growth in Total Income (25%).
- A 21% increase in Total Expenses as a result of the expansion of programs.

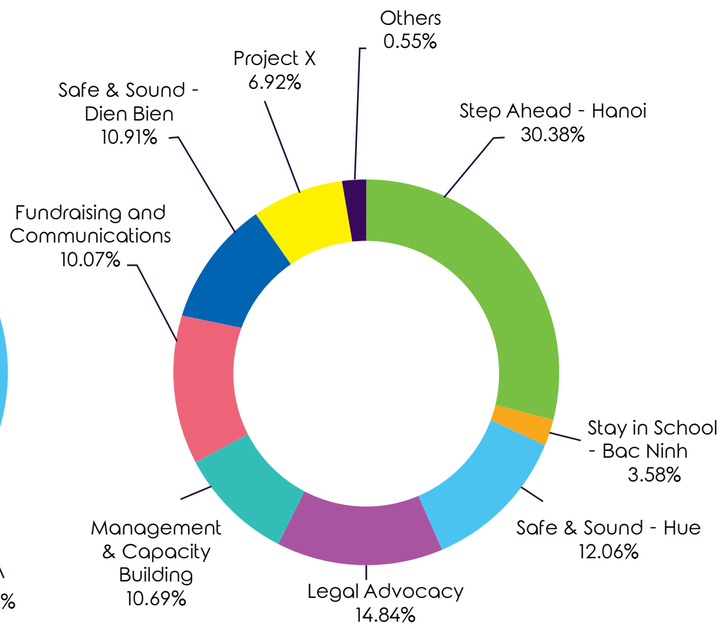
FINANCIAL AUDIT

Blue Dragon's accounts were audited for the sixth consecutive year by an independent, external auditing firm, Russell Bedford KTC Audit Company Limited. The auditor concluded that Blue Dragon's financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2016 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Blue Dragon's accounting policies.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30 2016 AT A GLANCE



SOURCES OF INCOME



EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAM

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2016

	2016 USD	2015 USD
Current Assets		
Cash & cash equivalent	627,717	639,079
Receivables	-	-
Prepayments	89,119	94,321
Stock on Hand	7,239	5,436
Other current assets	71,521	42,727
Total Current Assets	795,597	781,564
Non-Current Assets		
Equipment at WDV	9,253	8,808
Computers at WDV	14,459	14,325
Vehicle at WDV	42,414	7,156
Leasehold improvement	85,914	87,049
Total Non-Current Assets	152,040	117,338
Total Assets	947,637	898,902
Net Assets	607,129	520,485
Available Funds		
Balance at Beginning of period	520,485	479,900
Currency Variation (see Note below)	(23,659)	0
Current year Surplus	110,303	40,585
Total Available Funds	607,129	520,485

	2016 USD	2015 USD
Current Liabilities		
Payables	99,006	58,858
Tied Funds for Future periods	241,502	319,559
Total Current Liabilities	340,508	378,417
Non-Current Liabilities	0	0
Total Liabilities	340,508	378,417

Note: Blue Dragon's accounting records are maintained in Vietnamese Dong (VND). The 'Currency Variation' in this report results from changes in the USD/ VND exchange rates from the beginning of a financial year to the end of that same financial year.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For year-ended 30 June 2016

	2016 USD	2015 USD
Income		
Donations	1,777,064	1,487,700
Other Income	17,430	12,912
Total Income	1,794,493	1,500,612
Expense		
Salaries & Employee costs	667,129	572,898
Office Supplies & Equipment	31,575	37,106
Education	157,284	173,229
Health	19,281	7,393
Nutrition	41,286	34,248
Relief supplies	208,019	228,965
House Construction/Repair	114,345	0
Travel	170,359	158,096
Occupancy	134,029	148,833
Hospitality & Events	60,910	23,457
General & Administrative	71,853	62,542
Finance expenses	5,711	13,260
Other expenses	2,409	0
Total Expenses	1,684,190	1,460,027
Operating Surplus	110,303	40,585

BLUE DRAGON'S SUPPORTERS

There is a global community of supporters who fuel the work of Blue Dragon to rescue children in crisis. Their commitment, enthusiasm and trust are priceless. From fundraising to advocating for Blue Dragon, they contribute their time, energy and resources to giving life-changing opportunities to free children trapped in slavery and poverty.

Organisations that partnered with us in 2015-2016 include:

- Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP)
- Blue Dragon International
- Blue Dragon UK
- Blue Dragon USA
- Blue Dragon Children's Trust New Zealand
- Intrepid Foundation

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 the bulk of the Step Ahead Program.

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS, FOUNDATIONS AND TRUSTS

Acme Foundation
CLSA Chairman's Trust
ChloroPhil
Choice Foundation
EMpower
Intrepid Foundation
Jenour Foundation
JUST Foundation
Lenity Australia Ltd
NAAA (Network Help Support Home-NPO)
Magnolia Foundation
Marcil Family Foundation
McKesson Foundation
Morris Family Foundation
Planet Wheeler Foundation
Qualcomm Incorporated - Community Involvement
Ryan Cooper Family Foundation
Stars Foundation
The Duggan Foundation
The Nelumbo Trust Fund
Thomson Reuters Foundation
Weily Tribe Foundation

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

24 Hour Race
A Better Future For Vietnam
Australian Communities Foundation
Coup de Pouce Vietnam
Emu Park Lions Club
Fairfield RSL
Hanoi International Fellowship
Hanoi International Women's Club
Marlow Ladies Circle
New Generation
New Sunlight Charity Group
Parramatta Salvation Army
Rotary Club of Marrickville
The Big Umbrella
Viet Celts Football Club
Viet Vo Dao LEVDA
Vietnamese Student Association of Seattle
University Young Governors
World Airlines Clubs Association
Youth VIP

GOVERNMENTS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Australian Embassy
British Embassy in Hanoi
Embassy of Canada in Hanoi
French Embassy in Singapore
United States Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (JTIP)

BUSINESS SPONSORS

AcornRent Ltd
ANZ Bank in Vietnam
AON Hewitt
Blue Illusion
Cisco Systems Vietnam Ltd.
Cooper Investors
DJ Charity LLC
Digital Lamb
Dinh International
Enterprises International, Inc.
EPCM Experts
Explore Indochina
Green Tangerine Hanoi
Hanoi Hotel
Hilton Hotel
Hoi An Motorbike Adventures
Hotel L'Opera De Hanoi
J&J Marketing
Khiri Travel
Lousch Limited
QBE Insurance Group Limited
Rickshaw Travel
Rolld
Rolls Royce Int, Ltd.
Si Express
UMA
Vietnam Backpacker Hostel
VIP Bikes

SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

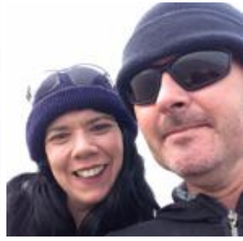
American International School
British Vietnamese International School Hanoi
Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School
California State University

Canadian International School
Chevallum State School
Concordia International School
Figtree Heights Public School
FrancAustralia Education
Hanoi Academy
Hanoi International School
Holy Trinity Lutheran College
ILA Community Network Vietnam
International School of Beijing
International School of Luxembourg
Kirwan State High School
Lourdes Hill College
Luther College '17 Group
Lycee Francais - Singapore
Nexus International School Singapore
North Sydney Girls High School
Ormiston College
Peakhurst Public School
Renaissance International School Saigon
Singapore American School
South Hobart Primary School
Swinburne University
Tanglin Trust School Singapore
Trinity Grammar School
Tuggerah Public School
United Nations International School Hanoi
United World College - East Campus
United World College - Dover Campus
Wellington College
Wesley College
Quarry Bay School
Wodonga Middle Years College

INDIVIDUALS

We have hundreds of friends and supporters all around the world who fundraise for us, make personal donations even when times are lean, and who 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.

Blue Dragon is grateful to all volunteers who support the delivery of our programs.



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