

## World Health Ambassador Program

4221 Green Way, Baltimore, MD 21218

Portal for those courageous care givers

It has been a busy time for the WHA program since the completion of our medical dental mission in March 2007. The medical mission to Can Tho, Viet Nam was a complete success due to the support of friends like you!

The **WHA Happy Hour: Destination Vietnam 2007** was held in Virginia at Hoang's Grill & Sushi Bar and on April 29. The Happy Hour celebrated the success of the Can Tho, Vietnam mission, welcomed new members, and gave WHA an opportunity to thank our many supporters in the Washington, D.C region. The event was packed with about 150 attendees. The atmosphere was filled with beautiful décor, great food, and delightful duets from our professional entertainers, To-Linh Truong on keyboard and Hien Pham, playing the violin. Team members, Phuong Nguyen, pharmacist from VA, and Vicki Nguyen, U.S logistics support from TX were the Mistresses of Ceremony. Diane, registered nurse from VA, was the event coordinator. Dr. Thien Do, WHA director, shared with our guests how WHA was founded and the development of the Can Tho, VN mission. Experiences and thoughts of the mission were then shared by WHA members to include Dr. Van Thanh Ly from NY, Dr. Michael Tsun from VA, Dr. Thang Ba Pham from VA and Jennifer Zadell, registered nurse from VA. Tuan Nguyen, documentary producer also shared his views as a non-medical professional. Everyone got to see the video presentation of the mission for the first time and it was quite moving. Matt Phan, a triathlon competitor, and Barbara Keary, foreign affairs officer, ran a hilarious and highly successful auction event for the original artworks brought back from Vietnam. The happy hour event was a wonderful and heartwarming evening for the team members to share their experiences, to meet so many friends, and to know its mission and goals were well supported.



Happy Hour Falls Church, Va

VHPA Meeting Dallas, Tx

The \$1,800 proceed from the auction will be used for future medical and dental missions and for the treatment of the 3 children, ages 2 to 6, with severe congenital heart disease identified by the team. Currently the corrective heart surgery is expected to cost about \$3,000 per child. Thus far, the team has secured enough funds for the evaluation and surgical treatment of the first child. Since Can Tho city does not have the capability for this type of surgery, the patient will be sent to Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) at a facility specializing in pediatric cardiac surgery. WHA has arranged for logistical support in VN to assist the child and family thru the process and will follow the progression of treatment.



On May 5th, the team presented the Can Tho mission in Dallas, Texas at the **Dallas-Fort Worth Vietnamese Health Professional Association (VHPA)**. The VHPA has been a strong supporter of the WHA project. I want to thank the VHPA under the leadership of Dr. Anthony Nguyen, along with Dr. Jonathan Lam who is our WHA Fund Raising Coordinator, and our many Dallas members. The presentation was very well received, and we were able to sign up several new members from Dallas and Houston.

WHA greatly appreciates all of your support and is eager to bring you more successful updates. Thank you to our current members for their commitment and hard work. We are actively planning fundraising events and preparing for the medical/dental mission trip in 2008. To our new members, welcome aboard and we look forward to working with you!

*Thien M. Do, MD*

World Health Ambassador Director