



Advancing Medical Care and Rehabilitation Education



Occupational therapy services
Photo: Handicap International

GVN Counterparts

National Rehabilitation Center; Hanoi Medical University; Hue University of Medicine and Pharmacy; Hue Central Hospital District 8 Rehabilitation Center; HCMC University of Medicine and Pharmacy; Hai Duong Medical University; Da Nang Medical College

Duration

September 2015 – September 2020

Planned Budget:

\$5,416,746

Prime Implementer:

Handicap International

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Vietnam has experienced significant social and economic changes, including increased road traffic, longer life expectancy, and better health services. These changes have developed a need to address congenital brain defects and acquired brain injuries. Despite increased awareness in Vietnam of the impact of brain lesions on the quality of life of persons with disabilities, there remain serious gaps in service provision and unmet individual needs. The Advancing Medical Care and Rehabilitation Education project enhances the health and well-being of Vietnamese persons with disabilities through higher quality and sustainable services, awareness and advocacy strengthening. The project works with the National Rehabilitation Center in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City as well as Dong Nai, Thai Binh, and Thua Thien Hue provinces.

DEVELOPING A MODEL OF CARE

The project develops standardized medical and functional rehabilitation protocols to care for persons with brain lesions. Models for both center-based treatment and home-based services strengthen the ability of reference centers within the Ministry of Health (MOH) structure to manage comprehensive medical and physical rehabilitation for 8,000 adults and children with physical impairments.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR ACTIVE HEALTH, REHABILITATION, SOCIAL WELFARE PROFESSIONALS

The project conducts training in medical rehabilitation, physical and occupational therapy, nursing, and counseling within a comprehensive rehabilitation provision model. To cover specialized services, existing physical therapy training institutions will use a standardized curriculum and create a pool of qualified Vietnamese occupational therapists who can implement certified techniques in the comprehensive care model for patients in need.

PROMOTION AND MEASUREMENT OF ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH AND QUALITY SERVICES

While a model of comprehensive interventions is included in the National Action Plan for Rehabilitation, the project will institutionalize a system to measure the impact and progress for persons with disabilities' conditions and provide evidence for advocacy purposes.

EXPECTED RESULTS

By the project's end, over 8,000 people with physical impairments will benefit from services in hospitals and rehabilitation centers, among them, 400 children and adults will be followed to measure the quality of services. Over 400 health and rehabilitation professionals, community workers and volunteers will be trained to set up upgraded rehabilitation services. Pools of 15 trainers in brain lesion care, 15 teachers in physiotherapy and eight teachers in occupational therapy will be established to implement certified, comprehensive rehabilitation care.