



## BENEFICIARY UPDATE – March 2015



*These children from Dong Nai province received hearing exams and hearing aids from USAID PDSP.*



*This woman receives information about gender-based violence from a case manager trained by USAID PDSP.*

The USAID Persons with Disabilities Support Program is a three-year program focused on meeting the short- and long-term needs of people with disabilities in Vietnam. The program started in October 2012. The two main components are providing direct assistance to persons with disabilities and capacity building of local government and non-governmental organizations to build a sustainable support network.

### SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

As of March 2015, the project has reached over 10,000 people with disabilities in Danang, Dong Nai, Binh Dinh, Quang Nam and Tay Ninh provinces in Vietnam. Of those, more than 8,600 have received assistance directly from the project. Some highlights:

- 3,233 people received clinical examinations to diagnose needs for physical therapy, prostheses/orthoses, wheelchairs, or hearing aids.
- 710 people received wheelchairs, prosthetic/orthotic devices or corrective surgery to improve their mobility.
- 476 visually-impaired women and men received walking sticks and training to help them safely navigate their neighborhood, homes and workplaces.
- 260 people received hearing aids and clinical exams for hearing loss.
- 781 people received physical therapy and clinical exams to help improve their mobility.
- 246 people were enrolled in speech therapy to help them communicate better with their families, classmates or employers.
- 1,134 children with disabilities received scholarships for school fees, supplies and transportation costs between their home and school.
- 216 children with disabilities were enrolled in schools providing both special and inclusive education.
- 674 persons with disabilities were successfully referred for employment, received livelihood support or vocational training and counseling.
- 67 persons with disabilities were referred to a revolving fund or received micro-credit loans from the Social Policy Bank in Danang and other provinces.
- 577 persons with disabilities were engaged in leadership, business and life skills training, job counseling and social and advocacy events.

### STRENGTHENING THE SUPPORT SYSTEM

As of March 2015, the project has reached a total of 3,330 service providers through training and other capacity building activities, advancing and strengthening the support network for people with disabilities. Some results include:

- 699 parents and caregivers of children with disabilities were trained on home-based rehabilitation techniques.
- 415 case managers and case management supervisors were trained on case management, social work and gender-based violence against persons with disabilities.
- 215 rehabilitation doctors and physical therapists received training on autism and occupational and speech therapy.
- 36 doctors and physical therapists are receiving advanced training to become qualified rehabilitation practitioners.
- 111 teachers are enrolled in a Bachelor's degree course in special education to teach students with special learning needs.
- 37 social workers in Danang enrolled in a 2-year intermediate course of social work training.

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