

operation healthy heart

about the program



East Meets West Foundation's **Operation Healthy Heart** program provides financial and medical assistance to Vietnamese children with serious heart defects.

About 16,000 Vietnamese children are currently waiting to receive cardiac surgery, but the capacity of the country to perform pediatric heart operations is only an estimated 4,000 cases per year.

Operation Healthy Heart (OHH) strives to increase the number of surgeries taking place and facilitate the hospital process for connecting poor, needy heart patients with the appropriate services and care for their conditions. OHH collaborates with Vietnamese government agencies and other non-governmental organizations to provide funding to patients and reduce the financial burden for their families who often deplete their savings and sell their assets to cover the cost of surgery and medical care. The program currently operates in 17 provinces in Vietnam.

Since the program began in 1994, OHH has provided life-saving surgeries to over 2,300 Vietnamese children from impoverished families.

EMW is also building modern medical facilities and training local surgeons to build the capacity for performing surgeries. The program is constantly seeking ways to lower the cost of corrective surgery and introduce more modern procedures for cardiac care in the country.

Operation Healthy Heart aims to greatly expand cardiac care capacities in Vietnam and improve long-term health outcomes for sick children with serious heart disease.

key stats

16,000

Number of children in Vietnam on a waiting list to receive heart surgery

4,000

Estimated number of pediatric cardiac surgeries per year that Vietnam's surgeons can currently perform

96%

Percentage of children in Vietnam with the most common heart defects who will not live to be adults without cardiac surgery

\$1,100

Cost to provide heart surgery for one child through Operation Healthy Heart

key goals

Increase the number of lifesaving heart operations performed each year

Increase the number of children treated for congenital heart defects each year

Identify and diagnose children with heart defects earlier and provide treatment to them before condition worsens

Develop open-heart surgery "aftercare" to ensure children have the proper medications and nutrition to guarantee good long-term outcomes

Expand the ability of Vietnam's medical system to perform corrective surgery and provide good pediatric cardiovascular care

more info

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