



## **Background and Rationale for the Forgotten People Foundation Fund Raising Event in Arizona August 19, 2006**

The Forgotten People Foundation (FPF) was created in the summer of 2005 by Dr. Jerry Braza and Mr. Tuan Nguyen. Dr. Braza is a Professor of health education at Western Oregon University (WOU). After a pilgrimage experience in Vietnam, Dr. Braza witnessed some of the desperate needs for survival in many areas of the country. Tuan Nguyen, a former prisoner of war and boat person, has spent many years supporting the well-being of the people in his homeland. They came together to begin to address these issues in some meaningful way. The result is the beginning of a beautiful and healing endeavor known as the Forgotten People Foundation.

Because the needs of many people are so vast, the FPF is focusing on one project at a time. Our first project is to support Huong La - Home for Abandoned and Disabled Children, which is located in Bac Ninh Province, Northern Vietnam. Several years ago this home, founded more than 100 years ago, closed its doors because of a lack of financial support and professionally trained staff. Sadly, however, children continued to be abandoned by families and orphanages because of their special needs.

In 2003, the Lady of Our Unity Convent reopened Huong La, assigning eight Sisters who, without the benefit of proper CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) training, are bravely attempting to care for the challenging physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of patients. In addition to caring for each child, the nuns must work in rice fields as well as raise pigs, cows, and fish to sell at market. The burden is enormous.

Finances are severely limited, however, making it very difficult to adequately provide even the basic necessities for these “forgotten” children.

Funds from a Banquet will contribute to the following needs:

- Beginning a capitol campaign to raise \$50,000 for a new facility. The old facility is beyond repair and an extremely unsafe and unhealthy for the sisters and the children.
- A plan to increase the monthly food allowance for the residents from \$10/month to \$20/month.
- Provide vocational training for the 8 nuns at the facility. Despite the compassion of the nuns, no one has the training needed (i.e. CNA training) to support the needs of the children.

Thank you for opening your hearts to the children and Sisters who desperately need your prayers and support. The banquet which you are attending will help the Forgotten People Foundation do what the people are unable to do for themselves in providing shelter, food, and training. We are deeply gratified by your willingness to support this endeavor. Please visit the FPF website ([www.forgottenpeople.net](http://www.forgottenpeople.net)) for stories and photographs of the Sisters and the children.

**Forgotten People Foundation - [www.forgottenpeople.net](http://www.forgottenpeople.net)  
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