



VVAF Update

January – May 2011

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- April 20, 2011: Workshop on the role of the military in mine action.
- April 4-8, 2011: Mine Action Contracting Workshop in Geneva.
- March 2011: VVAF completes its DRIVE program.
- March 2011: VVAF welcomes members of the Soldier Heart Organization to its CBR clinics in Danang and Quang Nam.
- February 22-25, 2011: Workshop and training on the development of Vietnam's National Mine Action Standards.

Mental Health Program Begins Implementation

In January 2011, VVAF's Mental Health Program, funded by Atlantic Philanthropies, began the implementation phase of its work.

The implementation phase includes work to finalize the project's research protocol, validate PHQ9, train data collectors, conduct a baseline survey and three month follow up, and extensive training.

DRIVE Program Welcomes Doctors to Vietnam

In March 2011, in conjunction with the second phase of the DRIVE program, VVAF welcomed a group of doctors who visited their centers as part of the Soldier Heart Organization.

This was the second trip made by the group as part of the DRIVE program. The organization also came to VVAF's centers in April 2009 with the program.

Following the successful first trip, Dr. John Fisher and his team came to Vietnam to revisit the CBR Centers to help with improvement and provision of massage and rehabilitation skills.

Dr. Fisher and his team spent two days working with the children with disabilities at two centers, one in Danang and one in Quang Nam.

VVAF Conducts and Participates in Workshops

VVAF staff members coordinated and participated in numerous workshops and trainings in spring 2011.

In February, VVAF staff helped plan and took part in a workshop on the



Soldier Heart and veterans visit VVAFs clinics in Danang and Quang Nam.

Due to the limited time, Fisher and his team could only visit one CBR center in Quang Nam. However, VVAF supported the other two centers by having health workers come and join the training and working session.

During the working session, the specialists and volunteers of Dr. Fisher's team worked directly with the health workers of all the centers and

the parents of CWDs to instruct them on how perform massages and rehabilitation for the kids. In addition, the team gave the CBR center massage oils that should be used during rehabilitation.

Two hundred and seven people in all participated in the sessions. This included 105 patients, 70 family members, and 32 health care providers.

Development of National Mine Action Standards in Vietnam.

Also, in early April 2011, VVAF sent a VBMAC representative to a Mine Action Contracting Workshop. The program

took place in Geneva and covered a wide array of mine-related topics.

In late April, staff coordinated and participated in a workshop on the military's role in mine action.