



## Creating Healthier Communities in Vietnam

At Abbott, we see tremendous potential to make life better through good health. This idea is at the core of our business, and our approach to responsible global citizenship – relentlessly working to unlock the power of health to help people build better lives and stronger communities, through our own actions and in partnership with others.

In Vietnam, Abbott and its foundation the Abbott Fund have provided almost 230 billion VND, or U.S. \$10.2 million, in grants and product donations to address critical health issues through partnerships focused on improving nutrition, training health care staff, strengthening health systems and expanding community education.

### ADVANCING CLINICAL NUTRITION

The Abbott Fund Institute of Nutrition Science (AFINS) is a partnership between the Abbott Fund, the Global Health Collaborative at the Boston University School of Medicine, the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Bach Mai Hospital (BMH) and Hanoi Medical University (HMU). Launched in 2010, AFINS is the first program bringing together leading national and international organizations working collaboratively to strengthen clinical nutrition within hospitals in Vietnam.

With more than VND 98 billion (U.S. \$4.4 million) in support from the Abbott Fund, AFINS partners have implemented comprehensive, coordinated efforts targeting key areas of need. To date, AFINS has:

- Seen the risk of malnutrition drop almost 30 percent at Bach Mai Hospital
- Established Vietnam's first hospital-based clinical nutrition center
- Trained more than 2,400 staff on nutrition care
- Established educational programs and curricula leading to certification and degrees in nutrition
- Conducted 8 research studies, including the first large-scale prevalence study of hospital-based nutrition in Vietnam
- Hosted Vietnam's first national conference on clinical nutrition – 5 in total since 2010
- Implemented 5 clinical nutrition protocols at Bach Mai Hospital
- Supported the creation of nutrition departments in 10 provincial and satellite hospitals in the north
- Provided technical support to more than 40 hospitals
- Provided technical support for research to Bach Mai Hospital and the National Institute of Nutrition in Hanoi and Children's Hospital #1 in Ho Chi Minh

### FIGHTING MALNUTRITION IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

To improve the nutritional health of children in rural areas of Vietnam, the Abbott Fund is partnering with AmeriCares to support the Giao Diem Humanitarian Foundation Pediatric Nutrition Program. The program focuses on Quang Tri, Thua Thien and An Giang, where childhood malnutrition rates have been among the highest in the country.

Administered through a network of local schools, the program has three main components: nutrition intervention, training and education, and infrastructure. Abbott Fund grants support training for program implementers, including staff, principals and teachers; equipment such as grinders for soy milk production and medical diagnostic tools; and education materials for health workshops for local families. Abbott also donates pediatric nutritional products.

Since the program began in 2004, the partnership has supported more than 25,000 children, and the prevalence of malnutrition among participating children has dropped below the U.N. Millennium Goal to approximately 20 percent.

### **WOMEN'S UNION**

Abbott supports the 13-million-member Women's Union and its local partner in developing a breastfeeding program. The program sponsors clubs that run at the commune level to teach Vietnamese women the benefits of breastfeeding and to support their ability to breastfeed. The clubs draw upon a range of educational materials, including a guidance booklet adapted from Abbott materials. The program has expanded from three to 27 provinces, where infant malnutrition rates are among the highest. To date, 56 clubs have been established nationwide and that number is expected to reach 78 by the end of 2016. Women's Union officials have been trained to lead the clubs and conduct outreach to expectant mothers and their partners, contributing to the Vietnam Government's commitment to improve nutrition and health for mothers and babies.

### **ROAD SAFETY FOR CHILDREN**

In 2014, Abbott and the Asia Injury Prevention (AIP) Foundation launched a program designed to provide children and parents with high-quality helmets and raise awareness among teachers, students and parents in project primary schools and communities on road safety and the importance of wearing helmets properly. To date, Abbott has provided more than 24,000 helmets to students and parents across eleven elementary schools in Vietnam.

### **TYPHOONS WUTIP AND NARI**

In 2013, the central provinces of Vietnam were severely damaged by Typhoon Wutip and Nari. To support relief efforts, Abbott assisted the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the Vietnam Youth Federation through a donation of nutritional products serving more than 125,000 children affected by the two typhoons in nine provinces.

### **OPERATION SMILE**

With Abbott's donation of anesthesia, Operation Smile completed more than 100 medical missions that provided 8,000 successful cleft lip and cleft palate surgeries in Vietnam. To help provide sustainable health care improvements in Vietnam, the Abbott Fund supported Operation Smile in strengthening emergency healthcare capabilities, and training more than 450 medical professionals.

### **CARE AVIAN FLU REPORTING AND MONITORING**

From 2008 through 2010, the Abbott Fund supported CARE's initiative to improve disease detection and reporting of Avian Influenza. Conducted in eight provinces in Vietnam, the project strengthened collaboration across sectors to reduce transmission.

### **ONGOING PRODUCT DONATIONS**

Since 2005, Abbott has donated medicines, nutritionals and medical products that are critical to addressing maternal and child health, malnutrition, diabetes and HIV/AIDS in Vietnam.

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