



GIVE THE GIFT OF DIGNITY

Dear Kym,

My name is Trung Nhi*, and I am the 3rd child in a family of four, my family work in agriculture, and they live in the Ha Giang province, and we are part of the Nung ethnic group. When I was small, my parents noticed something was amiss as I did not play with the other children and would often sit quietly by myself. My family was poor and could not afford to take me to the hospital for treatment, so by the time I neared adulthood, my sight was almost completely gone. I faced many difficulties growing up and did not have the opportunity to complete formal education.

I struggled with depression and a sense of failure and felt like I was a burden on my family.

My family situation is challenging. We do not have a lot of money, and it is essential that I can learn and support myself and my family in the future. The Blind Association in Ha Giang knew of my difficulties. They encouraged me to apply for a place in the traditional massage class at the Training and Rehabilitation Center for the Blind.

I have been studying for a month now. I have learnt 18 basic tricks of conventional massage. I feel very fortunate to be a student at the Centre and to have such dedicated teachers. In addition, we are provided with everything we need, including nutritious meals.

I feel very happy to be at the Centre because there are other people with disabilities with whom I can share the joys and sorrows of life.

For the first time, I feel hopeful for the future and like I have options. I know that when I finish I will be able to get a job, first to have money to take care of myself and then to take care of my family. I will not be a burden on my parents. I know other young people like me are on the waiting list to join classes at the Centre. Each faces their daily struggles, often working selling items at markets or lottery tickets, facing hazardous conditions and theft due to their disability.

More than anything, I hope they are given a chance that I have to study at the Centre.

Your donation to AMS will allow young people with disabilities to break cycles of poverty and gain independence. In the spirit of hope and generosity, please give others like me the Gift of Dignity this Christmas.

Please Donate Today.

Trung Nhi.



*Names and details have been changed for privacy reasons.



160000

Connect with us to find out more.



australianmaristsolidarity.net.au



@MaristSolidarity



ams@marists.org.au