



The Hospitaller Order WITH VIET NAM

So far,
yet so near

THE BROTHERS of the Canadian Province reached Viet Nam in 1952 and settled in the north of the country. When the civil war began the Brothers' Hospital at Tan Bien (Ben Hoa City) was taken over by the government, as was the noviciate house in Da Nang City.

The situation has improved today. The Brothers have many volunteers in the parishes who visit the sick and the dying in their homes. These parish groups, taking their inspiration from St John of God and the example set by the Brothers asked to become affiliated to the Order.

Despite countless difficulties, the numbers of vocations have increased, and by the end of 2007 there were 67 professed Brothers and 10 Novices. And candidates continued to arrive.

The Brothers work in four Centres. One General Hospital, which was taken over by the government, and three Centres providing Rehabilitation, Physiotherapy, Acupuncture and Natural Medicine.

Both the Centres - at Than Bien, Thanh Son, Suoi Nho – and the Brothers' Chapel receive a constant flow of people, many of whom still remember Brother William Cagnon who began this work and died in 1972, and whom they venerate as a exemplary Hospitaller.



THE PROJECT: Construction of a hostel for disabled people requiring temporary hospitalisation.

At **Tan Bien**, near the hospital in which 7 Brothers are working and which still belongs on the state at the present time, the Brothers have set up a **Rehabilitation centre** which treats about **350 people**, children and adults, every day, who have little money or are in dire poverty. About 90 of them are new cases, and most of them come from quite far away. They usually need treatment lasting several days, for which we have to offer them temporary accommodation.

Another Dispensary which the Brothers run is about 50 km from Tan Bien, at Thanh, where 80 to 100 people in the same condition are treated every day.

The Brothers undertake all this social work with the support of several OH Provinces, and also with the work that some of the Brothers and Co-workers perform with the preparation of natural medicines, using formula based on millennia-old traditional knowledge in the region.

In this **CAMPAIGN** we intend to help them take a new step forward, to accompany the improvement in their health and independence of these **DISABLED** people, and hence helped them to integrate into society

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