



Celebrating the Opening of John C. Seel and Ruong Kindergartens!

September was an exciting month for PeaceTrees Vietnam as we dedicated two brand new kindergartens that will serve children in Quang Tri Province!

John C. Seel Kindergarten - September 18, 2018

Thanks to the generosity and support of Barbara and Robert Spindel, PeaceTrees dedicated the **John C. Seel Kindergarten** on September 18th. Ra Man Village is located in a mountainous region of Quang Tri about a one-hour drive from Khe Sanh town and very close to the Lao border. 2,159 people live in the Commune's 8 villages and 100% of the population belongs to the Van Kiew and Pa Co ethnic minority groups. There are 124 kindergarten aged children in the village but prior to the opening of the new kindergarten, only half of them could attend kindergarten because of inadequate facilities, leaving a large number of children with little hope of pursuing an education. The John C. Seel Kindergarten aims to improve the lives of the disadvantaged children and families of Ra Man Village. Children will benefit from better health through clean water and nutritious food, and they will receive an early education intended to increase their chances of success in primary school. The support of the Spindel family is creating opportunities for these children to learn and play in a safe environment.



Ruong Kindergarten - September 24, 2018

On September 24th we had the honor of dedicating the **Ruong Kindergarten**, thanks to the generosity of the Ransom family! Located in Ruong Village, the kindergarten is in a mountainous region approximately 8km North of Khe Sanh town. Local families tend to support themselves through subsistence farming, although some coffee and pepper is also grown as a cash crop. PeaceTrees' unexploded ordnance demolition site is also located in Ruong. The village is poorer than the average for the Commune and nutrition is an important issue for the children in the community. Ruong Village has 600 people living in 115 households and 79% of the population belong to an ethnic minority group. There are 69 children of kindergarten age but prior to the Ruong Kindergarten's construction, only 47 were able to attend kindergarten because of cramped and rundown facilities. This reduced these children's chance of a successful education. Thanks to the support of the Ransom family, the construction of this kindergarten allows all children in Ruong Village to have access to a safe place to learn and play, and they will be served healthy lunches five days a week!

Learn more about our kindergarten and education programs here:

<http://www.peacetreesvietnam.org/what-we-do/education-and-economic-development/kindergartens-and-libraries.html>



Ruong Kindergarten 09.24.18

Join us for PeaceTrees' 23rd Anniversary Luncheon!

Please join us!

23rd Anniversary Luncheon

October 23, 2018
at 11:30 am

Four Seasons Hotel, Seattle



RSVP TODAY!



Travel with us in March 2019!

Dates: Mid-March, 2019 (tentatively leaving March 13th and returning March 28th)

Highlights: This trip has an historical focus and academic component and will be led by Professor Christoph Giebel. Christoph is a professor at the Jackson School of International Studies who has previously led many trips to Vietnam with the University of Washington and PeaceTrees Travelers. This trip provides a unique opportunity for participation in weekly meetings beginning in January and will include pre-reading. Participants will travel to Hanoi, Hue, Dong Ha, Ho Chi Minh City, and many PeaceTrees project sites. You can read about a UW student's experience on a similar trip here: <http://www.peacetreesvietnam.org/how-to-help/testimonials-from-citizenship-diplomacy-participants.html>



For more information contact us at 206-441-6136 or info@peacetreesvietnam.org

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