also in this issue

new hospital reflects new strategy
The mission of East Meets West is to partner with the people of Vietnam to improve their health, education, and economic conditions in an effort to eradicate poverty and to help them achieve self-sufficiency.
It is with both pleasure and pride that I bring this message to you on behalf of the East Meets West Foundation Board of Directors. This past year has seen some of the most dramatic changes in EMW since the beginning of my involvement with the organization in 1990. The changes during 2003 have been both structural and programmatic, and from the Board’s perspective, have moved EMW to a higher level of professionalism in both the home (Oakland, California) and overseas (Danang, Vietnam) offices. The end result is that our ability to provide services to underprivileged people in Vietnam has significantly increased.

STAFF GROWTH AT HOME | The most significant structural changes we made this year were in the home office. In preparation for former Executive Director Mark Stewart’s retirement, John Anner was hired as our new ED (see EMW Summer/Fall 2003). John hit the ground running in February 2003, and quickly added additional staff members, each with the experience and skills necessary to move us forward. Dee Dee Nguyen (donor and community relations), Ann Tat (accounting), Bruce Kariya (finance), Sonny Le (communications and community relations), and Minh-Huyen Nguyen (donor relations) all joined EMW in 2003. Kim Kvarda, who joined EMW three years ago, was recently promoted to Associate Director, a position she richly deserved.

The expansion of our home office staff necessitated physical changes, and we have moved into a newly renovated, larger space one floor above our previous office. The Oakland office in 2003 dramatically expanded EMW’s community presence, fundraising programs, financial management capacity and administrative abilities.

PROJECTS BOOM IN VIETNAM | At the same time that we were increasing our functional capacity in the home office, we saw a dramatic increase in activity in Vietnam under the innovative leadership of Overseas Director Mark Conroy. A new department was built and put under the leadership of Hung Pham to manage our large-scale projects in health and education. An office was opened in Thai Nguyen province, just north of Hanoi, and engineer Ron Smith was hired to manage projects in that region.

Several big projects were completed in 2003, including a new pediatric hospital at Hue Central Hospital, a new internal medicine building at Danang General Hospital, an electronic library at Hue University, a district hospital in Duy Xuyen district in Quang Nam and a dam in Danang province.

Even though we significantly increased our health and education infrastructure construction projects during 2003, EMW has maintained our commitment to community-level projects and programs. Details on our programs in health, safe water, helping disadvantaged children and community development can be found in this issue.

THE FUTURE FOR EMW | Where will the East Meets West Foundation go in 2004 and beyond? The Board of Directors believes that EMW needs to expand its visibility and strategic collaborations with other communities and organizations. We began this effort in January, with a highly successful Tet celebration fundraising event in San Francisco. The event significantly increased our local visibility, particularly among the Vietnamese American community, and it will be repeated next February. EMW is co-sponsoring a groundbreaking gathering of Vietnamese American non-profits in May. In the fall, we will be co-hosting a major conference with the University of California at Davis on the future of economic development in Vietnam. At the same time, we are actively reaching out to the business community here and in Vietnam to build alliances to support humanitarian efforts in Vietnam.

On behalf of the Executive Board, I wish to thank all of you who have contributed to the success of our mission, either by donations, gifts in kind, or volunteer efforts. As you will see from reading this Annual Report, your impact has been significant.
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A LOOK BACK... In the year 2003, the East Meets West Foundation was involved in an impressive number of programs and projects. Below are some of the year’s highlights.

PROJECT AND PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

EMW built 21 primary schools, 2 secondary schools, 12 kindergartens and 1 boarding school, improving educational conditions for 7,294 students.

A new program serving the graduates of the Village of Hope Disadvantaged Children’s Center was launched, helping 12 motivated students attain a university education.

The EMW Pediatric Dental Clinic provided 4,285 young patients with 15,000 treatments for everything from cleanings to root canals.

A new office in Thai Nguyen province was launched, staffed by British engineer Ron Smith to supervise the construction of university buildings at the medical college of Thai Nguyen University.

The new executive director John Anner joined the East Meets West family on February 1, 2003.

In Vietnam, every dollar spent on safe drinking water saves $10 in health care costs; EMW built 16 self-sustaining water systems in Central Vietnam in 2003, providing 12,063 people with safe water at a cost of only $7 per person.

EMW completed construction of a modern new library and learning resource center at Hue University, built a new pediatric facility at Hue Central Hospital and began work on a modern cardio-vascular center.

266 poor rural families were helped by EMW’s micro-loan and livestock lending programs.

155 children received heart surgery to correct congenital heart defects, thanks to EMW’s Operation Healthy Heart.

EMW worked with 17 Rotary Clubs from all over the U.S. to implement projects in Vietnam.

EMW spent over $2.2 million building new facilities at Danang Hospital and Danang University, including dormitories, an internal medicine building, a library, a sports center and a wastewater treatment facility.

38 families got new homes thanks to EMW and our supporters, and another 47 families got new roofs for their thatched homes in remote areas.

EMW spent $1.47 million on grassroots community development projects and programs in 2003

Large infrastructure projects absorbed $4.7 million in EMW spending.

Management and General costs were $280,000, or 4.2% of total spending.

Fundraising costs were $193,000, or 2.9% of total spending.

Atlantic Philanthropies provided $9.2 million in 2003.

$477,260 in funds received in 2003 came from individuals, foundations and Rotary Clubs.
## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Expenditures in US Dollars</th>
<th>Beneficiaries in 2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>compassion homes</td>
<td>$34,012</td>
<td>398</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 150 orphaned, abandoned, and at-risk children live at the Village of Hope located in Danang. There is also an on-site deaf education program, which provides services to 46 hearing impaired children. Child sponsors throughout the world provide financial support for Village of Hope children.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>water system construction</td>
<td>$85,547</td>
<td>12,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMW constructed 16 water systems which now bring clean water to over 12,000 people. Potable water is free of water-borne diseases, sewage, chemicals and other pollutants.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>piglet program</td>
<td>$5,580</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 2003 Piglet Program helped 240 needy families. By learning how to raise pigs, a rural family can pull itself out of poverty by selling several litters of piglets per year. Participants learn how to care for their pigs, and then receive a female piglet. From each piglet's first litter, the families will return one female pig to EMW, which is then given to another poor family to raise.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>micro finance program</td>
<td>$5,217</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New loans were issued to 26 families in 2003. With a loan of $150-$200, a poor family can start a business, invest in agricultural improvements or purchase livestock.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>school construction</td>
<td>$434,221</td>
<td>7,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 primary schools, 12 kindergartens, 1 boarding school, 1 teachers dormitory, and 2 secondary schools were constructed in 2003, complete with restrooms, electricity, clean water wells and furnishings.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vocational training centers</td>
<td>$18,320</td>
<td>1,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMW vocational centers provide classes in administrative and computer education, sewing, and woodworking. $16,000 was for a vocational center in Do Luong, Nghe An Province; $2,320 was for operating expenses at three Tien Phuoc disabled children's centers.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>additional community development projects</td>
<td>$75,052</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two rural bridges were constructed in 2003 to permit schoolchildren to safely cross dangerous rivers and to allow farmers to get their crops to market. Three electricity systems were also installed. One dam was built to enhance the agricultural potential of a commune. Two rice dryers were provided to two communities who otherwise lose half their rice crop to moisture-induced spoilage.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 2003</strong></td>
<td><strong>$666,076</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,379</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## DISADVANTAGED FAMILIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Expenditures in US Dollars</th>
<th>Beneficiaries in 2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>village of hope disadvantaged children's center</td>
<td>$42,980</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 150 orphaned, abandoned and at-risk children live at the Village of Hope located in Danang. There is also an on-site deaf education program, which provides services to 46 hearing impaired children. Child sponsors throughout the world provide financial support for Village of Hope children.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>village of hope graduate program</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 2003, the VOH Graduate Program provided 12 prior VOH students with financial aid for university fees, lodging, food, and other expenses associated with obtaining a university degree.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DISADVANTAGED FAMILIES CONTINUED

- school scholarship program
  This program provides funds for books, school fees, school uniforms and school supplies to impoverished children. 350 children, who would have been forced to drop out of school to work, are now able to continue in school.

- tien phuoc home for disadvantaged children
  Located in a rural mountainous region of central Vietnam, the Tien Phuoc Home for Disadvantaged Children provides a caring refuge for the 32 children who live there.

- danang resettlement
  This multi-year project focuses on relocating very poor families who lived in polluted and dilapidated stilt houses on the banks of the Han River in Danang. In 2003, 64 households were able to take debt-free ownership of new homes built by EMW on nearby fertile land.

- family sponsorship program
  Over 50 families benefited from this flexible income support program for very poor families in 2003. EMW social workers determine the most effective approach for participating families to help them get out of poverty, keep their children in school or improve their health.

TOTALS FOR DISADVANTAGED FAMILIES 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURES IN US DOLLARS</th>
<th>BENEFICIARIES IN 2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$205,908</td>
<td>1,106</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HEALTH PROGRAMS

- dental program
  The EMW Danang Dental Clinic provides free dental care to disadvantaged children who otherwise would not have access to a dentist. In 2003, the clinic treated 4,285 patients with services including preventative education, routine cleanings, cavity fillings, root canals, extractions and topical fluoride applications. Aided by volunteer dentists from throughout the world, the dental team also travels to remote villages to provide dental services to children who cannot afford to travel to the clinic.

- healthy heart surgery program
  The Healthy Heart program provides transportation, medical evaluation, and surgery costs to children who have heart defects and whose families cannot afford to pay for the requisite treatments. In 2003, 223 patients were helped and 155 of them received life-saving open or closed heart operations.

- family emergency relief fund (FERF)
  In 2003, the FERF program provided emergency surgeries and medical care for 300 families who otherwise could not afford to obtain care. Types of medical care provided include emergency treatment for burn victims, surgery to repair broken bones, and medicine to treat a variety of conditions. The FERF program also provides relief aid when natural disasters strike. In 2003, emergency supplies of rice and milk were provided to 2000 flood victims in central Vietnam.

- medical clinic construction and medical equipment
  Construction and furnishing for 2-story Obstetric and Surgical Building for the Duy Xuyen Health Clinic. Final payment on Hoa Phat Health Clinic. Purchase of one ultrasound machine for Quang Tri Hospital.

TOTALS FOR HEALTH PROJECTS 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURES IN US DOLLARS</th>
<th>BENEFICIARIES IN 2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$256,155</td>
<td>28,913</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE/CONSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Expenditures in US Dollars</th>
<th>Beneficiaries in 2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>university of danang</strong></td>
<td>$1,126,386</td>
<td>70,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and furnishings of five dormitories, construction and design of a Learning Resource Center and ongoing operating costs for another LRC. Construction and furnishing of a Sports Center and guest house. Initial design work on English Language Institute.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>hue university</strong></td>
<td>$1,616,473</td>
<td>47,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and furnishing of five two-story dormitories, ongoing expenses for operation of English Language Laboratory at Hue Medical College. Construction and furnishing of Learning Resource Center (LRC).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>vietnam national university in hanoi</strong></td>
<td>$36,730</td>
<td>2,228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final payment for construction of dormitory building.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>thai nguyen university</strong></td>
<td>$156,972</td>
<td>1,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design and construction of dormitories and infrastructure for the Medical College of Thai Nguyen University.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>danang hospital</strong></td>
<td>$1,048,743</td>
<td>150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and furnishing of seven-story internal medicine building; construction and furnishing of two-story morgue. Payments for construction of wastewater treatment system. Construction of emergency ward and operational expenses of a physician education program.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>hue central hospital</strong></td>
<td>$419,562</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and furnishing of four-story pediatrics facility. Payments for design fees on six-story Cardiovascular Center; consultancy and project office for Health Capacity Development Program.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>quang tri hospital</strong></td>
<td>$106,842</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction and furnishing for three-story pediatric surgical building.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTALS FOR LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE/CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS 2003**  
$4,511,708  297,738

**GRAND TOTAL FOR 2003**  
$5,639,847  354,136

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**Note:** Numbers reflect actual expenditure in the year 2003 only, not the total cost of the completed projects or programs. Expenditures do not include direct or indirect overhead costs such as site supervision or other administrative costs.
FINANCIAL REPORT: 2003

### 2003 REVENUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Philanthropies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9,200,000</td>
<td>95.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rotary Clubs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>89,181</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>36,263</td>
<td>2,928</td>
<td>39,191</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>58,087</td>
<td>167,456</td>
<td>225,543</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind Donations</td>
<td>70,800</td>
<td></td>
<td>70,800</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>52,545</td>
<td></td>
<td>52,545</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</td>
<td>4,724,450</td>
<td>(4,724,450)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td>4,942,145</td>
<td>4,735,115</td>
<td>9,677,260</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2003 EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Program Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassroots Projects</td>
<td>1,471,636</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure Projects</td>
<td>4,726,319</td>
<td>70.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td>6,197,955</td>
<td>92.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>279,541</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>193,243</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td>472,784</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>6,670,739</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BALANCE SHEET

AS OF 12.31.2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>1,842,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Cash</td>
<td>5,608,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cash</strong></td>
<td>7,450,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microloans Receivable</td>
<td>39,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>28,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Receivable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure Projects</td>
<td>13,971,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassroots Projects</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment: Net</td>
<td>21,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>22,611,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable &amp; Accrued Expense</td>
<td>25,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Payroll &amp; Other Benefits</td>
<td>16,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>42,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>1,614,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Net Assets</td>
<td>20,954,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>22,569,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>22,611,557</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes**

The figures presented above are consolidated and will not match totals on the previous pages, which only reflect line-item costs and exclude salaries and overhead.

“Restricted” funds are designated for specific projects; “unrestricted” can be used for any purpose.

In 2003, the East Meets West Foundation changed accounting methods from prior years, and therefore the balances above are not directly comparable with those from prior years.

Income and expenses are for both the East Meets West Foundation and its subsidiary Reach Vietnam.
For more than 10 years, the Village of Hope Children’s Center (VOH) has served the poorest children of Quang Nam and Danang. More than 300 orphaned, disadvantaged, and at-risk children have spent their youth cared for at VOH. Since its inception in 1992, VOH has provided children with the tools to become independent and responsible adults. Through the generous financial support of sponsors from all over the world, the VOH children receive three nutritious meals a day, live in a nurturing and stable environment, attend school through the 12th grade, receive proper health and dental care, and participate in vocational programs such as computers and tailoring. The Village of Hope, located in Danang, Vietnam, currently houses 150 children, ages 6 to 17.

The year 2003 was a year full of change and progress at the Village of Hope. Nguyen Phi Hung, a soft-spoken man with a strong background in education, was appointed as the new Director of Village of Hope. He has stepped into his new position with ease, and has already formed solid working relationships with the children and the EMW staff. EMW was also proud to introduce two new programs to better serve the needs of the children at VOH. In October, EMW established the Village of Hope Gift Fund. The new VOH Gift Fund replaces EMW’s facilitation of individual gifts from sponsors. Instead, sponsors are encouraged to donate to the fund, which provides all the children at VOH with equal attention and gifts. By January 2004, EMW had received enough donations to the fund to host a Tet Celebration as well as a group birthday party for children with January birthdates. The festivities provided the children with food and gifts that could be shared with their families. In a thank you letter, a student, Nguyen Thi Be, expressed the birthday celebration as “the day that will impress memorable feelings in our hearts.”

Thanks to a generous donation from the Wilcox Family Foundation, East Meets West was able to establish the VOH Graduate Program in November. This program is designed to support the most academically promising VOH graduates. Entrance into Vietnamese universities requires passing a series of difficult exams. Getting in isn’t easy, but affording tuition, room and board can be even more difficult. As more students from VOH were being accepted into universities and colleges, EMW saw a need to help these students achieve their full potential. By providing financial assistance to these students, EMW is able to help these graduates attend university and thereby secure good jobs and lift themselves out of poverty. In 2003, twelve students were enrolled in the VOH Graduate Program.
The evening of January 22, 2004 brought East Meets West supporters and community members from all over California together to celebrate the Lunar New Year at EMW’s First Annual Tet Event: A Feast of Fortune. Held at the beautiful, waterfront Butterfly Restaurant Embarcadero, the event was an amazing night of fantastic food, wonderful conversations, and entertainment—all to help raise funds for our safe drinking water projects in Vietnam.

Vietnamese Tet, or New Year, is based upon the Lunar Calendar and usually falls in January or February. In many Vietnamese households throughout the world, Tet is a special holiday—bringing the promise of good fortune, a new beginning, and the opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

The East Meets West Celebration was no different. The evening began with cocktails and a silent auction where dozens of items, including a Bed and Breakfast package to Trinidad, CA, and another package to Napa Valley commencing with a chef’s tasting menu prepared by our co-host, Robert Lam of Butterfly Embarcadero, were available for bid. EMW’s executive director John Anner, the master of ceremonies for the evening, took the crowd through a marvelous evening highlighted by a performance from the Viet Spring Folk Ensemble performing traditional Vietnamese music, a slide show presentation of our safe water projects by John Ward, an EMW project coordinator in Vietnam, a keynote speech from Nguyen Qui Duc, host of the public radio program Pacific Time, and a banquet of delectable dishes of royal proportions prepared by Robert Lam and his staff.

The resounding success of A Feast of Fortune raised over $20,000 towards our safe drinking water projects. Our gratitude and thanks go to our performers and keynote speaker for their contribution to our evening. We would like to express our gratitude to our host committee and sponsors for making the evening such a great fundraising success. We also thank our board, staff, volunteers and Butterfly Embarcadero for hosting the event as well as all the local businesses, associations and supporters for their donations to our silent auction. Finally, we thank all those supporting us to inform and engage everyone in helping us serve our mission!

Stay tuned for our next event in the fall to help celebrate the New Harvest Moon, Tet Trung Thu, and our second Tet event coming in February 2005.
Just off the main road between Danang and the ancient city of Hoi An to the south sits the district of Duy Xuyen, in Quang Nam Province. (A district in Vietnam is administratively similar to a county in the United States.)

Ninety percent of the 130,000 residents of this district make their living from farming or farm-related small businesses. Most people are poor, and district medical facilities are very limited. Duy Xuyen residents with serious health problems are forced to travel to Danang or Hue for treatment, which can be costly both for the treatment and for the travel and food expenses.

From a health strategy point of view, it makes more sense for Vietnam to invest in smaller district hospitals to provide local health care for low-income people than to rely on large hospitals in provincial capitals for primary health care for the surrounding rural districts.

In 2002, the East Meets West Foundation received a request from the Duy Xuyen District People’s Committee to help rebuild its dilapidated and ill-equipped hospital. Work began in 2003 and the hospital is now 100% complete, with 60 beds in the new section already occupied.

To a visitor, the contrast between the newly completed and the old sections of the hospital is jarring. In the older building, patients languish in rusty, damp and dark quarters waiting for treatment or recovery. Risk of infection is high due to unsanitary conditions. These patients are here because they do not have the means to travel to provincial hospitals or cannot afford to be far away from their farms for too long.

The hospital also accommodates residents of two neighboring districts because the nearest general hospital for all three districts is at least an hour away. There are a total of 190,000 people who have access to the hospital.

The Duy Xuyen District Hospital has 160 beds. The hospital is equipped to handle pediatric care, obstetrics and internal medicine.

Vietnam’s rural communities are plagued by pediatric and obstetrics needs due to unsanitary conditions and the lack of access to clean water. An increase in internal injuries reflects the increasing dependence on the motorcycle as the primary mode of transportation.

In 2004, plans for the Duy Xuyen District Hospital call for demolishing and re-building the current administration building and two smaller buildings that house patients recovering from internal injuries.

Duy Xuyen Hospital is an example of EMW’s program to help strengthen the public health sector in rural Vietnam. Hospitals and clinics such as Duy Xuyen are better equipped to respond to the needs of the local population without subjecting the sick and dying from traveling long distance and incurring additional expenses to the families. District hospitals and clinics also help relieve overcrowding in provincial hospitals, which can lead to an improvement in health care at those facilities as well.
It makes more sense for Vietnam to invest in smaller district hospitals to provide local health care for low-income people.
In 2003, Rotary Clubs continued their long tradition of partnering with East Meets West 

East Meets West has partnered with Rotary Clubs and Rotary International since 1997, when then-President of Arcata Rotary Larry Connolly joined the EMW Board of Directors. Since then, Rotary has been a consistent and generous funder and supporter of EMW’s projects and programs. Rotary Clubs and members support many different EMW programs. Here are the clubs that contributed to EMW in 2003.

WATER PROJECTS

**Nui Thanh District: New Mexico Rotary District 5520**

Thanks to the generous contributions of Rotarians in New Mexico Rotary District 5520, EMW successfully completed nine clean drinking water systems in the Nui Thanh District in 2003. The villages of the Nui Thanh District run along the southern coastline, and fresh water in these areas is full of sediments, salt, and other impurities. Poverty and hunger are permanent threats to the residents of Nui Thanh. The people make a meager living from fishing and farming.

During the summer, the existing wells are often insufficient on the islands just off the coast, and people must row boats to the mainland in order to get good drinking water. With funding help from New Mexico Rotary, EMW implemented complete water systems with wells, water towers, electric pumps, and pipes. Wells were drilled and connected into one system to ensure enough water was available. Water is pumped through filter systems to remove contaminants. Local villagers helped dig and bury all the water mains from the water towers through their village roads and paths that led to their houses.
Villagers bought and installed water meters and pipes from the main water lines to their homes at their own expense. Personnel from the Preventative Medicine Center tested the water to ensure its purity. Over 2,500 households in the Nui Thanh District now have access to clean drinking water. Since the systems were installed, anecdotal reports indicate fewer people suffer from dysentery and other gastro-intestinal diseases.

**Quang Tri: Northern California Rotaries, District 5130**
The residents of the Quang Tri area, north of Hue, collect water from shallow, hand-dug wells shared by families and the entire commune. Human waste seeps from septic tanks and hand-dug holes into well water. The water has extremely heavy iron content and wells are frequently inundated and contaminated with surface water during seasonal flooding. Families have to use cement containers filled with sand and rock to filter the water before boiling and use. Thanks to the generous contributions from the Rotary clubs in District 5130 EMW was able to construct 13 deep wells that now serve as the major source of water for the area. Pipes were installed to bring the water to the designated hamlets. The local residents contributed their labor to dig all the trenches for the pipelines. In addition, each family paid a fee for the household connection in order to meet the overall costs of each project.

**Ethnic Village Water System: Carson City Rotary Club**
The 130 people of the Tra Bui Commune in Quang Nam Province live on the steep foothills of the mountains. The closest town is over an hour’s walk away. The people reside in traditional thatched houses with no electricity or other modern conveniences. Before the construction of the water system, families had to travel up a high slope to collect poor-quality water from a small stream. With funding from Carson City Rotary Club, EMW installed a gravity flow water delivery system. A pipe was placed in the lower wall of a small dam that was built across the stream. The pipe transports water to a filter and settling/collection tank. From the tank, a 1,000-meter pipe discharges clean drinking water to the village. Similar to other EMW water projects, the local people actively participated in digging ditches and burying the pipes in order to bring clean water to their village.

**Compassion Homes**
**Windsor Rotary Club**
Mr. and Mrs. Trinh Van Hong and their eight children used to live in an old house with no electricity, dirt floors, a thatch roof, and walls made of dirt and straw. The columns of the house were made of rotting bamboo. The family shared two beds; practically their only furniture. Storms have blown the house down twice over the years. The family suffers from severe poverty and despite working two jobs, Mr. Trinh can barely make enough to support the family. Amazingly, the cost of building a safe and sturdy Compassion Home is $1,200. The Windsor Rotary Club in Northern California stepped up and contributed the funds to build the Trinh family a new home. Completed in August 2003, the new house has 3 bedrooms, a living room and a new latrine. Electricity is also installed in the house. Most importantly, the new home is constructed with stable brick, a tile roof, and a cement floor. In addition, EMW and Windsor contributed a small female cow in order to help the family generate more income.

**Rice Dryers**
In the Quang Tri Province, the weather is humid and wet during one of the two major rice harvests. With heavy rains and frequent floods, keeping rice dry and marketable is a major issue for many Vietnamese farmers. Thirty percent of Quang Tri’s rainy season rice harvest is lost due to the spoilage created by high moisture content and unsuitable drying conditions. Stopping spoilage loss is therefore equal to a thirty percent gain in rice yields and a concomitant increase in income and nutrition for local farmers. Gainesville, Florida Rotarian and EMW supporter Jack McCombs provided the leadership in finding
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able to build a one-room, one-story kindergarten with water, electricity and restroom facilities. The school was completed in August 2003 and is being fully utilized by the children and educators of Dong No.

PIGLET PROJECT
Petaluma Rotary Club
EMW was proud to introduce the new Piglet Project in 2003, a program that aims to provide poor and underserved families with a method to generate income that will in turn improve their standard of living. Most families are suffering from malnutrition, have at-risk children, or have a disabled or ill family member. In January 2003, EMW received a list of over 300 poor families from the local government agencies and the Vietnamese Red Cross. Of these 300 families, 200 were evaluated and chosen by EMW to participate in the Piglet Project. With funding help from Petaluma Rotary Club, each family was provided with one female breeding piglet that will produce 2 litters of piglets each year. EMW requires that each family attend a series of meetings and classes prior to receiving their piglet. The family must agree to not sell the breeding pig until she is too old to breed. The family is required to give EMW one female piglet from the first litter of piglets, which will then be given to another poor family. Thus, the process self-propagates for years to come.

THANK YOU
EMW is also grateful for Bethel Park Rotary, Bernalillo Rotary, and Carnegie Rotary Clubs’ sponsorship of children at the Village of Hope. EMW also recognizes the Seattle Rotary Service Foundation’s generous contribution towards providing the children of Dong No Kindergarten with additional school supplies. In September 2003 The Rotarian Magazine featured the EMW’s many projects completed in partnership with Rotary clubs and members; see our web site at www.eastmeetswest.org for the full text.

With no Rotary Clubs operating in Vietnam currently, partnering with EMW has proven to be essential in creating a Rotary presence in Vietnam that will hopefully lead to a re-establishment of Rotary in Vietnam.
east meets west community

The East Meets West Foundation would like to thank the following organizations and individuals who have made a donation to EMW from January 1, 2003 through March 1, 2004.

Donations to EMW are denoted by the following levels of giving:

**PLATINUM:** $10,000 and above

**GOLD:** $1000 to $9,999

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Please accept our deepest appreciation for your support.

Thank you!

If you would like to become a donor to EMW, please donate online at www.eastmeetswest.org or fill out the enclosed donation envelope in this issue of EMW and send it to the EMW office.

* Asterisk notes continuing supporters from 2002.

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- Vietnam Veterans of California Inc.
- Vietnam Veteran’s Restoration Project

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you can help the people of Vietnam

The East Meets West Foundation and Reach Vietnam* operate a variety of programs and projects in Vietnam. You can decide how you want to help.

*Reach Vietnam is a subsidiary of the East Meets West Foundation. Some programs may be managed through Reach Vietnam, but both organizations are directed by the same board of directors and leadership staff.

1. **community development**
   Includes elementary schools, homes for poor families, bridges, safe drinking water, irrigation, micro-credit, the piglet program and electricity.

2. **health programs**
   Includes the dental clinic and mobile dental program, surgeries for children with heart and limb defects, reconstructive surgery for burn victims and kids with cleft palates, health programs and clinics.

3. **disadvantaged families**
   Includes family and child sponsorship programs, Village of Hope, Tien Phuoc Home for Disadvantaged Children, scholarship programs and other direct assistance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>schools</td>
<td>East Meets West has constructed kindergartens and elementary schools providing a place to learn for thousands of children. An EMW school in Vietnam costs around $5,000 per classroom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dental program</td>
<td>East Meets West’s state of the art dental clinic provides free dental care to 3,000 poor children a year. It only costs five dollars to provide a year’s worth of free dental care to a child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>school scholarship</td>
<td>Provides 300 children a year with funds for books, school fees, uniforms, and school supplies. $20-$45 a year will keep a student in school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>compassion homes</td>
<td>Building a home, which can never be sold or mortgaged, for a family in need costs only $1,200. The family will benefit for generations to come.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>water projects</td>
<td>It costs only 10 dollars to provide a person with a lifetime supply of clean water, but every dollar spent on safe drinking water saves $10 in health care costs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>medical relief</td>
<td>Many debilitating medical conditions can be remedied for less than 100 dollars. From fixing club feet and cleft palates to helping burn victims, East Meets West helps hundreds of people a year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>income support</td>
<td>East Meets West’s Piglet Program and micro-credit program help families build self-reliance through income-generating activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>village of hope</td>
<td>Up to 200 orphaned, at-risk, or speech and hearing impaired children live at Village of Hope Children’s Center in Danang.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>healthy heart</td>
<td>East Meets West funds open and closed heart operations for children and young adults with congenital and acquired heart defects.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Programs**

1. **Community Development**
   - Includes elementary schools, homes for poor families, bridges, safe drinking water, irrigation, micro-credit, the piglet program and electricity.

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Visit our website at [www.eastmeetswest.org](http://www.eastmeetswest.org)
The mission of East Meets West is to partner with the people of Vietnam to improve their health, education, and economic conditions in an effort to eradicate poverty and to help them achieve self-sufficiency.