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## US grant for disabled Vietnamese



**The US Agency for International Development (USAID) announced a \$100,000 grant to continue its physical rehabilitation program in Vietnam, the US Embassy in Hanoi said Tuesday.**

The program will help relevant Vietnamese institutions provide appropriate rehabilitation services to people with disabilities, deliver and fit prosthetic and orthopedics devices, and train rehabilitation practitioners in Vietnam.

It will also supply financial support to patients in the northern provinces of Ha Giang, Nam Dinh, Ha Nam, Hoa Binh and Thai Binh.

The grant is sourced from USAID's Patrick J Leahy War Victim's Fund, which contributes financial and technical assistance to improve economic, social and political integration of disabled people worldwide.

In collaboration with the USAID, the NGO Pearl S Buck International and its partner, the Training and Development Center for Special Education, have translated, printed and will distribute 5,000 Vietnamese copies of the book *Helping Children Who are Deaf* to Vietnamese hearing-impaired people.

Of which, 3,000 copies will be distributed for free, with the remainder to be sold to help raise money to cover costs.

The book is filled with guidelines on how to foster language learning through both sign and oral approaches.

It also explores how deafness affects a child's ability to learn a language, as well as develop mentally and socially.

Since 1991, the US has provided over \$34 million to support the disabled in Vietnam.

Source: *US Embassy in Vietnam*

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## USAID to fund books for deaf children

(18-07-2006)

HA NOI — USAID will fund 5,000 Vietnamese-language copies of the book *Helping Children Who are Deaf* to be published in Viet Nam for the first time.

The NGO Pearl S Buck International and its partner, the Training and Development Centre for Special Education (TDCSE) have translated and will distribute the copies, due to \$383,400 in funding from US Agency for International Development (USAID).

The book, which has been field tested in 17 countries, was re-printed in Viet Nam. It supports parents and other caregivers in building communication skills with deaf babies and young children.

Packed with activities on how to foster language learning through both sign and oral approaches, this groundbreaking book explains ways to adapt activities and exercises to both the child's specific abilities and needs and the family's unique circumstances.

The book also explores how deafness affects a child's ability to learn language, as well as to develop mentally and socially.

3,000 copies will be distributed for free by the TDCSE, and the remaining copies will be sold to help raise money to recover costs. — VNS

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