

What is cleft?

Cleft lip and palate, short for cleft lip and palate, is one of the most common birth defects in the world. Children with cleft lip and palate are born on all continents of the world. One in every 500 to 600 newborns worldwide is affected. The central treatment measure is surgery, ideally performed shortly after birth. In most developing countries, many "cleft children" cannot undergo this surgical procedure, either because the parents are unaware of it or because of lack of money.



Picture: Thien from Vietnam - Before / After picture - Photo@Deutsche Cleft Kinderhilfe e.V.

In many cases, the obvious "flaw" in the child's face is accepted as punishment for their own misconduct. Apart from health problems such as proper breathing, swallowing and speaking - they are isolated, marginalised, stigmatised as disabled for life.

How does the organization work?

"Deutsche Cleft Kinderhilfe e.V." is a small non-profit association - present in Asia, South America and Africa. The organization helps cleft children to have access to safe, high-quality, and comprehensive treatment. In order to achieve this goal, it focuses on sustainable aid for cleft patients by establishing independent, permanent local treatment structures in its project countries.

Currently there are three projects centres in Vietnam, two in Hanoi and one in Ho Chi Minh City. They ensure a high level of medical care and offer access to follow-up therapies such as speech therapy or orthodontics.

Movie about a work project: <https://vimeo.com/400584188>

For more information on Vietnam:

<https://www.spalkinder.org/en/countries/aid-for-cleft-children-in-vietnam/>

For more information about the organization: <https://www.spalkinder.org/en/>

Why we support this project?

We have decided to support the work of "Deutsche Cleft-Kinderhilfe e.V.", especially in Vietnam, as we have a special connection to this country through our economic commitment and our newly built factory. We chose this project because it not only gives cleft children access to safe, high-quality and comprehensive treatment, but also gives them the chance of social acceptance, a "normal" childhood and the chance to attend school. In this way, we can give the children a smile again and the prospect of a better life.

If this project moves you as well and you would like to help these children, we sincerely thank you for your support.

Online donation form:

<https://www.spalkinder.org/en/donation-form/?deutsche-cleft-kinderhilfe-e-v-11/spende>