



The community in Ninh Thuan province whom we serve is made up of one of the smallest ethnic minority groups in Vietnam - the Raglai. The majority of Vietnam's population is Kinh (nearly 86% out of a total of 87.8 million). The Raglai make up less than 1% of Vietnam's population and have been ignored and deprived of their basic human rights for generations!



UNICEF did a survey of the Ninh Thuan province in 2012 and found that the Raglai Ethnic People are nine times poorer than the Kinh. They live in the 4th poorest province in Vietnam, with an individuals' (ethnic majority Kinh) average daily income of only .88 cents. Although it seems impossible, our community is nine times poorer than that!

Our community members have been denied the right of an education; the majority of the population cannot speak Vietnamese. They speak only their indigenous language, which compounds their daily hardship and discrimination. None of the community has benefited from the new development in land, agriculture or education in Ninh Thuan Province.



Our holistic community development programs are aimed to address some long-standing issues. Families have never understood the importance of education. At a very young age, the children start to work along the roads where human traffickers target them. Though school is the safest and most promising alternative, they have never had the chance to attend. Because of their family's extreme poverty, education is seen as an extravagance.



Our plans for a vocational and sustainable agriculture program will provide strong marketable skills and job placement, as well as bolster their confidence to enter the work environment and start their own businesses. Almost all of the women in our community earn income for their families by doing more than one thing - from picking up cow dung, sustenance farming, and collecting firewood to sell. Only 4% of the women have gone to school and none have had the chance to progress beyond the 5th grade. Our community members suffer from malnourishment, combined with preventable illnesses, contributes to high rates of mortality.



The Raglai community also lacks daily access to water for drinking, bathing, cooking, and farming. Our program aims at improving the environment to prevent diseases; in which, focusing on building water storage, installing plumbing, water for land irrigation, and enough water to sustain their family.