

Social Work Across the World: My internship experience in **Vietnam**

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MY ROLE

As Project TVD's very FIRST intern, it was a learning experience on both ends. Unlike my other classmates, I worked remotely with collaborators across the country to successfully plan and execute a medical service trip to various hospitals in Da Nang, Vietnam.

PREPARATION

Project TVD is a 1 week medical service trip that takes 1 year to prepare for. Interest in volunteering was accomplished by a brand new updated website and easier access to donate. Doctors who applied were vetted and chosen by the Board. Travel dates, airline tickets, and a hotel stay were all coordinated to comfortably accommodate the team. Because doctors were allowed to bring their families, daily activities were planned and schedule for the guests of Project TVD.



July 9-14th 2023

Project Team of Volunteer Doctors (TVD)

is a US-based, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health care of the people in Vietnam



PSYCHIATRIC FINDINGS

The main diagnosis's treated at the psychiatric hospital were schizophrenia and epilepsy; rather shocking considering one is a serious mental disorder and one is a brain disease.
Medication appeared to be the first and preferred treatment option.
Family of patients do the nursing.
Patients ranged from kids, 2-16, and adults 16 & up.

EXECUTION

Project TVD was present in 5 hospitals & was able to assist Vietnamese Staff in over 100 ways!

Womens & Children Hospital: 44 Procedures, 24 Ultrasounds, 7 Consultations, 6 Lecture, Arts & Crafts Day

General: 11 Procedures, 25 Lectures, 1 Workshop

Oncology: 12 Procedures, 1 Conference, 5 Lectures,

Psychiatric: 2 Lectures, Established relationship to host Occupational Therapy student in the Spring

Rehab: Established relationship to host Occupational Therapy student in the Spring



KEY TAKEAWAYS

This trip taught me 2 main things:

1. Though it may not be called 'Social Work', social work ideas, practices, and people who want to help people can be found *anywhere*.
2. The world is big and there is so much to still see.



"The social work profession in Vietnam is still in the emerging stage compared with that of the United States and many other Western countries"