

A STORY

The child's name: Khang

Date of birth: 17/12/2006

The father and mother are farmers.



One afternoon in January 2010, Khang was taken to me by his parent. At that time:

He did not show that he could hear well. He communicated his mother using gestures mainly. When he wanted something, he pointed or took his mother's hand to it so that the mother could take it and give it to him. He did not know the name of familiar things such as hat, slippers . . .

Talking to the family, I gave them advice that they should take the child to a hospital. They did it. The doctor told them that the child had a hearing loss at a moderate level and advised them to buy hearing aids for him.

When they came back and told me that, I also told them that the child needed hearing aids to develop spoken language well. The family could not afford the hearing aids. Even though, I asked them to talk to the child a bit louder. "Talk about everything around him so he learns from you", I said.

For about a year, the family tried their best, the child could have some sounds but could not give any words.

Knowing that Ms. Paige would come back to VietNam and could support hearing aids, I sent a list of children (including Khang) who needed hearing aids to her. On the 14th of January 2011, I and the family took him to Ms. Paige and an audiologist during the Mobile Mission conducted by Global Foundation For Children With Hearing Loss. The audiology expert tested the child's hearing carefully. He was fit with a pair of Phonak aids.

Since that time, Khang 's life had changed to a new page.

Based on my knowledge I have got from the 2010 Summer Training course run by Global Foundation For Children with Hearing Loss at Thuan An Education center for Disabled Children, I understand the importance of auditory verbal training when we help children to listen and talk.

I can read an audiogram more easily, can talk to children while playing, getting a shower, having meals, . . .as a routine more thoroughly. I can play with the child and help him pay attention to speech more skillfully. I can guide the family to help their child. . . more confidently.

Now, after 5 months wearing hearing aids, Khanh's language has been continuing to improve. The child now does not use the gestures or pointing as he did last time anymore, but he communicates using spoken language as hearing children. He gets used to the aids very quickly. He is getting sounds through the aids. So he loves his aids.



The child develops as well as he is because of:

- Appropriate hearing aids.
- Good cooperation between the family to the early intervention program.
- The child's ability.
- Good training from the Global Foundation For Children With Hearing Loss for me.

During 2011 Summer Training course by the Global Foundation For Children With Hearing Loss, I was in level 2. I got more knowledge and skills to work with children. I have also followed some lectures from the Audiology Program. I have learned about audiology more deeply. I have found that it was very useful for me while I am analysing the audiogram for the parents. Now I can know how to test hearing, how to read a tympanogram, how to read an audiogram . . .

I am grateful Global Foundation For Children with Hearing Loss. I look forward to participating again in Summer 2012.