

Huong Tran Women Union
Binh Thanh Women Union

Binh Thanh, February 23rd, 2009

OPEN LETTER

To: - Courage Group
- Mrs. Ton Nu Thi Hien (Courage Group Representative in Vietnam)

Currently, under Mrs. Ton Nu Thi Hien's consideration - on behalf of the Courage Group in Vietnam - Huong Tran Women Union would like help from the Group for alone women in specially difficult situations.

Binh Thanh Women Union is so glad and much appreciated for her to come to visit our villages, survey the situations for helps from Courage Group for our better lives.

By this Open Letter, we would like to propose some information concerning our life as follows:

Binh Thanh was established after Southern's Liberation Day (July, 1975). It is countryside in the South West of Hue City. People from the city come here for a New Economic Zone - Binh Dien. In 1989, Binh Dien was merged into Huong Tra to become Binh Thanh, the most difficult village in this region.

Natural area covers 6,510 ha with hills. Population includes 850 families with 4,042 people in 11 villages. In hills and mountains, inhabitants are divided by Huu Trach River, difficulties in traffic, poor economics, low families self support, long lasting joblessness and unstable jobs make economics, life and culture poor. In this time, 182/850 families were poor, approximately 21 %, including 65 poor women with 8 %.

In the past years national projects, domestic or abroad support, and Women's Union enables Local Government to help well than before.

However, after current survey, we like to get more help for alone women by Group's considerations.

On the behalf of village women, much appreciated to Courage Group and Mrs. Hien for their kind consideration

On the behalf of Village President