

UNITED NATIONS  
TRUST FUND FOR VICTIMS  
OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



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## Victims Voices: Van

**Van received assistance through the NGO 'Blue Dragon Children's Foundation' in Vietnam**



Van lost her mother at the age of 13 and married her first husband 5 years later. He was violent and aggressive. Sometime later, she showed symptoms of mental illness and was thrown out of her husband's house. A year later, Van was tricked and trafficked by a relative who promised her a well-paying job in China. She was immediately sold into a brothel and forced to engage in sex work. After a few months, Van's physical and mental condition severely deteriorated and she was allowed to marry a Chinese man. They lived together for 8 years and had 2 children. When

her physical and mental issues re-emerged, her husband's family could not afford treatment, so they threw her out. The Chinese police found Van wandering the streets of a Chinese town. They realised that she was Vietnamese and contacted Blue Dragon Children's Foundation to ask for assistance in finding her paternal family in Vietnam. Upon returning to Vietnam, Blue Dragon was able to cover her medical expenses and Van was sent to a mental health hospital for care and support. Blue Dragon's psychologists and social workers provide timely and proper care for her physical and mental health. Van is now making good progress toward recovery and hopes to achieve full independence. Her greatest wish is to be able to go back to China one day to see her children.



**WORLD DAY  
AGAINST TRAFFICKING  
IN PERSONS  
30 JULY**



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime