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For immediate release

**Announcing the Launch of the LIN Center for Community Development:
Building Community in HCMC**

Ho Chi Minh City – A celebration was held today to launch the LIN Center for Community Development a new resource for local not-for-profit groups, individual and corporate philanthropists based in and around Ho Chi Minh City.

The LIN Center for Community Development seeks to promote community alliances and identify community resources that can improve access to opportunities for people living in and around HCMC. At the heart of LIN's establishment was the belief that local people and local groups are best placed to recognize and respond to the needs of our community.

LIN offers local philanthropists, including individuals and businesses, a way in which to engage constructively and support local needs while providing a transparent mechanism through which their contributions can be tracked and monitored. Simultaneously, LIN supports grassroots not-for-profit organizations in their efforts to effectively manage resources and provide programs and services to disadvantaged groups in our community. LIN's core services include grantmaking, capacity building, research and information sharing.

Based on a clear demonstration of need, not-for-profit organizations may be eligible to receive support from LIN in the form of a grant. LIN offers two types of grants: monetary grants (ranging from VND 1 million to VND 27 million); and service grants. Grants are intended to build the capacity of an organization to achieve its mission. Service grants include technical assistance in the form of group trainings and mentoring or consultations by skilled volunteers.

For donors, and prospective donors, LIN introduces a variety of ways to meet the needs of the community, whether they may be interested to volunteer their time and professional skills; donate products or services; and/or make a grant. Meanwhile, LIN coordinates networking events and introductions for donors – to raise awareness about their resources, and non-profits - to raise awareness about their needs.

“It is natural for donors to want to know that their contributions are meaningful and effective,” explained Mdm. Le Thi Bang Tam a founding member of LIN, former Vice Minister of Finance and former Chairwoman of the State Investment and Trade Corporation. “Through LIN, we look forward to facilitating the exchange of ideas, experiences and resources for and between local philanthropists and community organizations in order to promote thoughtful philanthropy by matching community resources to the groups that need them most.”

For more information about the LIN Center for Community Development, please visit our website at: www.LINvn.org. We welcome inquiries from nonprofit organizations and individual and corporate philanthropists.



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About LIN Center for Community Development

The LIN Center for Community Development is a licensed not-for-profit organization by authorization of Decision Number 741/QĐ-LHH of the Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations (May 2009). LIN is an acronym for Listen, Inspire and Nurture.

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