Dear Friends, Supporters and Partners,

The last two months were busy and very interesting for the LIN Team!

We were fortunate to work with a pro bono consultation team from the U.S. FedEx Global Leadership Corps. The connection was made through Pyxera - a global consulting organization - which, like LIN, matches skilled professionals with nonprofit organizations to help build their capacity so they can achieve their goals.

The three week consultation was so short but the FedEx team managed to develop some practical tools, techniques, and guidelines which focused on our long-term strategy, including our partnerships with donors, and government agencies.

Working with the FedEx team reminded us how much the contribution of expertise can help nonprofits, which typically lack the resources necessary to sustain, grow, and effectively support marginalized groups.
It is why we want to continue and strengthen our efforts to promote networking, to increase sharing and to match skilled professionals with local nonprofits that are in need of different skill sets to improve their capacity to better serve disadvantaged communities and address quality of life issues in HCMC.

We were excited to kick off one of our core volunteer programs, the Community Partnership Initiative (CPI) in March. The CPI 2016 allows corporations and employees to make a meaningful community impact in developing leadership capacity for 17 individuals working with 13 different NPOs. It was a difficult process to select just 17 participants from among the applications, but fortunately, we will run the program again to accommodate those that could not join us this time around.

We are happy to have many friends partnering with LIN to support such volunteer initiatives and we would particularly like to thank: Irish Aid, Dale Carnegie, Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich Tam, Ms. Nguyen Trinh Khanh Linh, Ms. Nguyen Lien Kha, Ms. Dao Le Duyen, Mr. Le Hong Phuc, Mr. Huynh Minh Thao and Mr. Tony Williams for your contributions, both in terms of funding, service, and expertise.

We are also happy to welcome back GIBC (Global Integration Business Consultants) as a corporate sponsor for LIN’s Narrow the Gap Community Fund, and Vinaustee, SIT Study Abroad, Cimigo, MSD, CHUM, Happier, BCNV, and individuals through Global Giving for supporting LIN’s operations. Thank you for your trust and continued support!

We would like to thank all of you who support LIN and any of our NPO partners as volunteers and in other roles. And special thanks to the 13 NPOs joining the CPI 2016 program for your commitment to grow stronger so you can serve our community better!

LIN’s Annual Report 2015 was posted, now in Vietnamese as well as English, on our website; and we also shared the new Guidelines for Ethical Principles in Fundraising in Vietnam. Our Audited 2015 Financial Statements are currently being finalized by Ernst & Young and will be posted soon.

Regards,
Tran Vu Ngan Giang

NEWS FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

UPCOMING EVENTS

16 JUNE 2016
NPO MORNING COFFEE

16—18 JUNE 2016
LEADERSHIP CIRCLE 2016 - TRAINING

23 JUNE 2016
NPO ADVISORY DAY
DEMONSTRATING ACCOUNTABILITY TO OUR BENEFICIARIES

“How does a nonprofit, or donor for that matter, demonstrate their accountability to the beneficiaries?” This was a question raised by Ms. Nuala O’Brien, Head of Development at the Embassy of Ireland in Hanoi during LIN’s NPO morning coffee with NPO partners on March 31st 2016.

As part of her sharing, Ms. O’Brien presented two scenarios reflecting the work of two different NPOs who are both striving for the same goal – to reduce infectious diseases in a relatively small community. Month by month, Ms. O’Brien walked members through the two different approaches and asked the nonprofits to share their thoughts on which was the better approach.

DOING CHARITY WORK FOR YOURSELF OR FOR OTHERS?

On May 6th, LIN hosted an NPO Morning Coffee on the topic of Charity versus Development in helping society’s most vulnerable people. Our two guest speakers were Ms. Nguyễn Thị Bích Tâm, Independent Consultant on Organizational Capacity Development and Mr. Lê Quang Bình, Chairman of iSEE and the People’s Participation Working Group (PPWG). Two big questions of this NPO Morning Coffee are:
- Individuals: “Doing charity work for yourself or for others?”
- For Non-profit organizations: “Never receive all what we are given”

RESULTS FROM NARROW THE GAP COMMUNITY FUND’S FIRST GRANT ROUND OF 2016

Project proposals for the first grant round of 2016 were due on the 28th of April. Four of the six finalists were approved to receive a grant, including:
- SOSUB – VND 50 million to support the “SOSUB” project, which sets out to create a free, e-Learning Hub platform that will help to build English language skills.
- Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange (VAVA Cu Chi) – VND 49 million for their project “Illiteracy Eradication classes for children with disabilities”
- International Volunteer Club (IVC) – VND 30 million for the project “IVC goes with you to school”, which will improve the quality and quantity of meals for primary school children in a remote hamlet of Bình Phước Province.
- Healthy Children, Happy Children Club – VND 45 million for the project, “Model class and network to connect relatives of patients treated at the HCMC Blood Transfusion Hematology Hospital (Pham Viet Chanh branch)”

GUIDELINES ON ETHICAL PRINCIPLES IN FUNDRAISING

We are pleased to share with the not-for-profit community the attached Guidelines on Ethical Principles in Fundraising in Vietnam.

The Guidelines were adapted from the Association of Fundraising Professional’s International Code of Ethical Practices in Fundraising to create a fundraising code of conduct that would be suitable to Vietnam and acceptable to Vietnamese not-for-profit organizations.

CPI 2016: LEARN TO SEE HOW SMALL WE ARE IN THE WORLD

LIN’s Community Partnership Initiative (CPI) 2016 was officially launched on May 6th. The program focuses on Developing Leadership Capacity of nonprofit professionals. Fifteen leaders were initially chosen to join basic knowledge training sessions in three modules. The trainers are:
- Ms. Nguyễn Thị Bích Tâm, an independent Consultant on Organizational Capacity Development
- Mr. Lê Quang Bình, Chairman of iSEE and PPWG
- Professors Nguyễn Nho Minh, Trần Minh Hao, Trường Minh Tu and Huỳnh Minh Nhut – all from the Dale Carnegie School in Vietnam
- Ms. Nguyễn Lien Kha – Head of the Training and Development Department of VNG
REPORT ON THE “FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT” PROJECT OF ECO VIETNAM GROUP

Project “For our Environment” of ECO Vietnam Group - First Prize of Narrow the Gap for the Environment 2015 (Grant of VND 150,000,000) has moved the project location from Ben Tre to Tra Vinh with the approval of the community Grant Allocation Committee based on a needs assessment survey and written commitment from the local authority. Please refer to http://bit.ly/1Wn9XoN for specific reasons of this change.

Until now, the project has installed 4 biogas bags and 8 water storage bags in Cau Ke District, Tra Vinh Province; organized a series of workshops at the People’s Committee of Cau Ke District and at Hoa An and Phong Phu Communes for the local authority, the social and political organizations such as the Women’s Union and Farmers’ Union, agricultural officers and local people.

Regarding upcoming activities, the project is going to install 12 water storage bags and 4 biogas bags. EVG will announce a specific date and time so that community members can join these trips. In October, EVG will finalize the project and submit their final report, which LIN will share online and through our newsletter.

NARROW THE GAP FUND SITE VISIT SCHEDULE

LIN CENTER would like to invite anyone who is interested to join one or more of the scheduled visits, as detailed below. (Note: LIN team apologizes that some of the visits already took place before the Nhip Cau newsletter was disseminated. An invitation was posted, in advance, on Facebook; however, we realize that many supporters do not use Facebook so, in the future, we aim to share site visit invitations by email as well and with more advance notice).

⇒ 27/5/2016, 9.30 AM, My Future – A group of young adults with intellectual disabilities Support to young adults with intellectual disabilities
⇒ 28/5/2016, 9.30 AM, Ceporer Hocmon and CHUM Follow children, sponsored at Cepoprer Hocmon and their families
⇒ 12/6/2016, 9.30 AM, Association for Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin, Cu Chi Physical therapy departments for Dioxin’s children and children with disabilities

18 NEW NPOs JOIN PHILOINHUAN.ORG TO CONNECT WITH DONORS

In March and April 2015, 18 new NPOs in HCMC asked to publish their profiles on the VietnamCauses website. These NPOs include:

1. Hoa Mau Don Orphanage
2. A New Day social work group
3. Environment Communication and Community Development Association (ECCDA)
4. Books from the Heart Project
5. Tuong Lai Centre for Health Education and Community Development
6. Blue Dreams Volunteer group
7. Social Work Team of University of Economics, Ho Chi Minh City
8. BITFTU HCMC
9. Cau Ong Lanh Ward
10. Women’s Union
11. Ho Chi Minh Child Welfare Association (HCWA)
12. AIDS Program/Tinh Than Program
13. Disability Research and Capacity Development Center (DRD)
14. Students In Social Enterprise University of Economics, HCMC (UEH SISE)
15. Huynh Tan Phat Scholarship Fund
16. Gop Sang Group
17. Thanh Danh Consultancy of Research and Development LTD (G-link Vietnam)
18. Nhan Ai Social Work Club

We are pleased to announce the lucky draw winners of 2 Tam Hao and 3 Wrap & Roll vouchers. These five individuals were randomly selected to win a voucher after completing LIN’s online donor survey, “How can LIN serve you better?”:  

1. **Ms. Vu Thi Quynh Giao** - VND 500,000 Voucher from Wrap & Roll Restaurant  
2. **Ms. Nguyen My** - VND 200,000 Voucher from Wrap & Roll Restaurant  
3. **Ms. Pham Thi Phuong Lan** - VND 200,000 Voucher from Wrap & Roll Restaurant  
4. **Mr. Dennis Berg** - VND 300,000 Voucher from Tam Hao Fresh Noodles Restaurant  
5. **Ms. Nguyen Thu Thuy** - VND 300,000 Voucher from Tam Hao Fresh Noodles Restaurant
Mandala Night features a partnership between a business and nonprofit (03/2016)

Three staff of Horizon Capital Group joined LIN’s Board of Directors and provided critical help to LIN in terms of human resources, finance, legal advice, strategy and so on.

Ms. Ngo Thi Van Nga, representing Horizon Capital Group and Mr. Pham Truong Son, representing LIN, shared their respective experiences with cross-sector collaboration along with over 100 participants at a Mandala Night event in March 2016.

Four key experiences were mentioned:

“How can volunteers balance their career and their volunteer work?

Skilled volunteers can manage their personal work by a job description listing tasks to be done and days needed to complete them. Mr. Son said that he and Horizon’s finance team agreed to meet on the last day of every month, with a volunteer present to collect and help LIN with financial management.

A skilled volunteer will always prioritize his/her office job, with volunteer work following in ‘out of office hours’ or free time. Once a clear commitment is made, volunteers and NPOs can easily cooperate.

Read full article

Tips for how to go pro bonos from Lin’s FedEx Volunteer Team

“It is impressive how big of an impact can be made with limited resources. People are people – cultures that are very different can have very similar aspirations. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to “Pay it Forward” to Female Leaders.”

- Leslie Snyder, Managing Director, FedEx Ground, Pittsburgh Area

“My “aha” moment was a quote from Dana when she said, “Just because it’s hard, doesn’t mean you don’t try.” This experience was challenging. But in true FedEx fashion, we got the job done and the clients were happy. The “customer defines quality” and the LIN team repeatedly mentioned how pleased they were with our recommendations and work products.”

- Marvin White, Manager, Desktop Planning & Innovation (DPI) FedEx TechConnect

“FedEx is fortunate to have PSP (People – Service – Profit) as a guiding philosophy. Taking “time to think” strategically is critical. Managing information, people and resources efficiently within an organization is critical. Affirmed that international business travel is tough work.”

- Bailey Leopard, Lead Counsel, FedEx Express
SKILLED VOLUNTEERS

Support LIN Center
Bailey Leopard
Betsy Moon Park
Bùi Thị Thanh Vân
Carey Zesiger
Chữ Mỹ Thuỳ Linh
Dana R.H. DOAN
Đặng Thị Ngọc Dung
Dilshaad Ali
Dỗ Thị Như Tâm
Doàn Bào Châu
Doạn Mạnh Khâm
Graeme Alexander
Hà Xuân Trọng
Lê Minh Hạnh
Lê Quang Bình
Lê Quốc Thái
Lê Thị Bằng Tâm
Lê Văn Khải
Leslie Snyder
Linda Loose
Ly Thị Ngân Chậu
Mạc Phương Trí
Mark Jerome
Mark Sidel

Support CPI 2016
Dảo Lê Duyên
Huỳnh Minh Thảo
Lê Hồng Phúc
Nguyễn Liên Khả
Nguyễn Thị Bích Tâm
Nguyễn Trần Khánh Linh
Tony Williams

Support NPO Services
Đạo Minh Lê
Mai Đoàn Anh Thị

Support Narrow the Gap
Bùi Thị Thúy
Cù Ngọc Mai
Dinh Ánh Lan
Dinh Trấn Thảo My
Dỗ Hồng Liên
Hoàng Ngọc Thiên Tâm

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NHÀ TA LỜI TRÒ ẨN ĐÁNH
Khách tham gia sự kiện Mandala Night tháng 03/2016
Đinh Thị Quỳnh Anh
Ms. Leslie Snyder

Phạm Trường Sơn
Tony Williams
Trần Thu Thảo
Trần Vũ Ngân Giang

THANKS TO OUR MARCH AND APRIL VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS!