

News and Events of the LIN Center for Community Development

Training on access to justice for HCMC NPO Staff

On the 7th and the 14th of April 2012, the LIN center facilitated a training session on access to justice for 28 staff from local and international NPOs/NGOs in HCMC (in which 17 people participated for 2 full-days). With the training from Mr. Nguyen Van Duc, director of East Sea law limited company, the participants had the opportunity to understand local and central legal procedures and the role of legal executive offices. They were also able to discuss real legal case studies.

The training course used participatory methods through which the NPO staff participated in skill-building games; analyzed and debated case-studies; and participated in group discussions with a final presentation at the end. This method made them take an active role in the workshop. The NPO staff raised many questions for Mr. Duc, who answered them very clearly and professionally. Moreover, there were many civil status cases without a clear resolution that were discussed during the training.



The lessons learnt from this training were related to the experiences of NPO Staff when they shared their real-life stories in regards to supporting their beneficiaries. From this, we saw that the law can be applied in different ways between local authorities, such as a certain case being solved in one ward but not another; some cases this district can solve but other districts don't know how, etc. And this put the NPO in a challenging situation to try and provide support to their beneficiaries in different areas.

The "Access to a Lawyer" topic was presented by Mr. Dang An Quan, Ph.D in law and professor of HCMC Law University. Mr. Quan presented

advantages and disadvantages of finding and using lawyer in your work. He mentioned clearly the ethics of a law career to help the NPO staff to have a broad view about this issue.

The training course was the second phase of the project “Building Capacity of Non-State Actors in Facilitating Access to Justice for Vulnerable Populations in Ho Chi Minh City” funded by Justice Initiatives Facilitation Fund (JIFF). By participating in this project, LIN Center really understood the challenges which our NPO partners face related

to access to legal systems and procedures with the aim of serving their beneficiaries better. “With the research’s results of 60 NPO related to access to justice and this training course, the LIN Center has solid data and results to propose activities related to access to justice with the support local NPOs in building their capacity and raising their voice to have better helping for their beneficiaries” Mr. Son Pham, deputy director of LIN Center and coordinator of this project, said.

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[Documents of the training course](#)
[Video clip of the training course](#)



N4C Roundtable Discussion “CSR and Marketing: Risks and Opportunities”

On the morning of 24 April, LIN organized a roundtable discussion on the topic of “CSR and Marketing: Risks and Opportunities”, with in-kind support from Horizon Capital Advisors. The event was the fourth in a series of *Networking for a Cause* events, which seek to connect people engaged in community development activities. During the roundtable, CSR practitioners from multinational companies and CSR advisors from professional service firms shared their experiences and opinions about communicating CSR activities; they debated current trends and practices in Vietnam; and they discussed global best practices in CSR communications. Sixteen representatives from thirteen companies participated in the open discussion, which was facilitated by Ms. Denise Thi, Director of SRI-Vietnam.

Workshop on Transparency for NPO

On the morning of April 19, 2012, at ERC Institute (in-kind donation), the LIN Center organized the workshop “Transparency for NPO” for 60 NPO staff in HCMC. Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh, director of Research Center for Management and Sustainable Development (MSD), introduced concepts of transparency among NPOs in which the organizations must be transparent with all of its stake holders such as: government, donors, beneficiaries and the community...



Internal transparency means informing all of the staff through available policies and good governance. With the donor and government, the NPOs need to report their activities and budget to serve their clients. With the beneficiaries, budget information, their benefit, activities and their participation during the design and implementation of the project must be considered. With regards to the community, informing community members about the organization’s activities, objectives and its action plan helps everybody to understand the NPO better.

Most of people only think about the budget when talking about transparency, however Ms. Linh presented many aspects of transparency. That’s why the Q&A and sharing were interesting and well participated in by the attendees.

After the break, Mr. Le Quang Minh, senior audit manager of E&Y, first presented the basic concepts of building a good NPO in which he focused on transparency guidelines of NPO management. Secondly, he discussed organizational governance to manage the risks of fraud, he outlined that this plays the key role in building trust in the community and with stakeholders. Mr. Minh also showed that leadership is very important to build a transparent organization in which the accountability and financial and audit reports are publicized for everyone to see.

At the end of the presentation, Mr. Minh shared the lessons learnt at E&Y with 4 main policies related to transparency: clear mission, good internal M&E system, auditing all the financial reports and updating all the information.

If you would like to download these presentations and the handouts from this workshop (in Vietnamese), please visit [LIN website](#).

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First meeting of NPO Advisory Group in 2012

In the morning of April 26, 2012, at the coffee shop in district 3, thirteen NPO representatives participated in the NPO Advisory meeting to discuss Networking. The meeting was interesting, with many new ideas coming from the experienced NPO staff and directors.

The benefit of networking were made clear - to help members share information, creating a positive environment and experience as well as giving ideas, and comments on the policies and activities of the network.



Moreover, this session helped the participants to learn how to manage a network. A strong and developed network always needs a core and committed individual/team to manage the information, communication and sharing.

After the main discussion, the participants asked many questions related to NPO activities in HCMC. Experienced participants like Ms. Yen, Ms. Cuc and Ms. Lan were such a great resource to answer these questions. The next NPO Advisory meeting will be organized in June this year.

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NPO/NGO Forum

To create a sharing environment for individuals who are practitioners, experts in NPO/NGO, philanthropy and community development in Vietnam to connect, share and exchange information in professional manner, the LIN Center introduces you to participate in the online NPO Forum. To become a member of this forum, please send your CV/bio/resume to vietnpo@gmail.com.

You are the ones will contribute your ideas, experience and comments to this forum. Thanks for your participation!

Upcoming Events

Workshop on “arts of sharing” for NPO

Monday 14 May 2012

Background:

Participatory community development is seen as a key component to decide the success of intervention ideas. In the past, people’s participation has been seen only as a labor contribution into the project. However, today, this concept opens in a broad, deep and diversified way.

How can we make community development projects encourage community groups to open up, share their thoughts, experiences and their emotions towards a topic? With this concept, the LIN Center for Community Development collaborated with Life Art Social Enterprise to introduce to NPO staff the art applications in facilitating sharing of the participants. This way is very useful in qualitative evaluation or research with the participation of community and/or in the project that needs to share sensitive issues.

Date and Time: 08h30 – 11h30 a.m. – Monday, 14 May 2012

Venue: *We will inform to confirmed participants*

Objectives: Introduce art application techniques to facilitate sharing.

Practice applicaytion techniques.

Exchange effective and potential applications of art in community development.

RSVP: Please RSVP at LIN npo@LINvn.org.

Workshop facilitator:

Ms. Phan Y Ly graduated psychology and sociology at University in India in 2001. She had 3 year experience working on community development at UN and NGOs in Vietnam.

In 2005, she was the first good Vietnamese Chevening scholars on Using theatre and communication in human being development at United Kingdom. In 2007, she initiated children making community film project at Middle of Hong River. In 2010, she established Life Art, the first social enterprise to apply arts in human being development and encouraging performance arts.

Ms. Ly is also a testing theatre artist and founded Draft Theatre. She was known in Vietnam by many testing theatre works and initiative community development projects. She also worked with many diversified social members in many countries like Vietnam, Kenya, Thailand, Philippines, Sweeden and Malaysia.

Roundtable for Individual and Family Philanthropists

Friday, 25 May 2012

Background

On 25 May, from 12 to 2pm, in District 1, LIN will host an English language roundtable for committed donors – individuals and/or families that annually contribute at least VND 200 million. The intimate meeting will provide an opportunity to develop one's philanthropic goals and strategies through expert facilitation by an international philanthropy advisor - Mr. Maurice Machenbaum, Co-Founder and Director of WISE philanthropy advisors, a Geneva-based organization.

Objectives

Participants will build understanding about issues that affect grant outcomes in a dynamic, group process that allows sharing among peers. Learn different approaches to philanthropy that can help to leverage and enhance your community investments.

Join us if you and/or your family want to:

- Establish a giving strategy;
- Review and revive an existing giving strategy; and/or
- Do more with the funds you allocate for charitable purposes.

The cost to attend this event is VND 400,000, which includes lunch (food and beverages). To register, please send an email to Liz Pham at: Donor@LINvn.org, or via telephone at: (08) 3824-6091.

Questions and Answer on LIN services:

Many organizations, registered as companies, are struggling to help very marginalized people. Does LIN provide volunteers for such organizations?

As you may already know, LIN offers to try and match skilled volunteers with not-for-profit projects/organizations that meet a set of criteria, which is detailed on our website. One of the criteria is that the project/organization must be not-for-profit, by design (intention). While we agree that there are many worthwhile, for-profit initiatives that seek to benefit the community, our focus and our expertise is on serving the not-for-profits. We are limited in both resources and capacity and, as such, we must define our target audience to be those where we feel we can add the most value.

That said, if a company is specifically set-up to be a not-for-profit company, as stated in its charter (or articles of incorporation), they may be eligible for LIN volunteer support services. Moreover, if a for-profit company has a not-for-profit project/program/department, they may also be eligible for LIN Volunteer Support Services. Perhaps, in the future, LIN will be able to raise funds to support expanded services. From the beginning, the service we have had the most difficulty raising funding for is our volunteer matching services. **(LIN Center)**

If you have any questions/concerns on LIN's services or our services do not meet your needs, please do not hesitate to contact us and share your feedback. Please email us at info@LINvn.org or tel [\(08\) 38246091](tel:(08)38246091).

Training on “Grant report writing skills” Thursday, 31 May 2012

Background

With the NPO receiving many grants, report writing has always been an essential and important part of NPO management. The grant report shows your project’s activities, the results and achievements of the project, challenges and difficulties and recommendations, lessons learnt from the project. Report writing is always a challenge for small NPOs which do not receive many international donations. However, sometimes the big NPOs also have this challenge.

With the support from GFCF for community grant 2011, The LIN Center would like to organize this workshop for our grantees.

Date and Time: 08h30 – 11h30 a.m. – Thursday, 31 May 2012

Venue: We will inform to confirmed participants

Objectives: Introduce the target of grant report;
How to report effectively the activities in grant report;
Expectations of donors in grant report;
Practice grant report writing.

RSVP: Please RSVP at npo@LINvn.org. This workshop is for LIN grantees and we only 20 seats for first come first serve.

Trainer:

Elizabeth Pham is a multidisciplinary management professional with over 14 years of experience working in both the social and business sectors. She is currently the Director of the Management Board Office at Hoa Sen University. She also serves as a member of the LIN Board of Advisors.

Before coming to Vietnam, her work for the Ford Foundation encompassed grantmaking focused on the New York City area, budget management for programs worldwide and monitoring operational effectiveness for overseas offices. Prior to that, she worked on an HIV/AIDS capacity building project with a New York City based nonprofit technical assistance provider.

Before transitioning to the nonprofit sector, she spent a few years in marketing for Citibank consumer products. She holds a Master in Public Administration degree from the Wagner School of Public Service and a Bachelor degree in Finance and Marketing from the Stern School of Business at New York University.



LIN Event Calendar

Check out our Event Calendar to stay updated with our upcoming events. Please visit LIN website at:

[Event Calendar](#)

Donor's Corner

A. Quarterly LIN Donor Newsletter



On April 2012, LIN Center published a quarterly newsletter for donors in which they can find useful information related to philanthropy or community development of LIN Center. Please download the first newsletter at: [Donor Newsletter](#)

B. New Law!

Decree No. 30/2012/ND-CP (12 April 2012), effective from 1 June 2012, is set to replace Decree No. 148/2007/ND-CP (25 September 2007) on the establishment and management of Social Funds and Charitable Funds. A copy of the law is available on LIN's website at: [NPO Resource](#).

Decree No. 33/2012/ND-CP (13 April 2012), effective from 1 June 2012, amends and supplements Decree 45/2010/ND-CP (21 April 2010) on the establishment and management of Associations. A copy of the law is available on LIN's website at: [NPO Resource](#).

Decree No. 5/2012/ND-CP (2 February 2012), effective from 1 April 2012, amends and supplements some articles of five different decrees including Decree No. 07/2007/ND-CP detailing and guiding the implementation of some articles of the Law on Legal Aid.

NPO Networking

Friendly Games Connecting Community



In the morning of Sunday 8 April 2012, in a friendly, open and warm environment at DRD clubhouse, the training “Friendly Game” was organized for 25 participants from 15 NPOs. The training was designed in participatory gaming method.

The trainer was Mr. John Guarrine – director board member of Play for Peace at Chicago (USA). With 3 BAs and experience to work with Play for Peace over 13 years, he introduced many interesting

new games; after each game, he also shared messages and core values and mission of Play for Peace. While playing the games, Mr. John showed the humanity theory into each game to encourage the participants understanding and applying in community development.

Ms. Lam Ngoc Thuy (Sống Đẹp Group) shared “I learn some new games and there are some old games but they were presented more interesting, especially sharing the theory. I can apply the learning today to support my colleagues and beneficiaries”. “This is the second times I play with Play for Peace and it is still not boring. The great method which we can learn a lot with joy.” Ms. Elizabeth (Smile Group).

This is the second time, the representatives of Play for Peace shared their techniques and experience with NPO staff in Vietnam. And this time A New Day collaborated with LIN Center to organized this training. It was successful and we hoped the participants will apply the experience in their work.

Activity of Tuong Lai Center



On 6 April, 2012, the project “Health promotion and quality of life for disadvantaged elderly”, collaborated by Tuong Lai Center and People Committee of Tan Thoi Hoa ward, organized successful presentation on “Health protection for elderly”.

There are 120 elderly participated in this talk. They had an opportunity to exchange with Dr. Tran Thanh Linh (MA-Doctor of old people at Van Hanh hospital). Dr. Linh introduced 6 common diseases in elderly such as: heart, lung, digestion, nerve, osteoarthritis and urinary and the participants asked many questions related to their health for his consultation.

Tuong Lai Center



Picture information: Together with 9 NPOs in HCMC, LIN Center had a communication day for migrant workers participated in “Safe Fun Run” organized by Better Work Vietnam on 22 April 2012 at Binh Duong province.



TRAINING COURSE ON PROJECT MANAGEMENT

1. COURSE INFORMATION

Time : 21 – 24/05/2012

Morning: 08h00 – 11h30; Afternoon: 13h30 – 17h00

Place: Ton Duc Thang University

98 Ngo Tat To St., Ward 19, Binh Thanh Dist.,
HCMC

Language: Vietnamese

Trainer: Expert Le Dai Tri

2. TRAINING FEE

410,000 VND/ day (Including: materials, study equipments; tea-break).

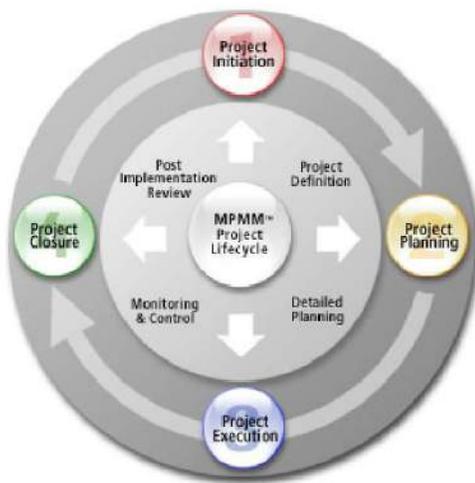
Certificate fee: **150,000 VND**

Local social staff will be discount 20% tuition
(excluding certificate).

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

After the training course, participants will be able to:

- Describe basic definitions including: project cycle management, based-on result management. Listing managerial functions and project management tasks.
- Build project strategic plan and implementation plan on logical frame.
- Describe essential principles in implementing project.
- Develop monitoring plan – evaluate and use tools for collecting information to monitor and evaluate the project.



FOR ENQUIRIES AND REGISTRATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Social Development Training Center – Ton Duc Thang
University

Ms. Yen – 0977 357 037

Or Mr. Bao - 093 797 5445

Room B009, Nguyen Huu Tho Street, Tan Phong
Ward, District 7, HCMC

Tel: (08) 2242 6789 – Fax: (08) 3775 5055

Email: sdtc@tdt.edu.vn or dangthuphuyen@gmail.com

Website: <http://sdtc.tdt.edu.vn>

Expired date: 14/05/2012



Social Work and Community Health Services Summer Institute 2012 May 21 - June 6, 2012

Public health is concerned with what we, as a society, do collectively to assure the conditions in which people live can be healthy. Social work is concerned with how to use relationships to solve problems that impact community and individual health. This Summer Institute will focus on:

1. Moving People Past Ambivalence: The Motivational Interviewing Approach.
2. Understanding Psychotropic Drugs for Helping Professionals.
3. Shrinking Anxiety Disorders
4. The Ethics of Being a Social Worker: Understanding and Addressing Ethical Dilemmas.
5. Substance Abuse: What is it? How can you treat it?
6. Understanding the Human Reaction to Disaster: Crisis Response Training

Each problem will be addressed in a workshop format that permits professionals and those interested in working with people and communities such as those in the field of social work to attend. Participants may attend one or more workshops. Additional workshops may be added at a later date.

We invite participants who are (1) staff, faculty, and social work students and (2) social workers/collaborators/counterparts of Vietnamese American NGOs and other international and local NGOs. These workshops will be particularly relevant to those working with (i) disadvantaged, traumatized and/or handicapped children (in orphanages, children's centers, youths at-risk & victims of trafficking), (ii) adults who have experienced human abuse and violence or are struggling with drug abuse problems.

Participants should have a bachelor degree in a social science related field. Three years of experience as a practicing social service worker will exempt the requirement of a degree. University students will be permitted to attend the Institute workshops on a space available basis after more qualified individuals are accepted.

These workshops will emphasize practical methods of working with people and solving problems. There is no registration fee for these workshops and priority will be given to participants from co-sponsoring universities and organizations. All organizations are responsible for the costs of transportation, meals and lodging associated with sending their staff/collaborators to the training. For registration and more information, please call or fill out the attached form and send it via email to:

Ms. Huynh Thi Tuong Vy (AGU) <workshop.agu@gmail.com>
Phone: Tuong Vy at 0977.727672 – 0763.943695 or

Ms. Nguyen Thi Phuong Thao at 076 3853888- 0939 599 518

Workshops are sponsored by An Giang University and West Virginia University with the generous co-sponsorship of the Pacific Links Foundation An Giang/Dong Thap Alliance for the Prevention of Trafficking (ADAPT) and the Southeast Asia Children's Project. ADAPT. Partners also include the East Meets West Foundation and the International Children Assistance Network.

