



Table of content

1. Message from LIN's Executive Director
2. Upcoming events
LIN IS MOVING TO NEW HOME!
3. Activities in January - February
4. Thank you to our donors and volunteers

MESSAGE FROM LIN'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

That special end-of-the-year atmosphere is spreading everywhere, as LIN is very busy winding up its activities. This spring has welcomed us with so much warmth since we have received immense support from our friends, sponsors and volunteers. Furthermore, **953 million VND** has been committed to the contribution of LIN's services through our "Saigon Glow & Glare" dinner held on 17.01.2018. This greatly encourages us and motivates our 30+ volunteers, who toiled day and night to put the event together. We are so proud to have got the chance to team up with such wonderful Non-profit partners, sponsors, and artists to create such a warm and meaningful gala. *Thank you for your support in enabling LIN to implement our programs in 2018!*



In January, LIN also received a discount from CirCO for the **relocation of "our common home for community development activities - LIN" to CirCO's shared working space in District 4**. This new facility not only gives us peace of mind and positive energy through a more stable, dynamic and friendly workplace; it also has a convenient location and CirCO's facilities are ideal for LIN to better serve our partners. We hope our new home will open up more opportunities for networking, collaboration between the nonprofit organizations, businesses and individuals, and especially the ones that are working in Circo. **Please update the address and work schedule of LIN's new office from the content of this newsletter.**



Summing up LIN's activities in 2017, we are pleased to announce the results of our annual surveys made by 32 volunteers and 78 non-profit organizations (NPOs), two of our three main target groups that LIN serves:

- 85% of NPOs believe that LIN's activities support community development;
- 87.5% Volunteers agree that volunteering through LIN is a good opportunity to contribute to community development.
- Two groups rated high levels of satisfaction with LIN's *Narrow The Gap; Non-Profit Forum; Workshop/Events of Donors Networking or Giving Education; and Impact Accelerator for Nonprofits*.

Due to some restrictions, we were unable to complete the surveys with the rest of the individuals and businesses that sponsored LIN. We will therefore still use the results of this survey in 2016. Accordingly, 80% of respondents were satisfied with LIN; Most of the donors are affiliated with LIN because of their belief in LIN's mission and approach.

The positive figures and opinions of volunteers and NPOs in the two surveys help us to be more confident in the effectiveness and relevance of the services provides. LIN is committed to coming up with more and more creative ideas and action plans for 2018 to better *"help local people meet local needs"*.

You can refer to the reports of these surveys here:

- [Annual surveys report in 2017](#) (in Vietnamese, English will be available in March)
- [Report on Building Community Philanthropy in Vietnam in 2016](#)

Finally, in the spring of Vietnamese Lunar New Year, we would like to send our greetings of peace, happiness to our sponsors, donors, volunteers, NPO partners, and friends.



Tran Vu Ngan Giang
Executive Director



UPCOMING EVENTS

1. MANDALA NIGHT

Mandala Night is a bi-monthly event organized by LIN to promote professional volunteering (pro bono) from various occupations and types of organizations. The event also creates a platform to meet, exchange expertise and build relationships for new volunteers. *Mandala Night* is expected in 2018 with 5 events in March, May, August, October, and December.

A separate invite with date and venue for March event will be followed.

2. THREE REGIONS REUNION

The *Three Regions Reunion* is scheduled to take place from 17 to 19 March in Hoi An for the 13 NPOs who are cohort members of LIN's *Impact Accelerator 2017* program. The reunion was designed to improve the capacity of personal and organizational leadership; help NPOs exchange, learn, connect and share experiences from the three regions of Vietnam and apply it to their organizations. The event is expected to host around 100-150 participants from all three regions.

3. LIN MOVES TO NEW HOME

From the 1st of March, 2018, LIN Center for Community Development will officially move to a new location.

We are delighted to receive rental discount from CirCO for a shared working space. CirCO has an open, innovative, and affordable design, just less than five minutes from the city center

to our new home! This helps LIN interact conveniently with partners, volunteers, and businesses, especially the ones in CirCO, in order to effectively facilitate the cross-sector partnerships toward sustainable development.



From 01.03.2018 onward, please contact LIN at the following address:

LIN Center for Community Development

CirCO, 1st Floor, H3 Bulding

384 Hoang Dieu Street,

Ward 6, District 4,

Ho Chi Minh City

Tel: +84 8 8880 7929



ACTIVITIES IN JANUARY - FEBRUARY

1. SAIGON GLOW & GLARE

Our first annual dinner, “*Saigon Glow & Glare*”, took place at Hotel des Arts Saigon on the 17th of January and ended successfully with a total of **953** million VND pledged by our donors and friends. The event was filled by 120 guests and *Children of Thien An Shelter*, *Thao Dan* and artists such as *Dinh Tien Dat*, *Kim Cuong*, singer *Nguyen Hung Cuong*, *Miss Vietnam Truong Thi May*, *Miss Vietnam Thuy Dung*, *Artist Nguyen Hai Anh*, *Artist Hai Duong*... In addition to the impressive performances, *Saigon Glow & Glare* offered very exciting live auction items, and a raffle that raised funds for LIN's 2018 activities.



We would like to give a big THANK YOU to all our guests, partners, friends & volunteers who have worked so hard and contributed greatly to the success of our event. We are happy you wish to accompany us on our journey!

Photos and details of the activities at the event are updated on [LIN's facebook](#).

2. NARROW THE GAP:



LIN has recently made two site visits to two grassroots projects granted by LIN's *Narrow the Gap* program 2017.

Happier Organization's Project

In the evening of February 6th 2018, *Narrow the Gap* team coordinated a site visit to The Children's Hospital 1 in Ho Chi Minh City, where voluntary visitors participated in activities for the project "*Psychological support for children under treatment at the Department of Orthopedics*" by Happier. This project was funded with 150,000,000 VND through *Narrow the Gap, round II.2017*.



Up to now, the project has organized **25** group training sessions including: 15 sessions for **149** child patients and 10 sessions for **100** parents. **59** cases of the children were successfully supported to get over psychological crisis, and become confident, open to share their feelings and thoughts. This has also helped the parents to get some peace of mind and know how to support the children.

Site visit of "Vietnamese traditional medicine garden in An Giang"



On 3rd and 4th February 2018, *Narrow the Gap* team came to Long Xuyen City, An Giang Province to visit "*Vietnamese traditional medicine garden in An Giang*". This project was funded with 50,000,000 VND by *Narrow the Gap, Round III.2017*.

The project was developed at Ba Ve Garden (My Thanh commune, Long Xuyen city, An Giang province) with the aim of providing a stable local source of medicine and preserving rare medicinal

herbs from the nature in An Giang and the Mekong Delta provinces as well. After 3 months of implementation, the project has completed installing an irrigation system and sample garden. It is expected that in early March, 2018, medicinal plants will be planted on an area of 5,000m² of land supported by local people.

3. LIN'S ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS



Our surveys with the volunteers and NPOs we serve were conducted by LIN to synthesize ideas and contributions from our two main target groups (out of three), who have been with us throughout our community activities in 2017. The surveys included 24 Questions sent to 250 NPOs and 32 volunteers.

In evaluating LIN's impact, the survey for Volunteers produced very positive parameters. Of these, **63%** of volunteers found that LIN's program helped them participate in the community or helped them better tackle the challenges the community faces. **87.5%** of volunteers said that LIN's activities helped them improve their NPO's capacity. Furthermore, compared to the previous year, **66%** of volunteers increased their volunteer activities, **28%** were the same and **6%** decreased. **81%** of volunteers are satisfied with the LIN team. One volunteer who joined this survey shared *"being a LIN Volunteer helps me think and act more positively"*. In the perspective of community expertise, another volunteer highly appreciated LIN's projects, saying *"being exposed to a variety of projects, and understanding the advantages and disadvantages of NPOs helped me gain more expertise to help people in need, from which I better orient myself towards volunteering in a long-term & professional way"*.

In the NPO survey, one NPO shared significant changes that took place in 2017: when several donors stopped funding, their organization was in the midst of struggling with a financial crisis. Some donors do not want to sponsor one organization for too many years. LIN's connectivity programs and forums not only helped the NPO affiliate with other organizations, but also helped them build a proper connection which fit their criteria. We are delighted that **94%** of our NPOs partners are satisfied with the LIN services. The survey also outlines five organizational development challenges that NPOs have to overcome, including: Fundraising, External Communications, Legal, Strategic Planning, Human Resources Management.... These are also LIN's core training/workshop activities with NPOs in the near future.

You can find details of these surveys (in Vietnamese) at:

<http://www.linvn.org/vi/ve-lin/tac-dong-cua-lin/bao-cao>



4. NPOs MEET UP FOR THE NEW YEAR

On January 18, 2018, LIN hosted *"Meet up for the New Year"* to show gratitude to our NPO partners who have co-operated with LIN throughout 2017. The event took place at DreamPlex with the participation of 60 people representing more than 30 non-profit partners of LIN.

LIN's Executive Director, Ms. Tran Vu Ngan Giang opened the event by sharing the results of LIN's donor survey in 2016. This survey helped NPO and LIN understand the donor's perspective and expectations in order to deliver positive impacts to the community.

At the event, Mr. Pham Truong Son - Director of LIN's NPOs Partnerships also announced the strategic plan for the next three years and key programs, activities and projects that will be implemented with NPOs throughout 2018.



This is also a great time for LIN to thank 12 NPOs partners who have accompanied LIN along community programs in 2017. *"Meet up for the New Year"* was also filled with excitement thanks to a performance from students from Ton Duc Thang University. We believe this event has successfully kicked off a series of programs by LIN in 2018.

Images of the event can be found at: <https://goo.gl/ZqdnVC>

5. 1-ON-1 PEER SHARING:

LIN hosts peer-sharing activities every month to create opportunities for nonprofit organizations to access information, and share experiences with other counterparts at LIN. Each month, LIN employees spend up to four hours in consultation with a member or staff from a partner organization to resolve problems.

This January, we got 4 requests concerning law, finance and one-day strategic planning consultation.



6. "HOW TO DESIGN AND MEASURE EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMUNITY PROJECTS FOR YOUTH" TALK

In 2018, LIN makes a commitment to share with the public about community philanthropy and doing good well with 10 complimentary public talks. The first talk was hosted for a group of students from HCMC University of Science on 12 January 2018. Ms. Le Thi Phuong Lien – Lecturer from HCMC University of Science appreciated the opportunity: *"Thanks to the LIN team for providing ITEC students with a chance to attend the workshop. The information shared at the workshop answered a lot of questions that we had. The questions that were raised at the workshop concerning community activities made our students think carefully about their future community projects. It has enabled ITEC to plant the initial seeds."*

LIN is open to requests for talks with university students or youth group on the topic. For your booking please contact Ms. Nguyen Thi Thanh Truc, Director of Community Programs at: truc@linvn.org.

Pictures of this discussion at LIN on Jan 12, 2018 can be found here: <https://goo.gl/hKX2Re>



APPRECIATION TO DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

1. Organizations and businesses



2. Individual donors

Anne Greenfield
Anonymous Donors
Betsy Moon Park
Carey & Chau Zesiger
Carma Center
Châu Turner
Christina Ameln
Dang Viet Kim
Do Thi My Hanh
Do Thi Xuan Phuc
Edwards Tran
Friends of Carey & Chau Zesiger
Friends of Heather Nguyen
Friends of Ngo Quynh Nhu
Friends of Tom Doan
Ha Thi Lan Huong
Hải Yến
Heather Nguyen
Henri (Dung)
Huynh Minh Thao
Inès Quoico
Jade Tran
James Duong
Kate Anderson
Keith Schulz & Partner
Kent Pham
Lam Quynh Anh
Le Ha My Tram & family
Le Huu Luc
Linh Nguyen
Ly
Mai Thi Nguyet Anh
Megan Francis
Michael Beckman

Morgan Ommer
Ngo Quynh Nhu
Nguyen Thi Huong
Nguyen Thi Kim Oanh
Nguyen Thi Nguyet My
Nguyen Tran Hoang Anh
Nguyen Thuy Tien
Pamela Pontius
Paul Huynh
Phil & Fran MacLaurin
Nguyen Dinh Duong
Nguyen Hai Anh
Nguyen Phuong Quynh Tram
Nguyen Thanh Giang
Phuong
Phuong Tran
Quyen Tran
Richard Albright & Friend
Rohit Sinha
Sesto Vecchi
Simon Fraser
Stephen Alan Smith
Thai Vu Huong
Thanh Vu
Tang Nguyet Minh
Thuy Vo
Truc
Tom Doan
Tran Giang Truc Linh
Tran Lam Thanh
Van Ly
Vu Thai Thi Hien



3. Volunteers

Ac Hung
Artist Dinh Tien Dat
Cao Hoang Tuong Vi
Christina Ameln
Cody Gleason
Dinh Hoang Minh Ngoc
Do Thi Thu Ha
Doan Bao Chau
Florence Bacin
Huỳnh Đăng Thành Phương
Le Trong Nghia
Ly Hong Tran
Miss Vietnam Thuy Dung
Miss Vietnam Truong Thị May
Nguyen Anh Tinh
Nguyen Huy Hoang
Nguyen Thanh Son
Nguyen Thi Ngoc Anh
Nguyen Thi Phuong Thao
Nguyen Thi Thu Hien
Nguyen Tran Minh Nguyet
Pham Cong Thanh Nam
Pham Tan Trung
Phan Tran Ha Thuy
Phuong Thuy
Singer Hung Cuong
Singer Trong Khuong
Ta Ngoc Luan
Tang Nguyet Minh
Tran Pham Ngoc Diep
Tran Quang Duy
Tran Thi Diem
Tran Thi Dung Dung
Tran Vu Quy Ngoc
Vu

LIN's Board of Directors and Board of Advisors

Betsy Moon Park
Carey Zesiger
Dana R. H. Doan
Doan Manh Kham
Ha Xuan Trung
Lam Quynh Anh
Le Ha My Tram
Le Thi Bang Tam
Mark Sidel
Ngo Quynh Nhu
Nguyen Khanh Dung
Nguyen Tran Hoang Anh
P. Eli Angel Mazur
Tran Phuong Anh
Tran Thi Thanh Huong

