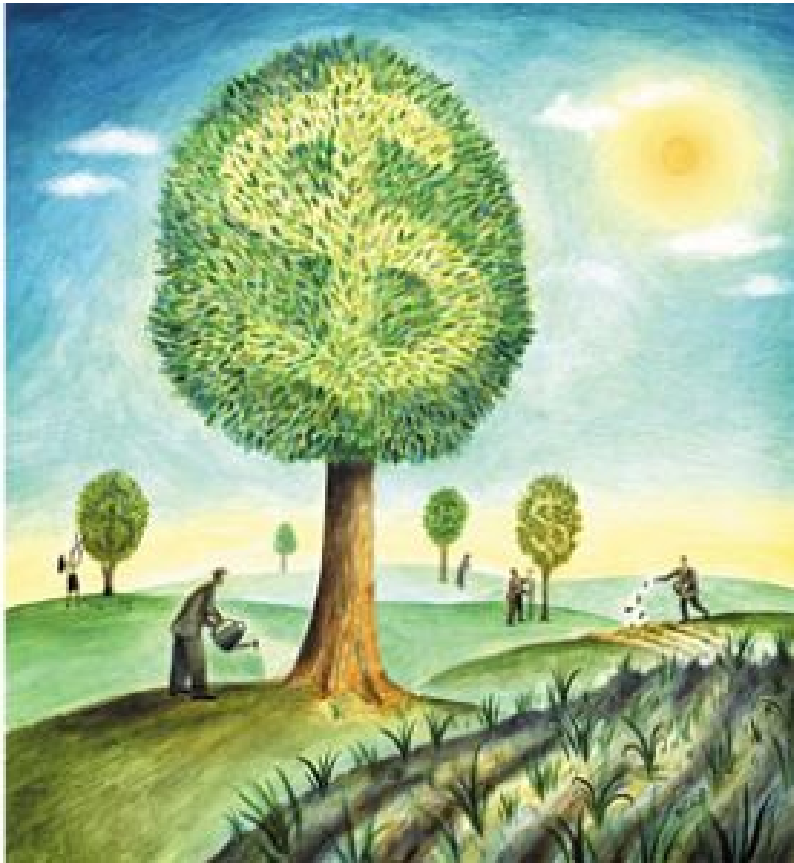




Fundraising Workshop for NPOs on 4 June 2010



Local NPOs and international NGOs alike say that fundraising, both for maintaining and developing programs and services is one of the most important issues. Many organizations have become quite successful with fundraising, particularly those that have had a lot of experiences and have developed wide networks, whereas smaller, local NPOs have to deal with small networks and a lack of experience with raising funds and/or searching for information about individuals, organizations, and companies that make grants not to mention the challenges of applying for grants and sponsorships.

To meet this urgent needs of local, grassroots NPOs, LIN Center For Community Development will host a series of practical workshops on the topic of fundraising. Our first Fundraising workshop will take place on **Friday, 4 June 2010 in District 1, HCMC**. We will soon send out invitations and registration form to all of our NPO partners and friends, with details about the venue, speakers and agenda.

If you would like information or if you have any specific topics to suggest or questions you would like answered, please contact LIN by email at: npo@linvn.org or call us at: (84 8) 38246091 and ask for Cam Tu or Truong Son. Thanks and hope to see you in June!

Recent events of LIN Center for Community Development

LIN Wins 3rd Place in GlobalGiving's Online Challenge!



At the beginning of GlobalGiving's Global Open Project Challenge, at the end of March, LIN set a goal to raise USD \$11,384 to fund programs designed to empower our not-for-profit partners in 2010. In just over one month, LIN raised \$16,707 from 74 donors (over \$5,000 more than our goal). Thanks to our generous donors, LIN finished the competition in 3rd place, in terms of total funds raised. The prize for third place was a USD \$3,000 cash prize from GlobalGiving!

We are thrilled with the outcome of this fundraising activity and would like to, once again, recognize and thank all of the people that made this happen:

Anonymous	Henri Phimasset	Tuyen Do	Nitin Saigal
Ella Hoxha	Lan Nguyen	Trang Phan	Sandra Szahun
Anonymous	Yasmina Zaidman	Anh Nguyen Duc Thuy	Adam Halpern
Daniel Fairburn	Mei Lee Dozier	Karen Anton	Anh Tran Hoang Nguyen
Sonya Lam	Mike Doan	Randolph L Austin Sr	Anonymous
Napoleon Ta	Bich-Phuong Ha	Mahnaz Amini	Anonymous
Eve Bates	Anonymous	Rodney James Langsford	Johnny Duda
Tony Huang	Anonymous	Shaun Coon	Laura Kaufer
Rachel Felice	Anonymous	Rosanne Lee	Le Quyen Le
Tuong-Oanh Nguyen	Jonah Levey	Jerry Robertson	Michael Sieburg
Kate Lloyd-Williams	David Regenold	Alan Young	Anonymous
Anonymous	Akihiro Tsuruta	Ken Truong	Angela Dickey
Anonymous	Ziang Tony Ngo	Sesto Vecchi	Richard McPherson
Kim Shin	Daniel E Otahal	Guillaume Blanchard	Alexis Howerton
Eyal Gutentag	Thien Do	Van Ly	Aaron Golub
Walter Blocker	Payam Massaband	Gail Campbell	Charles Howerton
Hung Doan	Anonymous	Anonymous	Vadim Samorodov
Kieu Pham Oanh	Maria Stalford	Anonymous	Anonymous
Susan Myers			

Thank you for believing in the work that we do!

If you would like to support LIN, please visit our website for ways to help LIN or you can contact us at: Donor@LINvn.org or (848) 3824-6091.

Participation of LIN Center at MTV Exit (17/04)



LIN booth looking busy



A young, brave visitor to LIN's booth



One of the more stylish hand paintings



MTV and LIN logos – creative designs by LIN volunteers



Laura (volunteer advisor to LIN Center) showing off her body painting

On April 17, LIN participated in the music event - MTV Exit, which was designed to raise awareness about efforts to fight human trafficking. After traveling to Hanoi, Ha Long Bay and Can Tho, the Vietnam tour ended in HCMC with the participation of 15,000 people. Together with INGOs and local NPOs, LIN Center hosted a booth to introduce our activities and services. Here are some photos from our booth where LIN volunteers helped us by offering to paint cool body tattoos on willing visitors.

Volunteerism in the US

Experiences and Lessons Learned from My Recent Study Tour Through the U.S.

By Pham Truong Son

Over the years, I observed many youth from America and other Western countries coming to Vietnam to volunteer. Some volunteer to take care of children or teach English; some are paired with a not profit organization and support their programs or help with office administration; and some participate in charity trips to rural areas where they provide health care or build houses for the poor...

The questions I often wondered about were: *Why do they do it? What encourages them to participate like this in a foreign community? What benefits do they expect or can get from this volunteer work?*

Fortunately, this month I had the opportunity to obtain the answers to these questions by participating in a program called, “**Volunteerism: United We Serve**”, a three-week study trip throughout the U.S.

The themes that were addressed during this program related to volunteerism, *pro bono* services (i.e., the volunteering of professional services), corporate social responsibility and social enterprise. We learned and exchanged experiences through a series of workshops and site visits with individuals and social centers in four cities in the United State of America as of us starting in Washington, DC together and gathering once again at the end of our visit in San Francisco, California.



Representatives of volunteer host organizations share their experience

This was a great opportunity for me and 102 other participants who were all young leaders, not-for-profit staff, educators, journalists or businesspeople coming to the US from 100 different countries of the world to learn and share experiences.

The Role of Non-for-profit organizations/Non-governmental organizations (NPO/NGO) in Volunteerism.

Many American NPOs/NGOs introduced their experiences with encouraging citizens to

participate in community services and contribute to the national welfare as well as efforts to volunteer in countries around the world.

Through the forums and conferences organized to address this topic, it is clear that the US Government and US Presidents have played a key role in motivating and appealing to US citizens for their participation in support of their communities and society more broadly. For example, Michelle Obama, the First Lady of the United States of America, committed to volunteer 100,000 hours with youth and American citizens in support of the community.

This call for engagement in volunteerism is fostered by American NPOs/NGOs who introduce their own calls for support, targeting everyone from young children to the elderly. I heard from many such organizations from Volunteer Match and Taproot Foundation to United Way and AmeriCorps.

Volunteer work can include a diverse range of activities, from planting trees, making your community gardens more beautiful; serving meals to the poor or to the homeless; reading books/stories to children or to the elderly; supporting disabled people; coordinating or transporting supplies to people affected by natural disasters; or helping spread the word about events or issues by sending out useful messages; or simply adding signatures to help protect the welfare or rights of a community.

Every NPO/NGO in the US has a mission, a target and a beneficiary; they network with high schools, universities, religious organizations and governmental organizations to encourage and promote people's participation.

Every individual has a right to choose their volunteer work, the beneficiaries they serve or the areas they serve (e.g., their sub-ward and community) by registering to a suitable NPO/NGO. Some more experienced, larger organizations such as the Peace Corps, Atlas Service Corps, and Youth Service America have reached out to other countries to exchange volunteers, especially in Asian and African countries. They create volunteer opportunities by sending Americans to volunteer in other countries as well as by bringing individuals from around the world to the US to develop skills and exchange experiences.

Learning through practical experience.

After visiting and meeting with some representatives of US NPOs/NGOs, I see that they have good volunteer management systems. All volunteers sign a volunteer agreement, which helps to define and control volunteer work and hours. The advantages, they tell us is that it is extremely useful in management, reporting as well as fundraising for their organizations. However, I know that this practice is still new in Vietnam – many of the Vietnamese NPOs, NGOs, groups and/or clubs have not yet professionalized volunteer engagement.



International Volunteer leaders participate in clearing weeds in San Francisco

After meeting with some US NGOs, each of the international visitors had a chance to participate in volunteer programs and activities, which were hosted by NPOs/ NGOs in the US. During the trip, I had three opportunities to volunteer with my friends from other countries:

- Firstly, in Washington, DC, together with students at George Washington University, I helped remove weeds from the pavement and plant trees at Mount Vernon.
- Secondly, in Orlando, Florida, I volunteered with the Harvest Time International Organization, by organizing all sorts of furniture, which were then placed on shelves at a market for poor, homeless and unemployed people in the city.
- Lastly, at Crissy Field and the Presidio in San Francisco, California, I joined Oracle employees and my international friends by clearing weeds to make the public park more beautiful.

Everybody can join in these types of activities whenever they have free time and a desire to help their community.

What is the benefit of volunteer work?



All participants have a chance to meet the first lady of California, Maria Shriver (standing row, the 3rd from the right)

This is a question that was often asked when we had the chance to meet and visit other volunteer host organizations. And we heard many different answers, depending on the ages of the volunteers. Among the answers we heard, was that volunteers gain life skills, time management skills, they learn how to work with

patients and they learn about their community and their responsibility to the community...

Among high school students, they are many willing participants and they tend to be responsive to appeals from the community and from their schools. University students often seek to improve their CVs by volunteering with organizations and in their community. Employees participate in volunteer activities with their companies or in their free time to help people less fortunate or to improve their communities.

Not all Americans are engaged in volunteer activities; however, I could see that there is a strong networking system between CBOs, NPOs, NGOs and governmental organizations to promote and facilitate volunteerism, in the community in order to raise awareness about community challenges but also to gain invaluable experiences and necessary skill sets from volunteers in the community.

To hear more about my experiences during this exchange or to add your comments or questions, please visit LIN's page on Facebook at: www.Facebook.com/LINCenter. (Refer to the Notes tab and feel free to share your thoughts and comments!)

LIN's 1st Grant Round of 2010

A special grant allocation committee for the LIN Center reviewed five new proposals during the first grant round 2010 and allocated two grants. Meanwhile, the standing committee funded a proposal that was previously approved but required follow-up. Below is a list of LIN's April/May Grant Recipients:

- Blue Dream Volunteer Group received VND 25,000,000 to support a charity performance called "Light and Hope" annum. This grant will provide 50 scholarships for children are living with disabilities in the orphanage in HCM City.
- Te Phan Family received VND 18,987,000 to purchase Medical Insurances and medical fees for 37 disable children living in the Center.
- Binh Loi Social Center received VND 29,465,000 from LIN Center and Pi-channel Company to cover part of the costs to build a roof over their yard, which is where the disadvantaged youth play before and after class. Pi-Channel Company raised VND 12,456,000 by selling Tet envelopes.

Thank you to all the organizations that applied. It is our honor to work with you! The second grant round in 2010 will take place this Summer. You may submit your proposal anytime before **16 July 2010**. LIN partners can find all the necessary information on our website, just click [here](#). If you have any questions please contact to npo@linvn.org or call to Cam Tu or Truong Son at (848) 3824-6091.

Introducing Laura Phan & Catherine Walter Two Volunteers Lend Valuable Support to the LIN Center

LIN Center would like to introduce and appreciate the voluntary participation of Ms. Laura Phan and Ms. Catherine Walter as strategic advisors for our corporate philanthropy and corporate social responsibility (CSR) services:



Laura has been a brand consultant working in the private sector for the past six years in Los Angeles, New York City and Dubai, stewarding global campaigns for various clients. She has always had a strong passion for public service work and has engaged in various non-profit initiatives and served on the board of a New York City organization. Her desire to do social development work drove her to come back to Vietnam. Laura graduated *cum laude* from Florida State University where she earned a degree in Communications, English and Psychology.



Catherine Walter joined LIN Center for Community Development as Strategic Advisor on a project that aims to promote CSR among companies operating in and around Ho Chi Minh City. Prior to moving to Vietnam, Catherine worked for *CSR Asia* where she developed CSR strategies for local and multinational companies based in Hong Kong. This included the writing of the Cathay Pacific Airways CSR Report 2007; CSR strategy development for PCCW Telecom; benchmarking, stakeholder engagement, and a supplier code of conduct; and heading up contract research for Oxfam Hong Kong entitled “Transparency Report II: Have Hong Kong Garment Companies Improved Their Reporting on Labour Standards?” Catherine has lived and worked in the US, Germany, and Hong Kong. She has a business background in management systems, communications, marketing and business strategy from over five years of work in the private sector. Catherine completed her undergraduate studies (BA Economics) at Binghamton University in New York, US, and her master's degree (MSocSc Corporate Environmental Governance) at the University of Hong Kong.

Special Days in May

1/5 Labor Day

12/5 International Nurses’ Day

15/5 International Day of Families

31/5 World No Tobacco Day

What do you usually do on these days?

Giving flowers, small gifts, inviting someone out to lunch or dinner or making a donation to an NPO/NGO that is working to address this issue or support a particular group are some of the activities which many people do on these holidays.

JEEF Young Environmental Leadership Program

April, 2010 (Tokyo, Japan) Japan Environmental Education Forum (JEEF - Tokyo, Japan, Chairperson: Shigeyuki Okajima) announces the launch of JEEF Young Environmental Leadership Program. It aims to foster young environmental leaders in a long run in Asia, where the countries are developing rapidly, by supporting their active environmental initiatives and to develop the network of young environmental leaders who could bridge Japan and other Asian countries.

In the first year of 2010, JEEF seek applications from undergraduate and graduate students as well as young businesspersons with less than 3 year working experiences under the age of 30 who currently reside in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan.

The main activities are (1) Participation in the First Youth Environmental Meeting in Vietnam in late August 2010, (2) Implementation of their own activities in each country from September to December (One excellent project per each country receives the grant of JPY 100,000-), (3) Participation in the Second Youth Environmental Meeting in Vietnam, in February, 2011 to report the results of their projects and activities.

The application period is from April 20 to June 6, 2010. For the details, please visit our website at <http://www.jeef.or.jp/english/asia.html>. This program is supported by Projects to succeed and develop the basic philosophy of the EXPO 2005 of Global Industrial and Social Progress Research Institute (GISPRI).