

News & Events of the LIN Center for Community Development

LIN Hosts 1st HCMC Grantmakers Forum!



On 21 October 2010, at the Palace Hotel, the LIN Center for Community Development hosted a forum for Ho Chi Minh City Grantmakers, bringing together over fifty representatives of not-for-profit, corporate and government grantmaking institutions to impart knowledge, share experiences, identify common goals and possible synergies while building a better understanding about the community in which they operate.

The full-day forum, sponsored by Intel Products Vietnam and the US Consulate General in HCMC, consisted of six panel discussions each addressing different aspects of grantmaking – such as the legal framework; best practices for due diligence and monitoring and evaluation; partnerships and value added donor services. There was also a lively luncheon discussion addressing the Grantee-Grantor relationship, where

grantmakers talked with a small group of grant recipients to talk about balance of power and donor engagement. At the end of the day, the moderators provided summaries of each session and participants were asked for their ideas as to the best next steps. Based on that discussion, it was clear that more information sharing and more networking opportunities for grantmakers is high in demand!

All of the PowerPoints and supplementary materials have already been posted on the LIN Center's website at: <http://bit.ly/HCMCGrantmakersForum> (EN) or <http://bit.ly/DienDanCacToChucTaiTro> (VN). Photos from the event were posted to LIN's page on Facebook. We welcome further ideas and feedback from the event on our FB page and/or via email. Shortly, we will be posting a short report from the event and we hope to support efforts to organize many of the recommended follow-up steps. Stay tuned...

We would like to again thank our excellent panel speakers and moderators, representing both well-established organizations and newcomers to the grantmaking field, including:

- Ms. Nguyen Thi Bich Diep, Justice Initiatives Facilitation Fund
- Ms. Sarah Jubb, Ernst & Young Vietnam
- Ms. Kirsten Theuns, Education for Development
- Ms. Uyen Ho, Intel Products Vietnam
- Ms. Jocelyn Tran, Mast Industries
- Ms. Joan Yao, LGT Venture Philanthropy
- Ms. Chantelle Woodford, Australian Consulate General in HCMC, Direct Aid Program
- Mr. Herb Cochran, AmCham-United Way Vietnam
- Mr. Phan Dang Cuong, Irish Aid, Embassy of Ireland
- Mr. Paul Finnis and Ms. Pham Thi Bao Chinh, Saigon Children's Charity, Working With Others
- Ms. Pavithra Ram, TNS Vietnam
- Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong, Unilever Vietnam, The Unilever Foundation
- Ms. Pham Kieu Oanh, Centre for Social Initiatives Promotion
- Ms. Nguyen Phuong Linh, Centre for Management and Sustainable Development
- Ms. Mimi Vu, VinaCapital Foundation
- Elizabeth, Florence, Dana & Son, LIN Centre

Thanks to the following individuals and organizations who contributed their time and expertise as part of the planning committee: Ms. Nguyen Tuong Oanh and Ms. Uyen Ho (Intel Products Vietnam); Ms. Patricia Norland (US Consulate General in HCMC); Mr. Pham Hai Nam (PACCOM); Ms. Pham Thi Bao Chinh and Tran Vu Ngan Giang (Saigon Children's Charity). And thanks to the following companies for their in-kind support: ViiVue (CT TNHH Tu Van Quang Cao Huynh Le Phan) and Anna Creative Shop (Jodric). Finally, a big thank you to all the participants and volunteers who made this event a success!

Roundtable “LIN small grant proposal writing skills”

Fundraising from international NGOs, foundations and consulate institutions always requires proposal writing skills. With limited skilled human resource, local NPOs gets challenges to access these grants comparing with professional and big organizations.



Ms. Elizabeth (*standing*) is presenting proposal writing skill

After 4 grant rounds, we acknowledged a common limitation from our local

partners which they wrote the proposal too simple, too little important information and especially not focusing in the heart and meaningful of their project. With the experience of judging proposal when working with Ford Foundation in New York, USA, Ms. Elizabeth presented carefully the important and core issues of writing a proposal in a roundtable organized by LIN Center on Oct 09, 2010 at the meeting room of Horizon Capital Advisor.

By using the past LIN small grant application forms, Elizabeth gave many successful and unsuccessful examples to help participants understanding each parts of the application form. At the end of the roundtable, the participants practiced by filling their proposal for LIN Center and from there, LIN staff answered all the questions related to LIN grant policy and procedure.

[Trung tâm LIN](#)



LIN Center would like to wish a Happy Birthday to
Ms. Nguyen Thu Ha
(*Human resource manager and LIN board member*).



HCMC Volunteer Network (HVN)



Participants are discussing on the objectives and contents of HVN

HCMC is an energizing and good place for volunteerism to help community. Currently, there is no date to show exactly the number of official and unofficial volunteer groups/ clubs/ organizations in HCMC and surrounding areas.

On Oct 14th, 2010 at LIN Center office, 25 representatives of volunteer clubs, groups and organizations located

in HCMC had a meeting to understand and discuss about the establishment of a network, namely HCMC Volunteer Network (HVN). At the beginning, the objectives of HVN is simply sharing volunteerism information, building capacity in volunteer management and encouraging volunteerism in all people living in HCMC. With this inspiration, the network elected a temporary management board as follows:

Director of HVN: **Huynh Chi Hieu** - *Southern Job Education group*
Vice director 1: **Kha Huynh Chau** - *Volunteer For Peace*
Vice director 2: **Nguyen Dien Nha Tu** - *SIFE team of EUH*
Coordinator: **Nguyen Thi Cam Tu** - *LIN Center*

For more information and participation into the HVN, please contact us at volunteer@LINvn.org or Cam Tu camtu@LINvn.org.

HVN Facilitator

A group of Australian and Vietnamese RMIT students will collaborate with LIN Center to carry out a small project to design a brochure for our local NPOs located in HCMC. The project will be carried out within 12 days from **February 10, 2011** to **February 22, 2011**.

The activities will consist of: (1) site visits and finding organization; (2) interviewing staff and manager; (3) designing brochure for NPOs.

Please answer the question "Why does your NPO need a brochure?" and send back to LIN Center at npo@LINvn.org before **November 30, 2010**. The organization has a greatest and earliest answer is the winner of this project.

☑ Upcoming events

Grantmakers Roundtable Luncheon with Dr. Charles Bailey, Ford Foundation (November 04th, 2010)

Date: Thursday, 4 November, 2010

Time: Noon to 2pm

Venue: Horizon Capital Advisers, 161 Dong Khoi Street, 5th Floor, D.1, HCMC

Price: VND 150,000/person, including lunch and beverage

RSVP: Donor@LINvn.org or [\(848\) 3824-6091](tel:(848)3824-6091)

LIN Center is pleased to introduce a special treat for this new consortium of HCMC grantmakers: an intimate roundtable discussion with Dr. Charles Bailey, one of the most experienced grantmakers at the Ford Foundation, which makes about 2,000 grants each year (in 2009, the Foundation distributed more than USD \$490 million in grants worldwide).

Dr. Bailey has worked for the Ford Foundation in Asia, Africa and the United States. He headed the foundation's office in Hanoi from 1997 to 2007, identifying and building partnerships with grantees covering five program areas and allocating 70 to 80 grants totaling approximately USD \$9 million each year. In addition to these areas, in 1998 he became involved with the search for a solution to the Agent Orange legacy of the war. This became a program which offered grants for demonstration projects on health care and dioxin cleanup in Vietnam, related confidence-building measures, and public education and action in the United States. Initially a sensitive subject, since 2005, the Ford Foundation has been able to make 55 grants totaling \$14 million in this area. Dr. Bailey has a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Cornell University, a master's degree in public policy from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and a bachelor's degree from Swarthmore College.

While traveling for work in Vietnam, Mr. Bailey graciously offered to give a brief talk and dialogue with fellow HCMC grantmakers. At the roundtable, he will share his personal experiences as a grantmaker, focusing on his ten years working in Vietnam. In addition, he will talk about Ford's Special Initiative on Agent Orange/Dioxin and the U.S. - Vietnam Dialogue Group on Agent Orange/Dioxin and the process of introducing a grant program in this area. Mr. Bailey will be accompanied by Ms. Ngo Le Mai, the Ford Foundation Grants Administrator in Vietnam from 1997 to the present.

For further background, please visit www.MakeAgentOrangeHistory.org

After Mr. Bailey's talk, there will be ample time for interactive discussion, questions and answers among and between grantmakers attending.

If you are interested to attend, please RSVP before the close of business on Tuesday, November 2nd by email: Donor@LINvn.org, or by telephone: [\(848\) 3824-6091](tel:(848)3824-6091).

Workshop on “Designing 5 years strategic planning for your NPO” (November 18th, 2010)

The objectives of the workshop are:

- Support NPOs in their desire to implement sustainable programs;
- Explain the relevance and advantages of strategic planning in development work;
- Share tools and resources for NPOs that wish to develop a strategic plan;
- Promote understanding and networking among nonprofit organizations, supporting organizations and government agencies.

The workshop will be organized at **Xu restaurant**, 71 – 75 Hai Ba Trung, D.1, HCMC – 1st floor from **08h30** to **11h30** a.m on Thursday **November 18th, 2010**.

RSVP at npo@linvn.org or tel (84 8) 38246091 for more information.

LIN says goodbye to our boards and staff



Ms. Cam Tu (sitting, second from the left), Ms. Sara (sitting, first from the right), Ms. Thuy Chau (sitting, 2 from the right)

In October and November this year, LIN Center would like to say goodbye to two following members of LIN board of director:

Ms. Sara Jewett NIEUWOUDT
Ms. Ta Thuy Chau

They are the ones who collaborated and support us from the beginning of establishment and helped LIN in sustainability and development.

LIN also would like to say goodbye to:

Ms. Nguyen Thi Cam Tu

Tu joined LIN on September 2009 and she has a great contribution to all the activities during her time here. Currently, she is still working part-time with us for a month while we are seeking another candidate to replace her.

Job vacancy is now in Vietnamworks, [Facebook LIN](#) and our [website](#). If you are interested in working with us, please send your CV/resume and letter of interest to info@LINvn.org.

☑ Donor's corner

**Thanks to our most recent donor –
The International School Saigon Pearl!**



On Saturday, 25 September, the International School Saigon Pearl (ISSP) held its first Fun Fest and Book Fair, selecting the LIN Centre for Community Development as the beneficiary organization to receive proceeds generated from the popular Book Fair. The ISSP is a new school but is focused on establishing partnerships with charitable organizations in the community. LIN hopes to help the school in that effort.

Last Wednesday, 27 October, LIN Center Consultant, Dana Doan, met with ISSP students and faculty to introduce the LIN Center and engage children in a fun activity to learn about community engagement and how individuals can make a difference in their community. On the same day, the ISSP presented the LIN Centre for Community Development with a check for VND 5.5 million.

A big thank you to the ISSP staff and students for supporting LIN! And thanks to Ha Mi – our faithful Intern, who helped manage the LIN Center booth during the Fun Fest event..



Congratulations to Intel Products Vietnam, which celebrated the grand opening of its manufacturing plant on 29 October!!!!

LIN Center funded 2010 HOPE CUP football tournament



Representative of LIN Center is allocating Champion Cup for the winning team

On Saturday October 23, 2010, at Evan football club, the 2010 Hope Cup football tournament, the first opening football tournament for children in warm shelters competing with students from international schools in HCMC, was happened.

The purpose of the games was to use recreational activities to encourage social integration and promote the development of the children's self-esteem. After the opening ceremony, warm-up exercises for all the

players, which was led by the US General Consulate is the first event of the day. There were an exchanging games for the five teams in the afternoon. And the final game was a friendship match between the sponsors and the little players.

"Because I was a little boy, I share with the children the exciting mood when playing football. Football helps us to improve health, spirit and unification. Children have rights to enjoy life, and we are helping provide chances for them to enjoy their rights", stated Nhon Pham, leader of 5AM group.

"A tournament is a chance for the children to recognize their potentials and share their stories to the community. I believe that it is care and share of the community that gives us a more sustainable society and better life", shared by Hai Le, leader of Blue Dreams groups.

"Entertainment for children, especially disadvantaged children, needs to be a regular activity. That's why, we, the LIN Center, are happy to open a continous funding to 5 A.M in case they organize this HOPE CUP regularly" speeched by Son Pham, Community Liaison of LIN Center for Community Development.

5gio sang

Charity Cabaret 2010 Awards over VND 394 million to 3 NPOs in Southern Vietnam!

After a much anticipated and wildly successful fundraising events on 11 and 12 September - the Charity Cabaret 2010 – ALICE organizing committee has been working alongside the LIN Center to prepare grant agreements with its three selected beneficiaries. Owing to the great success of their event, the committee was thrilled to be able to award all three beneficiaries the full amount of their grant request:

1. Te-Phan Love Family (GiaDinhTinhThuongTe-Phan) – Awarded VND 41 million to offer a variety of opportunities for their children, the majority of whom are mentally or physically disabled, to engage and open their minds to various arts and cultural activities including: singing, playing musical instruments, magic, dancing and painting. Most of these classes will be taught at Te-Phan, which means that even for the children who are unable to directly participate, they too will benefit from the arts and culture taking place around them.
2. Young Creative Group (YCG), Department of Scientific Research & International Relations, Ben Tre College – Awarded VND 175 million to raise awareness around the need to protect rare birds in the Vam Ho Bird Ground, which is located in Ba Tri District of Ben Tre Province. YCG will engage community members in activities to protect their environment, with a specific focus on the protection of birds, developing and disseminating information about the Bird Ground.
3. Thien Chi Centre for Support & Community Development - Awarded VND 178 million to build/replace “water sealed” latrine blocks at Kindergartens located in three rural districts: Duc Linh, Tánh Linh and HamThuan Nam Districts. The project will also promote good sanitation and hygiene for children, involving the local community who will share in the project costs.

On Tuesday, 9 November, representatives of the three selected beneficiaries will join members of the Charity Cabaret 2010 Organizing Committee at an awards ceremony and reception at Sesame Restaurant in Ho Chi Minh City. During the event, the Organizing Committee will show a video from the night’s performance, which was an interpretation of the Alice in Wonderland story.

Since May 2010, the LIN Center for Community Development has provided advice and technical support to the Charity Cabaret 2010 Organizing Committee in the process of beneficiary selection and the awarding of grants - from the identification of criteria and causes, drafting of a call for proposals, screening of applications, facilitation of proposal evaluations and preparation of the grantor-grantee agreement. The experience has offered LIN an excellent opportunity to add value to a group of donors who are deeply committed to a fair, open and thoughtful grantee selection process.

Full details about the event, the beneficiaries and the process of selection is available on the Charity Cabaret’s website at: www.thecharitycabaret.com. For more information, please feel free to contact Kate Anderson (INSERT EMAIL), [INSERT ANOTHER CONTACT] and/or Dana R.H. Doan (Dana@LINvn.org).

Is your NPO looking for an income generating activity?



Are you located in a space that is easily accessible to the public?

Do you have an extra room and/or storage space?

Do you have a staff person or volunteer that is good with numbers?

If you answered yes to all **three** of these questions, you might be interested in an idea proposed by one of our volunteers and a

corporate donor: A local provider of international move management and relocation solutions has generously offered to donate local transportation services to support the management of a thrift shop. Meanwhile, volunteers in and around Districts 1, 2 and 7 have offered to help with marketing and awareness raising to attract regular donations to the shop.

As some of you may already recall, this model is similar to a shop that was once run by the Hoi Quan Den Voi Nhau (Coming Together Coffee Shop). Thrift shops are set-up to receive donations of second-hand goods from the community and sell them at highly discounted (bargain) prices to low-income families and/or other disadvantaged groups. The advantage of such a project is that the income that is generated can be used to help support the managing organization's programs and activities.

If you are already operating such a project or if you may be interested to operate such a project, please contact LIN for further details at: NPO@linvn.org.

Opportunities for NPOs

IRISH AID SCHOLARSHIPS 2011-2012

Ireland is a world class destination for English language third level education.

We are writing to update you on scholarships available from the Embassy of Ireland in Vietnam for the 2011/2012 academic year, developed in partnership with Ministry of Education and Training. Attached, you will find a summary of our two scholarship schemes together with details of the available courses, application processes and dates.

- ***Irish Aid Fellowship Programme:*** for social and development postgraduate study in a variety of reputable Irish third level institutes.
- ***Irish Aid IDEAS Scholarships:*** for postgraduate study in business and finance at the Michael Smurfit Business School in Dublin.

Irish Aid scholarships are intended to support candidates who would otherwise be unable to access overseas postgraduate opportunities. Potential awardees will need to demonstrate a personal commitment to return to Vietnam following their course of study in order to make a contribution towards the development of their country.

We particularly encourage applications from ethnic minorities, people with disability and other marginalised groups. We will consider applications from disadvantaged candidates who fit our eligibility criteria but need additional English language support in order to qualify.

Information relating to eligibility criteria, selection process and other information can be obtained from the Embassy of Ireland (contact person: Ms. Hoang Tu, tel: 04-3974-3291; fax: 04-3974-3295; e-mail: irishembassyhanoi@dfanet.ie).

Scholarships awarded under either scheme cover: return airfare, course fees, public health insurance, a stipend to cover accommodation and subsistence costs, settling-in allowance, and book and clothing allowances (where appropriate). Scholarships are for individuals only for full time study of 12 months duration.

The Embassy maintains two websites which might be of interest, the Embassy website www.embassyofireland.vn and the new alumni portal www.vietnamirelandalumni.org which provides useful information on studying in Ireland.

Community Foundations and Youth Civic Engagement – Call for Letters of Intent

The Global Fund for Community Foundations is currently inviting letters of intent for its 2010 grants programme from individual community foundations, local philanthropic (grantmaking) institutions and community foundation start-up initiatives working in the area of **youth civic engagement**.

The GFCF is seeking to make grants to community foundations to support their work, strengthen their effectiveness and enhance their leadership role on broad issues of youth participation and community youth development. Priority will be given to projects which seek to:

- stimulate youth engagement and leadership in the community through grantmaking (for local youth-led grassroots initiatives) and / or by involving young people in the structures and decision-making processes of the foundations;
- promote a culture of engaged and responsive local philanthropy among young people by leveraging local contributions for, from and among youth within their own community;
- amplify the voice of young people at the local policy level and among decision-makers

Grants to participating organizations will be targeted according to stage of development and capacities and goals for challenge grants will also be context-appropriate. Eligible activities will include the following:

- staff training, networking, education on youth issues and methodologies for youth engagement, local impact, consultant support, peer exchanges;
- local grantmaking activities;
- fundraising campaigns, community events;
- challenge grants or matching funds to build up a sustainable local funding source and / or for grantmaking activities.

Deadline for letter of intent: 30th October 2010. Deadline for full application: 22nd November 2010. Further details can be found on the [GFCF's website](#)

Letter for Donors/ Supporters/ Volunteers

My name is Ngo Thi Nang.

I was born in Nghe An province, the north of Vietnam, in 1982. When I was three years old, my right leg was infected by polio. Thus, I couldn't move on my legs any more. The doctor stated that I had cerebral-palsy. Therefore, my parents did not allow me to go to school. However, going to school was my only happiness at that time. I tried my best in my ways to go to school. I once dreamed being a doctor when I grow up. That dream promoted me become a good student and overcome difficulties in my life.

When I graduated and got the high school degree in 2000, I was taken to hospital for orthopedic surgery and rehabilitation for two years. However, my status was not better. During the time I was in hospital, my dream of being a doctor became bigger and more furious. In 2002, I passed the examination and entered into a Pharmacy University in my hometown. When all necessary documents were ready for studying, I received a bad news from the principal: I was not allowed to study at that university because of my disability. Part of the entrance test was to run 100 meters in 11 seconds. I was extremely shocked! I tried my best in many ways to continue my studying. I went to the department of health and department of education to apply for studying but I was denied because of the same reasons. My dream of being a doctor was completely destroyed.

It took me a very long time to heal my pain and recover my hope.

I started to study sewing technique thanks to my friend's introduction in 2003.

18 months later, I got a job. However, after working for 2 months, I feel unsatisfied with that job. "Is my dream of being a doctor over?", I wondered. In 2004, one more time, I studied to be a druggist to satisfy my aspiration. One year later, I applied for job but my application was denied again. After that, I went to HCMC to seek a job and find a chance to continue to study. I lived in Hong An Family thanks to Soeur Thao's compassion. From 2005 to 2007, I has experienced a lot of jobs such as sewing, housekeeping, tutor, typing, via, to save money to keep on my studying someday. But it's very difficult to study pharmaceuticals at a university for people with disabilities like me. Therefore, I decided to follow accountancy.

In the first year, I studied and worked at the same time to earn money for my expenditure. I worked as a pharmacist in a dental office, a druggist in personal doctor's and as a sewer. In the second one, I did not have enough time to study and work at the same time any more. Fortunately, I was allowed to live in An Binh Family directed by Soeur Thanh Lich without payment and was granted a scholarship from DRD on the "Mentoring and Scholarship program" until I finished my studying.

Now, I often participate in activities and trainings at DRD, YDC, Families and PWDs to study and enhance life and social skills. I am looking forward to getting a job that is suitable with my health and ability. I want to live independently by money earned by myself. I do not want to depend on my family's members or charity organizations any more.