



## YOUR UNDERSTANDING - LIGHTENS OUR LIFE

Plato said “**Eyes closed and the heart will be seen**”. That is exactly what we – the volunteers working on this project hope for. Specifically,

This project aims at changing social prejudice against visual disability (e.g. it is not a severe disability, or people often help visually disabled people out of pity) by giving visually unimpaired young people a chance to really experience the world of the visual disabled. As a result, they will have a clear awareness about the visual disabled and change the way they help and collaborate with them, enabling the disabled to shine in their own life.

Tentative duration: 1st Oct, 2014 - 30th Jun, 2016

By: Thien An Warm House (MATA)

Our mission: Create opportunities for visually disabled children of disadvantaged background to get access to a well-rounded and appropriate education, helping them to realize their full potential, as well as obtain essential knowledge and skills to live independently and well integrate into the society.

### Our beneficiaries:

- Visually disabled people, especially those of school-age and working-age who need the society to understand them, and share with them difficulties they experience when trying to integrate into the society.
- 500 students and college students and 200 young visually disabled people to directly participate in experiential, learning and training activities of the project.

We expect certain impacts on different beneficiaries after the project is accomplished:

- **To young project participants:** having a chance to really experience life of visually disabled people, hence changing their perception and their behavior from helping them out of pity to supporting them in building their own life and career.
- **To the society:** having trust in visually disabled people’s competence to do works of higher requirements and to proactively integrate into the society.
- **To project volunteers:** seeing meaningful social changes realized by their hard works, hence having more faith in voluntary works.

### Our activities: :

- Compiling and publishing a handbook named ‘The basics of visual disability’.
- Getting 500 young visually unimpaired people to experience a day living like a visually disabled person. Then, along with 200 disabled people, they will join one in 20 training courses revolving around knowledge and topics related to visual disability.
- Initiating a contest ‘Communication products for visually disabled people’ on social networks. [Full project description \(click here\)](#)

### Project costs (tentative) :

(more than 1500 handbooks both in Braille and in normal writing system)

454.5 mil VND

to publish and disseminate handbooks ‘The basics of visual disability’

192.5 mil vnd

to organize trainings for 500 high school students and college students and 200 visually disabled people

232 mil vnd

(in 20 consecutive days, including 1 day to experience the life of the visual disabled at MATA)

Other costs for communication activities and costs occurred during the execution of the project (refer to the attached file for more details).

Your vote is not going to change the world immediately.



But your vote is our ticket to change the world through this project.

[click here](#)  
**Vote for us**

### Experiential activity “Experience a day without light”:

Hung and Phuong, 2 students from Vietnam Studies Faculty – HCMC University of Pedagogy is going to invite 200 other young people to experience a day in the world without light. They will have a chance to join meaningful activities there if the project is chosen and sponsored.



Learning to read and write in Braille under the instruction of the nuns volunteering at MATA.

Instructing young volunteers of the project to navigate around with guiding cane



Joining đàn bầu (a Vietnamese monochord) classes ‘taught’ by MATA members