

## We Want Your Volunteer Story...

In an effort to highlight the individuals that help better our community, the LIN Center for Community Development is reaching out to Volunteers and Volunteer Host Organizations in Vietnam to assemble a “book” of Volunteer stories - a collection of narratives, photos and/or videos that illustrate the impact of volunteers. It is our goal to gather stories that reveal the good works Volunteers are doing, all around us, to make a difference in the lives of one or many.

Whether they spend time to cheer up patients, tutor disadvantaged children, advise a start-up organization, clean up our environment, protect endangered species, design a website for a charitable organization, or play football with street children, Volunteer work helps to build stronger communities. Young and old, housewife and CEO, local resident or expatriate, Volunteers represent a broad demographic base and we are looking for stories that help demonstrate this fact to others because, let’s face it, anyone can volunteer. And, through *Volunteers Stories*, we hope that each and everyone of us will identify with at least one Volunteer story, whether they may be reminded of oneself, a colleague, a neighbor, a family member and/or a friend.

By sharing volunteer stories - the joys, the challenges and the impacts, LIN seeks first and foremost to appreciate the work that is being done by volunteers and, second, to inspire others to try volunteering in their community, each in his/her own way.

So, to all the Volunteers, past and present, and to all the Volunteer host organizations, we invite and appeal to you to share your story with us. We have enclosed an application form, which should accompany any submission. The form requests general information and acknowledges your acceptance of the terms and conditions of your participation in this project. Please return the form and accompanying submission, to the LIN Center on or before August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Let There Be Prizes!** As an incentive to those that share their story, we are offering several exciting prizes. There will be two Grand Prizes: one for the most inspiring story written by a Volunteer and the second for the most inspiring story written by a Volunteer Host Organization. The Volunteer that wins the grand prize will receive VND 5 million plus another VND 5 million to grant to a not-for-profit organization of his/her choice. If the volunteer decides to grant his/her own VND 5 million cash prize to an NPO, LIN will double the amount, for a total donation of VND 15 million. The Volunteer Host Organization that wins the grand prize will receive VND 10 million, which the organization can use towards its programs and/or general operating costs.. In addition, there will be prizes for the best submission in each of the following categories:

### Age Groups

- Under 18 years
- 18 to 30 years
- 30 to 50 years
- Over 50 years

### Other Categories

- Most Resourceful
- Most Creative
- High Impact Volunteer
- Board Member/Advisor

### Photo Categories

- Most Inspiring
- Most Beautiful

*Note 1: A panel of judges will be asked to select the winners in each category.*

*Note 2: Volunteers that win a category prize will receive VND 1 million. If the volunteer decides to grant his/her VND 1 million cash prize to an NPO, LIN will double the amount, for a total donation of VND 2 million. VHO’s that win a category prize will automatically receive VND 2 million.*

Anyone is eligible to submit a story so please pass this information along to other Volunteers and Volunteer Host Organizations.

**We look forward to receiving your Volunteer Story!**