

# WORKING WITH DISABLED PEOPLE IN A CHARITABLE VOCATIONAL CENTER

*Working with the disabled in a charitable vocational  
training center in Hanoi - Vietnam*

*Solidarités Jeunesses Vietnam's project*



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**Project title:** Working as real employees in a charitable vocational training center for the disabled.

**Position and title of post:** Volunteers as real employees at a center for the disabled.

**Project owner:** Solidarités Jeunesses Vietnam (SJ Vietnam)

**Partner:** Charitable vocational training center

**Duty location:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Duration:** At least 2 months

**Participation fee:** 200 EUR/month including food and basic accommodation in our LTV House in Hanoi.

## **1. About SJ Vietnam:**

SJ Vietnam operates through a network of national non-profit organizations and partner organizations in Europe, The Middle East, Asia, Africa, South and North America, and Australia.

It organizes short and long-term international workcamps, actions of social integration, training activities, international solidarity actions and runs small Youth centers in Hanoi. SJ Vietnam is a full member of UNESCO – CCIVS and NVDA.

*Through these actions, SJ Vietnam aims to promote:*

- The voluntary participation of all, particularly young people and those in social disadvantaged situation, in local, national and international life.
- Local development that takes into consideration the needs of the individual, the environment and the cultural heritage into consideration.
- The break down of barriers between generations, cultures and nations.
- A concrete construction of peace.

SJ Vietnam mobilizes young people themselves to bring the values of tolerance and respects for all human beings without any political or ideological cleavage. The management of the organization and all our activities are open to all young people without any discrimination: we select our volunteers only based on their motivations. For each activity, national or international, we try to have lowest cost possible to be accessible to everybody.

Basically, the activities of the hosting projects which are organized with volunteers are work camps (renovation, masonry, carpentry, joinery, teaching, children activities, environment protection, painting, art performance, etc) and local development (short and long-term projects).

## **2. About our partner:**

This is a center where often receives the disabled, orphans, homeless children and the ones coming from wounded soldiers' families and martyrs' ones. There they are trained and supplied food, accommodation without fee. Most of them can earn living by themselves with given jobs after graduating from the center. With people who have difficulties in finding jobs, the center will help them or accept as employees because there it is also a workshop for them. The center produces many kinds of goods such as: embroidery, raincoat, bags, purse, tailor, souvenirs according to orders of customers. Their products are exported to Europe and many other countries. Money gained from that will be spent for their salaries and their daily life. At that center, they are befriended as normal ones and have communication with each other so it reduces their sorrow about their less lucky lives. The director and teachers of the center help them to overcome difficulties and encourage them to integrate with others. One more important thing is that at the center the disabled also have chances to find out their partners for their lives, which seems to be a little bit difficult for them. But one other difficulty is disabled couples do not have their own space at the center so that after getting married they often have to come back to their hometowns, and it is really difficult for them to find jobs; as a result it is hard for them to earn living especially when they have babies. The director who is so enthusiastic with the disabled and always wants to bring more fine things to them said that now he is trying to call for more sponsors, because he wants to build some new workshops and accommodation for the disabled, in which one part of the accommodation will be used for disabled singles and the rest part will be used for disabled couples; so that after having own families the disabled can still continue their work and can support for their lives. Normally in companies workers only can have around 70% benefit from their effort, 30% will be used for maintenance of the factories or for staff salary. According to the

director of the center, the disabled there are paid from 80% to 90%, the rest will be spent for some necessary things they are using everyday such as: water, electricity....etc. The employees at the center often have outside activities such as picnic or going out so that they feel more relaxed. In fact in Vietnam it is difficult for disabled to have job and this center is a necessary and important one for many disabled.

### **3. Description of work:**

Volunteers who join in this project can choose what kinds of job they would like to do. If they can do the whole process of producing one kind of job, they can do at some certain parts of it. When they do not know how to do something but they want to help with it, they will be trained by the teachers and people of the center. At the center, volunteers can help to make bags (sewing, cutting fabric, packing products, etc.), make clothes according to orders from customers, make embroidery by hand or by machines. Besides, volunteers also help the cook to prepare for lunch because there are many people there but the center only has one cook.



### **4. Project objectives:**

Volunteers will create a friendly English environment with people there because they want to be able to communicate in English and they want to talk with foreign organizations who often visit them as well. They would like to show their thoughts, emotions to people from foreign organizations, and they

also want to have communication with foreigners. By spending time with the disabled at the center, volunteers will help them see that they are cared by a lot of people and by the whole society. They will have more happiness through communicating with volunteers; besides that both volunteers and employees can broaden their mind, their knowledge through cultural exchanges.

## **5. Duties and responsibilities:**

1. Take part in some certain stages of producing such as: sewing, cutting, ironing, decorating wedding dress, making clothes or embroidery, etc....
2. Work together with the people there.
3. To create friendly English communication environment
4. Help them to have more confidence in communicating with normal people.
5. Help the cook to prepare lunch for everybody at the center
6. To promote SJ Vietnam and this project.
7. Help the center to find out new sponsors or partners so that they will have more convenient conditions and their lives will be improved.

## **6. Work arrangements:**

- This is a self-funded volunteer position
- Working place is No 25, Linh Quang alley, Van Chuong, Hanoi
- It is envisioned that the volunteer would devote at least 5-6 hours/day, 5 days/week
- The volunteer will be strongly encouraged to join the other voluntary activities of SJ Vietnam (work camp management, project in the fisher village, social activities, etc)
- The volunteer will receive a basic accommodation and food in the SJ

long-term volunteers' accommodation in Hanoi (dormitory rooms with other volunteers)

- SJ Vietnam will organize social activities for the volunteer in collaboration with the national volunteers
- SJ Vietnam will help to volunteer to be integrate as fast as possible inside a network of local volunteers

## **7. Qualifications and experiences:**

- Fluent in English.
- Willing to work and stay in Hanoi
- Strong inter-personal skills, and experience in working with a wide variety of people, cultural sensitivity
- Commitment to volunteerism, considerable experience as a volunteer
- Member of a work camp organization if possible.
- Ready to live as local people (basic accommodations, transport by bus or bicycle, local food).
- High motivation and ready to be in face of many difficulties such as language and culture difference, low budget, etc....

## **8. Participation fee:**

200 EUR/month includes food, transportation and basic accommodation in dormitory of the center. Volunteers will pay all their participation fees one time for their sending organizations or directly to banks and fees will be transferred for SJ Vietnam before volunteers come to Vietnam. Volunteers have to bring the receipts for SJ Vietnam. If they do not pay their participation fees before coming, they will be in the waiting list. They can stay longer or less than couples of months but they are supposed to pay for the whole months and may be a half as well. For example, if volunteers stay

for 3 months and 10 days, they are supposed to pay for 3 months and a half (it means they will pay 700 EUR); if they stay for 3 months and 20 days, they are supposed to pay for 4 months (it means they will pay 800 EUR). If volunteers have holiday in the middle of their voluntary durations, the holiday duration will still be considered as their voluntary time so volunteers are supposed to pay for the holiday duration. If they have holiday after finishing all voluntary work with SJ Vietnam, they do not have to pay for that. Following is the address to transfer fee:

Account name: SJ Vietnam

Account number: 4054928

Address: ANZ Hanoi Branch

No 14, Le Thai To Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

Swift: ANZBVNVX

Telephone: +84 438258190

Fax: +84 438258188/9

## **9. Application procedures:**

Interested candidates should email detailed Resume (CV) and an application letter to their voluntary organizations.

The national voluntary organizations have to send their candidates' CVs to: [ltv@sjvietnam.org](mailto:ltv@sjvietnam.org). Our LTV coordinators are responsible for accepting volunteers.