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**Please make 2 choices when applying for a local project. Due to organizational matters we sometimes have to place volunteers in their 2<sup>nd</sup> choice project.**

**All the projects can be done on a short and long-term basis!**

## 1.1 Blind school

You have decided to bring your contribution to the Blind school; a project which has run successfully since its beginning thanks to the precious help of our long- and short-term volunteers.

### About Your Project

Nguyen Dinh Chieu is a school for blind children and a center for blind adults, who have difficulties in their daily activities. Volunteers are expected to teach the children English, and to create a friendly environment in order to encourage them to communicate in English. Volunteers will also record some "English tales" or spoken sentences on tapes for the blind students to listen to. Furthermore, they will help the teachers and staff with other tasks in the school.

### Accommodation

Long-term volunteers: International Youth House/Office, 10D, Lane 28, Tay Ho Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

Short-term volunteers: International Youth House, No 54, Lane 115, Hong Ha Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

### Workcamp Location

Nguyen Dinh Chieu blind school  
21 Lac Trung Street  
Hanoi

### How Do I Get There?

Each day you will travel by bus no. 55 from Au Co Street to the Luong Yen terminus. After this it is only a fifteen minute walk to the blind school.

### Your Role

- In the afternoon you will teach the blind children basic English.
- Some of the children have difficulties carrying out daily tasks, so you will help them with activities such as tidying up the classrooms, the playground, and the dormitories.
- In the afternoon you will also record tapes with English sentences for the blind students.
- Furthermore, some of the children are shy and prefer not to discuss their condition. You can encourage them to accept it and be open and

comfortable with it. These children are the same as other children and should not be treated otherwise.

- You will also have the opportunity to learn about different cultures from other people. This is done by working in a group with both Vietnamese and foreign volunteers.



Dormitory of the students



Two blind students



Two volunteers teaching two blind students

## Your schedule

On your first day an introduction will be given to you by a local or long-term international volunteer. Generally, you will work from Monday to Friday from 01:00 pm until 04:00 pm. The morning will be dedicated to the preparation of the activities you are going to do in the afternoon at the blind school. On Friday at 6:00 pm you will participate in an evaluation with your workcamp coordinator.

## 1.2 Fisher Village

You have decided to bring your contribution to our Fisher Village Project; a project which has run successfully since 2004 thanks to the precious help of our long- and short-term Volunteers (LTVs and STVs).

### **About Your Project**

The Youth House School is a small education center for disadvantaged street children. The volunteers who work here teach around 10 children everyday. They also have to cook lunch for the children and clean the Youth House together. Remember, the children are not used to rules and structure in their households, so volunteers must try to implement this by setting an example. The Youth House is also a place where young local people and international volunteers come to explore the cultural diversity, by teaching the children together or organizing leisure activities, such as taking the children to the swimming pool.

We combine these activities with projects to help disadvantaged people at Fisher Village who are very poor and live in slum-boats on the Red river. We do this by giving them food, medicine, water filters (for clean drinking water), toothpaste, second-hand warm clothes and free showers in winter, etc.

The following brief article will give you an impression of what the Fisher Village is. The Red River is the biggest river in Vietnam. The delta is located in Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam. The city continues to expand with many people coming from the countryside into the urban area. This however, is an expensive endeavor with the government imposing a tax on people coming from the rural area to prevent a massive influx of people. Some people decide, however, to come despite this financial situation and thus must live in house boats at the river to escape from having to pay. Since they do not technically live in Hanoi they must pay for school which is usually free until the age of 12. The entire family must work hours that most people would consider inhumane. The children wander the streets begging and collecting rubbish. An entire family barely makes 2\$ a day.

Volunteers will join a team of local volunteers who will work closely together, led by a workcamp leader. All the workcamps organized by SJ Vietnam also have their own workcamp coordinator, who provides an orientation to Vietnam and SJ Vietnam. He or she can help out if there are any problems which can not be solved with the work camp leader. Every Friday afternoon there is a meeting with the work camp participants and the workcamp coordinator.

No special skill is required, but as with most voluntary work, you need to be both highly motivated and able to communicate in English.

### **Accommodation**

Long-term volunteers: International Youth House/Office, 10D, Lane 28, Tay Ho Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

Short-term volunteers: International Youth House, No 54, Lane 115, Hong Ha Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

## Workcamp Location

SJV Int. Youth House  
No 54, Lane 115, Hong Ha Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

## Your Role

The work camp will be divided into three teams. The tasks of the teams will switch each day. There are three different tasks; cleaning, cooking and teaching.

- The first team (teaching team) will give an English class from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, and one from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
- The second team (cooking team) will go to the local market in the late morning to buy ingredients for the meals. They will prepare lunch for the children and all the volunteers
- The third team (cleaning) will clean the whole house every day.
- After each day the participants are strongly advised to update the workcamp diary, so that the next volunteers know what the previous group has taught.



Teaching at the Youth House (1)



Teaching at the Youth House (2)



View to the Fisher Village



Youth House kids, at the Fisher Village



A family in front of their house in the Fisher Village



Kids eating at the Youth House

## 1.3 Hold the Future

You have decided to bring your contribution to our project, 'Hold the Future'. At Hold the Future, international and local volunteers work together with disabled teenagers from around Hanoi.

### About Your Project

Hold the Future is a welfare center for orphans and disabled teenagers between 14 and 25 years old. Established in March 2002, the center aims at providing vocational training and employment opportunities for disabled teenagers in Hanoi. The head and founder of the Center is Mrs. Le Minh Hien.

The volunteers help the teenagers with their daily activities, especially making hand-made products like textile flowers and lacquer-paintings. The volunteers are expected to create a friendly international environment to help the people to learn and communicate in English as well as feel confident. In sum, we are looking for volunteers who would like to engage with disadvantaged young people, sharing their daily lives at work.

### Accommodation

Long-term volunteers: International Youth House/Office, 10D, Lane 28, Tay Ho Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

Short-term volunteers: International Youth House, No 54, Lane 115, Hong Ha Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

### Workcamp Location

Hold the future  
D6 Lane 172 Street Lac Long Quan

### How Do I Get There?

Each day you will take bus no. 55 in the direction of Cau Giay. Get off after you see the red and white Honda Shop on the right side (15 minutes). Walk back appr. 80 meters until you see a green gate. Go to the green house shown below and you are there!



## Your Role

- Everyday you will help to create handmade products, like flowers made of textile.
- Your creativity is highly appreciated, so you are invited to contribute your ideas concerning new useful or beautiful products that can be crafted and sold in the project.
- In your team of Vietnamese and international volunteers, you should try to create a friendly, international atmosphere in which both you and the disabled people can work together and learn from each other while having fun.



Young people making handmade products

## Your Schedule

On your first day an introduction will be given to you by a local or long-term international volunteer. Generally, you will work from Monday to Friday from 09:00 to 11:00 am, and in the afternoon from 02:00 pm to 04:00 pm.

## 1.4 Arts & Games for Children in Hospital

You have decided to bring your contribution to the Paediatric Hospital Project; a work camp which has run successfully since its beginning thanks to the precious help of our long- and short-term volunteers (LTVs and STVs).

### About Your Project

SJ Vietnam is working with the National Hospital of Paediatrics (NHP), where many patients from all over the country are being treated.

The hospital consists of 22 departments, where about 1000 chronically ill children are treated. The ages of the patients range from infancy up to the late teens. The majority of these patients are afflicted by ailments which are difficult to cure, such as blood diseases, kidney malfunctions and many more. Treatment usually is a slow process; special cases may last for more than 6 years. The time spent in the hospital varies from 2 to 4 weeks at a time. Most of the patients come from lower classes, where the parents work in the agricultural sector.



During treatment, the patients have no access to any form of education or leisure activities. Although the hospital has seven recreation rooms, it is not enough to cover all 22 departments, and there is a shortage of toys and facilities to create sufficient playing time for all children. Furthermore, there are only 2-3 hospital staff on duty at each department, which is also not enough.

Your creativity, responsibility and autonomy will be essential in your daily mission which is to bring a smile on each child's face.



A doctor talks to young patients



Parents visiting their children in the Paediatric Hospital



A few times a year the kids enjoy a festival – here the Mid Autumn festival where our volunteers took part and performed songs

### Accommodation

Long-term volunteers: International Youth House/Office, 10D, Lane 28, Tay Ho Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

Short-term volunteers: International Youth House, No 54, Lane 115, Hong Ha Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

## Workcamp Location

Nhi Trung Uong hospital  
18/879 De La Thanh Street  
Hanoi

## How Do I Get There?

Each day you will travel by bus no. 55 from Au Co Street to the Cau Giay terminus. After this it is only a ten minute walk to get to the hospital. Other bus routes: 9, 26, 49.

## Your Role

- In the pediatric hospital, your role is to distract the children from their illnesses and to give them self-confidence, pride and joy.
- Children in the hospital are intelligent and very receptive. They are very attentive, eager to learn and have a real interest in what they can share with you. You can organize various workshops: drawing, coloring, playing games, singing songs, watching cartoons, performing a little show, etc.
- You should consider that every child is different and adapt yourself to his or her personality (for instance, you may meet a teenager who would prefer to talk or to learn).
- You will have the opportunity to learn about different cultures from other people, by working in groups of 3 til 5 with both Vietnamese and foreign volunteers. Furthermore, you will have to get closer to the children, understand their expectations and prepare activities which suit them. Each group will usually be working in different departments and change floors once in a while.



## Your Schedule

On your first day an introduction will be given to you by a local or international long-term volunteer. Generally, you will work from Monday to Friday in the afternoon, from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. The morning will be dedicated to the preparation of the activities you are going to do in the afternoon at the hospital. On Friday at 6:00 pm you will participate in an evaluation with your workcamp coordinator.

## 1.6 Website Assistant Coordinator Camp

You have decided to bring your contribution to the Website Assistant Coordinator project. The website is an important part of SJ Vietnam's way of communicating with NGO's and people interested in becoming volunteers all around the world.

### About the Project

Since SJ Vietnam created its website in 2005 it needs to be updated continuously. Your tasks are to support the web master in updating the website, by writing articles about local projects, info sheets and adding current images. Good computer skills (HTML) are necessary to guarantee successful work. It is an advantage to bring your own laptop as the office computers are being used most of the time. The volunteers will work in close relationship with the staff of SJ Vietnam and will be an important part of the team. There is no fixed schedule as your project-related visits will depend on the workcamp leader's availability to introduce you to their projects.

### Accommodation

Long-term volunteers: International Youth House/Office, 10D, Lane 28, Tay Ho Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

Short-term volunteers: International Youth House, No 54, Lane 115, Hong Ha Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

### Workcamp Location

You will mainly be working in the SJ Vietnam office (N° 10D, Lane 28, Tay Ho Street) but will also collect information on our different project sites. The advantage of this projects is that you will get an insight into all current volunteer activities.

### Your First Day

After arriving in Hanoi please go directly to the Youth House (54, Lane 115, Hong Ha Street). One of our staff will be there to welcome you.



Hard working German team