



DISABILITY RESEARCH AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Newsletter

March 2014

INTRODUCTION

Established on 03/12/2013, DRD is a non-governmental organization, non-profit and operated by people with disabilities (PWDs), for the rights of PWDs.

DRD and the community are building a support model based on the rights of PWDs in an effort to promote equal opportunities for PWDs, encourage and create favorable conditions for PWDs to participate fully in all activities like other members in society.

Until now, the DRD has been supported over 3,500 PWDs in HCM City and a network of over 30 disability groups in the southern of Vietnam. With many diverse activities such as introducing internships, employment, skills training, advocacy campaign, moving assistance, scholarships, computers devices, assistive devices, information consultation, peer counseling, propagations, seminars and events raising awareness on disability issues, ... DRD is rated as one of 20 non-governmental organizations efficiently operated in Vietnam and is the leading one in supporting the PWDs to integrate into the community.

DRD would like to send to all sponsors, partners, friends and PWDs community the Newsletter as a channel of information sharing.

Kind Regards



The delegation took pictures with Board of director, DRD members and disabled people

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The delegation took pictures with Board of director, DRD members and disabled people

1. The delegation of Irish congress and Embassy visited Disability research and Capacity Development

In the afternoon of March 11th, Disability research and Capacity Development (DRD) welcomed The Irish Congress and Embassy delegation, led by deputy chairman of public Finance Committee of the Irish Congress. Irish Ambassador in Vietnam, Mr. Damien Cole and Deputy Ambassador, Mr., O'Brien also joined in this meeting. here, the delegation met Director and officers of DRD and some members of HCMC Disabled people business Club, Job for disabled Youth Club.

The purpose of this meeting is to learn about the activities at DRD, especially those activities which are supported by Ireland; and meet groups, clubs who benefited from the project by Irish sponsor. There are several projects sponsored by Irish Aid from 2009 to present, such as: "Building the inclusive life for disabled people" project and "Building organizational capacity to improve the status and economic development for disabled people."

Among these, in 3 years doing the project of "Building organizational capacity to improve the status and economic development for disabled people", DRD combined with Job Placement Centers and businesses to open the network for introducing job to disabled people. In addition, they founded Enterprise Club of Disabled People, helping enterprises build partner relationships, solve problems in business, find outlets for products, form consulting business marketing strategy... the Project also transferred model of job placement for groups of disabled people in the provinces

Irish Ambassador in Vietnam, Mr. Damien Cole said, "I have visited DRD several times and always been impressed with the results and new impact that DRD created at each stage. I am very pleased to visit you and glad to hear business of disabled people and disabled workers sharing about the positive changes when participating in projects that Irish Aid supported DRD "

Ngọc Thanh—[Source: VOH](#)(The Voice of Ho Chi Minh city People)

Highlights:

2. The happiness of 1st meeting in new year

On this occasion, female members were given the beautiful flowers by males, and listened together the stories about Tet Holidays of each other. Beside that, the Coordination Board of Independent Living program and the participants together appreciated the activities which worked well or those not so well in the whole last year, compared by the targets of development plan of individuals and groups; then build together a plan for deploying activities in coming time. [>>Read more](#)

3. The special words in peer-counseling

Peer-counseling is a process of mutual support among persons with disabilities or the same circumstances of disability, in which they can regain self-confidence and accept their disability. It is very important in peer-counseling to help persons with disabilities to search solution for their own problems. On



The group discussion

March 22, 2015, Independent living project of Disability Research and Capacity Development – DRD, with the sponsorship of Nippon Foundation and Japanese Human Care Association organized "The special words in peer-counseling" for 14 persons with disabilities and the core group of peer-counselors. [>>Read more](#)

4. “Enhancing the value of women” –15/03/2015

On Saturday afternoon March 15, 2015 at the Disability Research and Capacity Development Center (DRD), the Club “Women with Disabilities” (the Club) organized a sharing session with the topic “Enhancing the value of women” in collaboration with the volunteer group SV07. The speaker was Mrs. Vo Thi Xuan Trang, director of the School John Robert Powers Vietnam.



Let's pose for a commemorative photograph.

“Each woman is beautiful. Both the beauty of the spirit and the beauty of caring for others need to be preserved and promoted. Always promoting positive thinking and actions is a way to enhance the beauty of the spirit as well as the value of women”, shared Mrs Trang.

The atmosphere was fun and more than 30 women with disabilities and volunteers took part in this workshop.

Mrs Thuy (a member of the Club) shared: “I actively share my ideas and feel more confident when I remember the inside value of a woman.”

Mrs Hoai Thuong (a member of the Club) said that “I will arrange my time to take more part in the activities of DRD, a place that helped me to be stronger in my thinking and my actions. Thanks a lot DRD.”

Mrs Luu Thi Anh Loan – acting director of DRD thanked co Trang and the group SV07 and encouraged the Club to continue to develop.

After the success of this workshop, the school John Robert Powers Vietnam is planning to organize a beauty program for the members of the Club.

[>>Read more](#)

DRD Newsletter



Most of the 15 people with disabilities who were taken to see a model of a metro coach at an upcoming depot in District 9's Binh Long Ward yesterday

5.Disabled people urge Metro upgrades

Most of the 15 people with disabilities who were taken to see a model of a metro coach at an upcoming depot in District 9's Binh Long Ward yesterday. — Photo khampha

HCM CITY (VNS) — People with disabilities in HCM City have called for making the city's metro trains disabled-friendly when they become operational in a few years' time.

Most of the 15 people with disabilities who were taken to see a model of a metro coach at an upcoming depot in District 9's Binh Long Ward yesterday by the Disability Resource and Development Centre (DRD) agreed that it needed modifications to improve access for disabled people.

They feared that the metro would be similar to the current bus system, which is hardly disabled-friendly.

Lieu Thi Ngoc Hieu, who has used the metro in Japan and found it very disabled-friendly, said she was surprised the coach was not since it had been supplied by a Japanese company.

"I appreciate the city government for collecting opinions from the public. However, the metro in Japan is very accessible and friendly to disabled people. I think the metro in Viet Nam should be the same.

"I don't see seat belts and a wheelchair locking system for disabled persons like me.

"Beside the facilities, I saw that the metro staff in Japan were very helpful to disabled passengers. I think the HCM City metro staff should be trained like that."

Phan Thi Rat, 25, concurred with Hieu about the need for seat belts and wheelchair locks, and said there should be some signal to inform the driver and other passengers that there was a disabled person in the coach.."Because this is only a model. The actual coaches will be accessible to disabled people like in Japan."

The 19.7km metro line will undergo trials in 2019 and become operational in 2020. — [Source: Viet Nam News](#) (The nation English language daily)

6. FPT for community

"On March 31, Representatives of DRD attended the "FPT for community" event organized by the FPT Group. This event was held in 58 different provinces, including many meaningful activities



such as donation of 17 bookcases, 34 computers, 133 green trees, 50 scholarships, blood donation and many gifts for poor patients

and disadvantaged students....DRD also held a speech to congratulate members of the FPT Group for more success in all aspects, especially in their CSR – corporate social responsibility.

7. Mindset Transformation Community was presenting a power wheelchair to Le Thi Muoi

Mindset Transformation Community was presenting a power wheelchair to Le Thi Muoi who had participated in the training mindset transformation in the past years. She is a person with severe disability, using a personal assistant for her daily life and has actively participated in activities at Independent Living Project of Disability Research and Capacity Development (DRD).



This special gift is very meaningful for her life and work.

Nice Picture

Ms. Nguyen Thi Ai Thanh is sending money to her account at her favourite bank. "I



have a job and earn amount of money. I also have many personal plans for future; therefore, I save my money in bank every month. Previously, my family members help me sending it to bank, I now do it by myself under my personal assistant's support. Saving and sending money to the bank by myself make me feel happy." said

The next month's coming activities

1. April 02-03: Training on advocacy skills for people with disabilities.
Venue: Congress house, 165 Nam Ky Khoi Nghia st., Dis. 3, HCMC
2. April 05: Workshop "Climate change's impacts on people with disabilities"
Venue: Disability Research and Capacity Development center - DRD, 91/8E Hoa Hung St, Ward 12, Dist.10, HCMC
3. April 09-10: Workshop "Job placement for people with disabilities"
Venue: Congress house, 165 Nam Ky Khoi Nghia st., Dis. 3, HCMC
4. April: The open ceremony of the project Accessible map application
Venue: Conference room, 9th floor, Hoa Sen University, 8 Nguyen Van Trang St., Dis. 1, HCMC

5th ACFID University Network Conference - 4&5/6/2015

5th ACFID University Network Conference will be organized from 4 to 5 June 2015. The event promises exciting opportunities to engagement in the Australian aid and development sector.

The participation of some fantastic speakers includes Prof. Martin Ravallion, from Georgetown University and Min Emilia Pires delivering keynote addresses, as well as Paul Nichols, CEO of WaterAid Australia and Yen Vo, Founder of the Disability Research and Capacity Development Centre in Viet Nam on plenary panel discussions.



Beautiful Life group

8. Improving music skill for people with disabilities

Project “Improving music skill for people with disabilities” was operated on March 3rd, 2014. This project has been implemented by Disability Research and Capacity Development (DRD) and sponsored from The Pacific Links. After a year of implementation, the project organized a lot of activities such as training about technical music, performing skill and dancing on the wheelchair for the twelve youth with disabilities who have passion and talent. It is to show the beautiful image and value of people with disabilities.

Up to date, all members of the project have performed in the professional art events that held monthly at Clubhouse “Life is Beautiful”, Lotus University, Technology Post and Telecommunicate Institute, and some universities in 2014 in HCM City. They also joined in the art event of some charity organizations such as UNWANTED KIDS, The Charity Fund of Vietnamese Community at Canada. Just within a year, there have been 183 articles, online newspapers and 30 television stations broadcasting the performances of singers and dancing wheelchair group. Activities of the project have been positively evaluated by members.



people without disabilities that that anyone can join in art-based activities if they have passion and commitment. The beautiful images of people with disabilities are strongly inspiring in community.



Mrs. Võ Thị Hoàng Yến—Director DRD sharing at 1birthday party for change

Good News for 1forchange

1forchange, a campaign to call community's support to build a free-barriers environment for people with disabilities was launched by DRD has received a good news in New Year. Mr. Nguyen Phi Buu and Tennis Club of Heidelberg celebrated a "1birthday party for change" and received a donation of 1,000AUD from participants.

"You really have a power to create changes" – 1forchange always believe in daily changes based on community. We would like to thank Mr. Nguyen Phi Buu and friends for donation and wish sponsors the best.

1forchange

List of Donors 03/2015

1. Mr. Nguyễn Phi Bửu và Tennis Club of Heidelberg donate 1,000 AUD
2. Mrs. Lê Thiên Hương donate 2 USD
3. Mrs. Thục ECP and Đông—Thúy donate 1,500,000 VNĐ
4. Mrs. Hương and Mr. Sơn at Switzerland donate 200,000 VND
5. Mr. JOHN RUGGIER donate 500 POUND

RMIT Opportunities Scholarship 2015

RMIT University are pleased to be able to offer two full Scholarships for this academic year at RMIT Vietnam. This scholarship is available to disadvantaged students who would not otherwise be able to access Higher Education at RMIT.

Who is eligible?

A disadvantaged student will be disadvantaged financially, physically and/or geographically.

What does the scholarship include?

It is proposed that the disadvantaged student scholarship will include the following:

- 1.Full English Program (L1 – L7, if necessary)
- 2.Full HE tuition fees (3 courses per semester, 3 semesters per year, for three years)
- 3.All compulsory non-academic fees
- 4.Accommodation in the Residential Centre (if required)
- 5.A stipend to cover food and entertainment
- 6.A laptop or iPad + assistive technology (if necessary)
- 7.Travel home once per semester (if not from Ho Chi Minh City)

[>>Read more](#)

Contact Centre Service and Sales Representative (Inbound and Outbound)

Location: District 1, HCM City

Employment type: Full-time

Requirements:

- Graduate from Bachelor (Industry: Finance/Banking)
- Be proficient language(s) required by the process
- Must be flexible, customer centric and have the ability to thrive in a team environment seeking feedback and open to development
- Ability to work in a high-volume, fast paced environment is required
- Proficiency with personal computers and basic software packages and specialised applications
- Excellent communication skills and is polite and friendly at all time

Descriptions:

- Handle contacts with HSBC customers in a polite and friendly way, instilling customer confidence and resolving customer's issues at first contact where possible.
- Deliver what is promised in line with customer expectations
- Offer value added products and services based on customer needs analysis and ensure customer understanding of those products
- Provide excellent customer service to basic customer contacts by keeping up to date on training and internal communications
- Generate customer loyalty through strong knowledge of key products and services
- Own and resolve issues and understand how and when to escalate

Closing date for application: **April 15th, 2015**

For further information on application for this role, please contact:

Employment Department – Disability Research and Capacity Development (DRD)

Address: 91/8 E Hoa Hung Street, Ward 12, District 10, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam

Telephone: (84-8) 38683149 (ext 134 or 121) (Ms Quyen or Ms Rat)

Email: vieclam@drdvietnam.com [>>Read more](#)

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