



Viet Nam Medical Assistance Program Tổ Chức Hỗ Trợ Y Tế Cho Việt Nam

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Dear Fellow Students:

The Viet Nam Medical Assistance Program (VNMAP) began as an inspiring vision from two Vietnamese professional students at Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions and the Philadelphia School of Osteopathic Medicine who wanted to improve the health and awareness of the Vietnamese population. In 2007, their dream became a reality when the first medical mission served at Dien Khanh Hospital in the southern Vietnamese province of Khanh Hoa. The mission team has grown since then from 11 members to a 20-member team this past summer. The 2009 group traveled to nine different sites in the Lam Dong Province operating clinics to treat and educate the underprivileged population. Over the course of nine days, the team saw over 1,700 patients with conditions ranging from anemia and malnutrition to arthritis and scabies.

VNMAP is developing exponentially to include an ever-increasing number of students and professionals dedicated to providing health education to the Vietnamese community in the United States and Viet Nam. The organization's ultimate goal is to make continual improvements each year that steadily enrich the lives of the residents in rural areas of Viet Nam who do not receive adequate healthcare. In reaching our goal, our emphasis is on creating educational opportunities for our team members that will be beneficial to their professional aspirations. We strive to improve leadership skills and promote teamwork through assigned projects and committees. The medical mission provides learning opportunities relevant to medical care through working in clinics and visiting hospitals. Additionally, a better understanding of the local health system and public health in Vietnam is acquired through participation in our ongoing health survey.

As a volunteer during the 2008 summer mission and a current Director on the Board of Directors, I have a firm belief in this organization's ability to improve healthcare and awareness in Viet Nam. I am proud of the progress that we have made and the people that we have helped. In forming our team for the upcoming mission for the summer of 2010, we are looking forward to gaining new members who have the dedication and spirit to help advance the impact that the Viet Nam Medical Assistance Program will generate. Please visit our website (www.vnmap.org) for more information. Our current application for student members is now available online and the deadline is **December 20, 2009**.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Anh Thu Duong
Board of Directors

www.vnmap.org

Viet Nam Medical Assistance Program (VNMAP) is an official non-profit organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. TAX ID Number 26-4257472