

# Center for the Encouragement of Self-Reliance (CESR)

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To: Members of VA-NGO Network

Other NGOs outside and inside Vietnam

Individuals who work to help needy fellow Vietnamese

## Announcement

The Center for the Encouragement of Self-Reliance (CESR) wishes to announce its intention to award grants worth between \$1000.00 and \$10,000.00 to selected members of the VA-NGO Network, other NGOs, and individuals inside and outside of Vietnam that work to help needy fellow Vietnamese.

The grants will be awarded before December 31, 2011, and are expected to total \$200,000.00.

## Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for award, an organization or individual shall meet the following criteria:

1. Has been working to help the needy Vietnamese inside or outside Vietnam for more than one year with proven financial records and tangible results.
2. Can match the grant dollar-for-dollar with funds from other sources or with in-kind contributions that could be clearly monetized.
3. Has an on-going program that could use the grant in 2012.
4. Submits electronic applications before November 30, 2011.

## Who Could Apply?

- A member of VA-NGO Network or any NGO anywhere operating a program that helps needy Vietnamese in improving the seven human security (which CESR calls happiness) factors promoted by the United Nations. These are food, health, economic, individual, community, environmental, and political security.
- A citizen or group of citizens that operates inside or outside of Vietnam, independently from the government, with the goal of helping needy fellow Vietnamese.

## **Applications**

Applications shall be no more than 10 pages, font 12, 1.5 spaced, with the following sections:

1. Eligibility. Affirmation that the applicant satisfies the four eligibility criteria listed above. Monetization of in-kind contributions that is not clear, realistic and reasonable could be reason for elimination.
2. Description of the organization or individual(s). The description shall be made specifically for this application. Off-the-shelf material that is less than 10 pages could be included in an appendix that needs not follow the font and spacing criteria of the main application. Exceeding the page limits could lead to elimination.
3. Plan to use the grant. Emphasis shall be put on encouraging self-reliance and empowering the honor of recipients. Emphasis shall also put on the use of money in a reasonable, controlled, and transparent fashion. Expected results shall be described.
4. Recommendation. Letters of recommendation by two respectable individuals who have known the application's work for more than a year. These two letters do not count in the page limitations described above.

## **Scope of Work**

Any work that benefit needy Vietnamese, inside or outside of Vietnam.

## **Who is CESR?**

CESR is a small private charity organization established in 1997 by Dr. Doan L Phung and Ms. Thu-Le Doan using their personal savings. CESR has assisted members of VA-NGO Network for many years, and, since 1999, has operated Trung Tâm Khuyến Khích Tự Lập (TTKCTL) in Hue, Vietnam. TTKCTL has helped more than 20,000 families in over 35 communes to pursue a trade to be self-reliant. The United Nations has conferred CESR the UN Habitat- Civil Society Innovation Award in 2008. Many members of VA-NGO Network have also conferred CESR awards of Compassion or Achievements. The current policy of CESR is to assist others to help needy fellow Vietnamese in accordance with the principles upon which CESR was established.

## **Who are the judges?**

Dr. Doan L Phung and Ms. Thu-Le Doan.