

## INFOSHEET SJV1437

### WARM CHRISTMAS FOR DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN



#### CODE NUMBER AND TIME

V1437            /12/2014 - 26/12/2014

#### LOCATION OF THE PROJECT

The working places are in different places in Hanoi.

Fisher's Village in Long Bien district, pediatric dept in hospital, disabled center and Friendships Village in Dong Da district or in university.

[Google Map's Link](#)

#### WELCOME WORDS FROM OUR CAMP LEADER

Dear volunteers,

Firstly, it is a great honor for me to be able to welcome you here in Vietnam. I would like to express how happy I feel to have the opportunity to manage and meet a group of people like you who have travelled from different countries. I believe we can do our best to utilize an environmentally conscious attitude, bring a smile to the children of the reserve, and become closer by working together on this project.

Welcome to Vietnam, I am sure you will be inspired by the country, the local people and, Vietnamese food. Finally, I would like to thank you for your interest in volunteering in Vietnam. We respect you and your kindness. I look forward to meeting you in Vietnam.

Best Wishes,

Do Minh Duc

Tong Quang Nam

**Workcamp Coordinators**

### **1) BACKGROUND OF CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL**

Christmas and New Year are two famous holidays in many countries in the world. Families are always happy to celebrate these holidays which bring hope and strengthen relationships. In Vietnam, there are still a lot of disadvantaged children, disabled children and orphans as well as disadvantaged elder people who don't have family to support them. For this reason SJ Vietnam often organizes special Christmas and New Year celebrations to give these communities a memorable celebration with gifts and performances. This year our work camp will take place in the Fisher Village, the Friendship Village and the Vinh Phuc welfare centre to organize celebrations and to offer gifts to disadvantaged children and elders, orphans and disabled children in these places.

The Fisher Village is a very poor village where people live in floating houses on the Red river near the Long Bien Bridge. Many of these families are single mothers and divorced couples. Most of them are no longer in contact with their relatives. They came from the countryside and they cannot afford to travel back to their province. There are about 50 disadvantaged children in this place who have hard living conditions. Most of the children when they reach the age of 5 or 6 year olds have to help parents to earn money.

Click link below for further information about living in fisher village:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MojtkafhAfl>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLW8La7v8Kc>

## 2) ROLES AND TASKS

With the key message “Warm heart, warm Christmas” this work camp hopes to foster relationships between people and to give people hope of a beautiful future. These activities are also based on the goals of SJ Vietnam that promote values of solidarity, peace, and tolerance through young citizenship projects. The benefits of this work will continue to improve society during and after the volunteer work camps.

During these two weeks, 18 local volunteers and 16 international volunteers will be divided into two groups: a Theatre Group and a Decoration Group to do the following activities:

### **1. Performance:**

The first work with the international and local volunteers is preparation for the plays. We will discuss which plays we will do and then we will prepare costumes for the plays. It will help Vietnamese people to know more about Western culture if the plays refer to stories of Christmas. We hope to give the children and people a memorable celebration with this play.

### **2. Decoration:**

We will make the decorations and then decorate the Youth House and the Disadvantage Children Centre as this is where we will celebrate our Christmas Party. We want to make the children feel the Christmas atmosphere. Another activity will be to make the background and costumes for the performance

**3. Activities to interact:** We have activities to interact with children after decorating and before performing. We hope that through these activities the volunteers will get to know more about the disadvantaged children.

### ***The Time Capsule: “Your wishes for the next year?”***

The children will write a letter. All the letters will be put in the time capsules and buried. Next Christmas, the children and the volunteers will open the time capsule.

We hope through this activity to foster the relationships between SJ, the volunteers and the children.

**Games:** Volunteers can think about games to play with the children. Here are some examples: bag race, “the ropes” game, cat & mouse, ping pong, etc.

**Drawing:** The volunteers will help the children to draw their hopes for the future.

**4. The gifts:** We call for gifts such as lightly worn clothes, socks, hats, toys, books, magazines and cakes. Everyone will collect gifts and pack them. During the work camp the volunteers will bring these gifts to the disadvantaged children and the elderly of the community. We hope to provide them with a beautiful Christmas and a lot of presents and joy!!!

**5. Leisure and exchange activities:** As you might know the aim of this work camp is not only to help the disadvantaged but it is also a chance to meet other volunteers from other countries, and to get to know local people. During your free time (evening and weekend) you and the other volunteers will have the opportunity to enjoy different activities and to share more about your life, family and country with pictures and games. Some of these activities include an international cultural night, a visit of Hanoi and small parties!!!

### 3) DAILY LIFE

#### **Accommodation:**

Depending on the number of participants, volunteers will sleep in the [SJ Vietnams office](#).

#### **Food:**

Food will cook by the volunteers themselves or they will have meals in nearby local restaurant. Vietnamese food is considered as easy to eat but if you have any special dietary needs please inform us in advance.

#### **Daily transportation:**

All volunteers will go by public bus from the accommodation to the project site.

### **Day off and holidays:**

You will have free time during the evenings and the weekends to spend as you please. During those free moments you can travel to discover further wonders of Vietnam! Located in northern Vietnam, Hanoi is the capital of the country with a population of seven million. The city is a thousand years old and follows the banks of the Red River. Hanoi counts many colorful districts including the French styled Old Quarter near Hoan Kiem lake, the modern New Quarter, and the more touristy Tay Ho area.

To find out more about Hanoi, you can refer to [Lonely planet Hanoi's link](#).

### **4) SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Ability to do manual work.
- 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
- High motivation and come ready to live as the locals do (basic accommodations, transport by bus or bicycle, local food). Be ready to face many difficulties such as language barriers, culture differences, low budgets, etc.
- Be patient and empathetic with the disabled children
- Follow the rules of the SJ Vietnam Office

### **WHAT TO BRING:**

- ✧ Sleeping bag
- ✧ Pillow
- ✧ Mosquito spray
- ✧ Mosquito net
- ✧ Basic pharmacy kit
- ✧ Pictures of your hometown and family



▲ Craft materials for your project, if possible

In Hanoi there are four seasons: spring, summer, autumn, and winter. But it is possible to divide the climate into two main seasons: the rainy season from May to September (it's hot, heavy rain), and the dry season is from October to April (it is cold, little rainfall). Please bring clothes according to the season.

## 5) MEETING TIME AND MEETING POINT

**Meeting time:** 9:00 AM the first day of workcamp

**Meeting point:** Suit 903 - Building N01 - 282 Linh Nam - Vinh Hung ward - Hoang Mai district - Hanoi.

In Vietnamese: Phong 903, N1, 282 Linh Nam, Phuong Vinh Hung, quan Hoang Mai, Hanoi

Please inform the work camp coordinator if you arrive late.

This is the Google map's link of our office: <http://g.co/maps/84hn5>

## 6) HOW TO GET TO MEETING POINT

SJ Vietnam can arrange a taxi to pick you up at Noi Bai airport and bring you to our office. There will be a taxi driver **at the entrance gate** of the Noi Bai airport with a **board with "your name"** on it. Normally the taxi fare is around 19 USD (380.000 VND) to come to our office.

**For those of you who can come earlier, please follow the instruction:**

If you come to Hanoi early, you can stay at a backpackers' hostel for a price of from 5-10 USD/person/per night or a hotel from 15-30 USD/room/night.

Hostel: <http://www.hanoiyouthhostel.com>

Hotel: <http://www.joyjourneyhotel.com>

**\*From Noi Bai Airport to Hanoi Center( about 30 km):**

**1.1 By taxi:** This is the most convenient way if you carry bulky luggage and it takes 45 minutes or 60 minutes depending on traffic. Taxi price: around 17 USD. (There are 6 taxi companies that can legally work at Noi Bai airport which you can see at the taxi desks near the luggage belts where you pick up your bags). They have a fixed rate of 400,000 VND (20 USD) to go to the city center.



*Noi Bai  
airport  
taxi*



***Total journey costs 20 USD***

**1.2. By public bus:** Only available after 6.30 AM and before 6 PM. It is quite complicated and takes around 2 hours to reach to city center.

- When you get out of the airport, find the white electrical bus in which runs to the bus station (around 3 minutes). It costs 5,000 VND (around 0.4 USD)



***Electric bus at Noi Bai airport***



- Then take the bus numbered 17 (all public buses in Hanoi are red and yellow) to the last stop (Long Bien station). It is around 15,000 VND

(around 0.7 USD) (sometimes you will be charged more for your luggage)

***Public bus in Ha Noi***

- Then please take a taxi to your hotel which is 2-3 km more. Taxi costs 11,000-18,000 VND/km (it costs around 50,000-60,000 VND until reaching your hotel)
- Please use the Mai Linh taxi company which is a green color or green and white color (see the picture below). Otherwise there is a high possibility you will get overcharged.



***Total journey costs around 4 USD***

**1.3. By minibus:** When you get out of the airport, turn right and cross the lane to find the minibus (12-seats bus) (35,000 VND, around \$1.7 USD), which only stops at the center of Ha Noi and takes around 1 hour.

Then take a taxi, which costs around 50000 VND (3 USD). (Take Mai Linh taxi only) and show the driver your address.



***Total journey costs 5 USD***

**➔ We recommend you to take the taxi from the airport if you go in a group because it's less complicated and the safest way to get to our office without any trouble.**

**When you get off the taxi:**

<p><b>Address: room 903, N1 Building, 282 Linh m street, Hoang Mai district, Hanoi.</b></p>	<p><b>The opposite side of the building is a trol station.</b></p>
---	--



You will see Argi bank office on 1<sup>st</sup> floor of building

Please turn right and go to the back of the building; you will see the entrance gate.



Congratulations, you are in front of the entrance gate now!

Go to the 9<sup>th</sup> floor and knock at the door.  
*Welcome to SJ Vietnam!! ☺*





In case of an emergency or you need assistance please contact our coordinators

Mr. Duc: +84 (0) 984150584.

Mr. Nam +84 (0) 965640571.

Our Office: +84 (0) 4362845535

### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND CONDITION**

The total fee is 5,000,000VND/participant which includes transportation at the project site, food, basic accommodation and materials for the work camp. This fee will be paid upon arrival at the work camp on the first day. Participation fees enable SJ Vietnam to take care of you during your stay and to fund their projects. Volunteers' activities in the evenings or on the weekends are their own expense.

#### **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 438258190

### **CONTACT**



**SJ VIETNAM**  
Solidarités Jeunes Vietnam

[www.sjvietnam.org](http://www.sjvietnam.org)  
(+ 84).4.62845535

**SJ Vietnam office:**

Suit 903 - Building N01 - 282 Linh Nam - Vinh Hung ward - Hoang Mai district -  
Hanoi.

Tel: + 84.4.62845535/+ 84.4.22154993

Fax: + 84.4.62845535

**Work camp coordinator: Mr. Do Minh Duc/ Mr. Tong Quang Nam**

Cell phone number for emergency: +84.984 150584/ +84 965 640571

Email: [workcamp@sjvietnam.org](mailto:workcamp@sjvietnam.org)

*Feel free to contact us anytime if you want more information. We look forward to meeting you soon in Vietnam.*