**PROPOSAL**

Project Proposal for Livelihood and health care Support for landmine victims in Quang Binh province, Vietnam by the Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD)

**Introduction**

Quang Binh Province is amongst the most devastated part of the country during the Vietnam War. There are approximately 45,000 persons with disabilities in the province, and amongst 19,928 of which are landmine victims. According to statistics, only a quarter of persons with disabilities are earning a living and most of them are self-employed. 70% depend on their families, relatives and social sponsorship. Overall, the rate of poverty among persons with disabilities is double the overall poverty rate in Vietnam.

The Association for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (AEPD) was born out from the Landmine Survivors Network, which operated in Vietnam from 2003. Our mission is to improve the quality of life for persons with disabilities including landmine survivors through economic and social empowerment and access to health care. Through providing persons with disabilities with vocational training, landmine victims would be able to increase their income and maintain a self-sustainable livelihood, thus empowering them to become an active member of their community and improve the quality of their lives.

**Target Groups**

It is difficult for persons with disabilities to find work, and due to the levels of poverty in the area, persons with disabilities are often financially-dependent on their family. Without a sustainable economic base, landmine survivors are also limited in accessing health care services. Due to poor economic condition, most of them cannot cover for treatment after their landmine accidents.

Since 2003, AEPD has provided equal economic opportunities and self-employment for persons with disabilities through vocational training and seed funding. Through discussions with landmine survivors and outreach workers, AEPD is able to devise an economy development strategy best suited for the service user’s needs and circumstances; mine survivors’ working capacity is then improved through receiving seed-funding to open up/expand their livelihood scales. Besides, AEPD also help PwDs including landmine victims access to better health care services by linking or referring them to services locally or upper level and provide them funding to cover surgery cost.

The project hopes to empower mine victims who are suffering from the indignity of poverty, health problems and social isolation, increase their income, self-sustainability, and social participation.

So far, AEPD has successfully assisted about 2,650 landmine survivors and over 3,000 persons with disabilities and their families with this method.

**Aims / Objectives**

* To empower landmine survivors with financial self-sustainability and health care service
* To increase social participation for mine victims
* To Advocate for the rights of mine victims

**Capacity-Development Need**

To empower landmine survivors through providing seed-funding is the key to helping them find a way out of the indignity of poverty, achieve financial self-sustainability, find the support and confidence to counter the stigma against persons with disabilities, and advocate for their own rights.

AEPD would provide the seed funding needed to purchase livestock/equipment for low-income mine survivors and to cover treatment expenses for health problems.

**Self-Sustainability**

By providing landmine survivors with seed-funding, not only will they become financially-independent and self-sustainable, but also increase their social participation by linking them to local resources to expand their income generating activities.

This would increase their confidence and quality of life to build up a strong anti-mine advocacy and peer support group for fellow mine survivors.

The project is rooted in the concept of CBR (Community Based Rehabilitation), supporting and utilizing the power from the community to bring about change and empowerment.

**Budget:**

Calculated by per person

Purpose: the funding for the project is used as a seed funding, such as purchasing livestock, animal feed, equipment and covering treatment expenses for health care.

**Total Amount**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Items** | **Unit** | **Quant** | **Unit cost (USD)** | **Amount (USD)** | **Remark** |
| 1 | Seed-funding for livelihood | person | 10 | 500 | 5000 |  |
| 2 | Funding for health care service | person | 02 | 1000 | 2000 |  |
| 3 | Admin fee |  |  |  | 500 | *including: per diem for implementation support staff, fuel, communication...* |
|  | **Total budget** |  |  |  | **7,500** |  |