

## **Annual Report: July 2004 – June 2005**

We reached out and achieved a number of programs that were quite remarkable given the limited resources that we possessed. There were programs that we chose to pursue given the benefits provided over the previous years. There were also a number of new directions that we undertook whose success gave us a lot of pride. The following two programs are on-going activities since VPA's inception in 1996.

- VPA supports the Vietnamese Community of Washington DC, Maryland, and Virginia (VNC) on an ongoing basis regarding the daily issues of that organization. VNC supports the Vietnamese American community. VPA's President is on the Board of Directors of VNC.
- A major accomplishment consists in assisting the Vietnamese Youth Educational Association (VYEA) to hold a yearly Vietnamese language summer session for the Vietnamese American youth. Each summer session was typically attended by 300 youth. VPA provided software-coding support to establish VYEA's two important distance learning programs on the web. Two VPA's members received plaque of appreciation for their contribution to social work at VYEA. VPA's President, Mr. Thuan Truong, is also VYEA's Vice-President for External Affairs. Every year, it has been a joy seeing a large community coming together to work and to provide educational skills that help preserve the cultural heritage of the Vietnamese American community.

Another activity, started in 1998, consisted in the offering of professional certification training programs for the economically challenged members of the diverse communities in Montgomery County, Maryland. It is in our opinion the most tangible, the shortest and least expensive education program that would enable the trainees to make a rewarding entry into the computer field. This was also a joint effort of a number of organizations that include Linkages to Learning (affiliated with Montgomery County) and IT professionals. This has become an ongoing effort. VPA is leading the program in collaboration with Linkages to Learning at the Broad Acres Elementary School in Montgomery County, Maryland. In July 2004- June 2005, the major accomplishments were

- ◆ VPA conducted Computer Introductory courses for parents and students of Broad Acres Elementary School in Maryland. Fifteen families during the Summer-Fall 2004 attended the program.
- ◆ VPA also introduced 3 high school students, one of whom is Microsoft Network certified, to help manage the computer network for Linkages to Learning. VPA coordinated the maintenance of the Computer Lab at Linkages to Learning and provided training for Network cabling to Linkages to Learning's staff.
- ◆ Finally, VPA secured the donation of 20 PCs which were transferred to Linkages to Learning to help modernize the PC lab.

All in all, this has been very rewarding for the many results that VPA did achieve.