



**PeaceTrees
VietNam**

Healing the Land • Building Community • Planting Futures



U.S. Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden, PeaceTrees Vietnam Co-Founder Jerilyn Brusseau, and U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Ted Osius in Hanoi on July 19th, 2015.

Dear Friends,

This July marks the 20th Anniversary of U.S. –Vietnam Diplomatic Relations, and an incredible month for PeaceTrees Vietnam. We're writing to share two pieces of exciting news!

We are honored to report that PeaceTrees Vietnam was invited by the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to meet U.S. Second Lady, Dr. Jill Biden and U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Ted Osius for a private briefing during her July visit to SE Asia on July 19th. PeaceTrees Vietnam Co-Founder, Jerilyn Brusseau traveled to Hanoi to meet with Dr. Biden and brief her on PeaceTrees Vietnam's mission to reach out to the Vietnamese people to honor losses on all sides of the war and to build bridges of friendship, understanding, and trust.

"It was a great privilege to share our accomplishments with Dr. Biden," writes Jerilyn, "– clearing the land of nearly 90,000 pieces of unexploded ordnance in the most war-torn areas of Vietnam, working together with local communities to return the land to productive use, providing support for children and families through accident prevention, survivor assistance, building kindergartens, libraries, as well as our work in citizen diplomacy to bring veterans, families, and dedicated travelers to Quang Tri Province to build friendships and understanding."

We are deeply grateful for this esteemed opportunity to share PeaceTrees Vietnam's story, and the accomplishments of nearly 20 years working alongside people in Vietnam to address the legacy of war.

Earlier in the month, on July 7th, 2015, PeaceTrees Vietnam was invited by the Office of the Vice President of the United States, Joseph Biden to attend a luncheon in honor of Vietnam General Secretary, Nguyen Phu Trong, at the U.S. Department of State, following his meeting with President Obama. PeaceTrees Vietnam Co-Founder, Jerilyn Brusseau represented PeaceTrees Vietnam at this historic event, where leaders of our two countries raised their glasses to a future of continually deepening trust, understanding and collaborative partnerships for future generations to come.

These distinguished invitations are the culmination of all the work we have *done together* for 20 years. All we have been able to accomplish is thanks to you, our generous community, and we are grateful to you for your support that has made way for our tremendous impact in Vietnam, and helped PeaceTrees reach this level of national and international recognition.

With sincere gratitude,

Claire Yunker, Executive Director

Jerilyn Brusseau, Co-Founder

Read more about Dr. Biden's visit to Vietnam from:
[The White House](#), [Boston Newstime](#), [Ba Moi](#), [Daily Mail](#) and [Tuoi Tre News Vietnam](#).



PeaceTrees Vietnam Deminers providing clearance at Ba Long Village.



Hoa, an accident survivor, showing his artwork.



Children at a PeaceTrees Vietnam kindergarten.