As we bring 2017 to a close, we wanted to say "Thank You" from everyone at Legacies of War. Your investment created bridges of hope and opportunity for communities in the U.S. and in Laos alike. Together, we are creating a safer Laos.

**OUR TOP 5 GRATEFUL MOMENTS OF 2017**

**#1 - SECURING THE SECOND INSTALLMENT ($30M) OF**
THE U.S. $90M COMMITMENT
Despite the uncertainty in Washington, the second of the three-year U.S. commitment was fulfilled, creating a pathway for implementing the first national UXO survey, clearing an average of 600 bombs daily and expanding support to survivors. With the help of our amazing supporters all over the U.S., we solidified support of current champions and identified new advocates in Congress, resulting in TWO bipartisan Dear Colleague letters, "Support Unexploded Ordnance Removal in Laos" and the allocation of the second installment of the U.S. funding commitment. THANK YOU.

#2 - STRENGTHENING AND RENEWING OUR PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE U.S. AND LAOS AMBASSADORS PLUS MANY OTHERS
During our Laos Learning Trip in May, U.S. Ambassador Rena Bitter hosted a reception in honor of Legacies with special guests from the public and private sectors at her residence, where she praised Legacies' efforts to increase U.S. funding to the UXO sector in Laos. In October, Ambassador Mai Sayavongs and Madame Soumaly Sayavongs of the Lao PDR Embassy in the U.S. opened up their residence for an intimate dinner for Legacies supporters. The dinner's guest speaker, Ben Rhodes, special adviser to President Obama, shared the touching account of how he became acquainted with Laos and the role of the U.S. government in addressing its legacies of war. Finally, we'd like to thank all our partners in the field and the U.S. - from the State Department, to deminers and UXO victim organizations to Lao American chefs, artists and our extended Legacies family and community - for their support. THANK YOU.

#3 - INCREASING OUR EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH TO 11 STATES
We brought our curriculum and exhibit to communities all over the country, including RI, NY, PA, CA, WA, OR, DC, VA, MA, and mobilized new supporters along the way, including our participation in the newest NY Historical Society exhibit "The Vietnam War". We were also invited to speak at the Vietnam Veterans of America chapter in Virginia.

#4 - LEVERAGING MEDIA OUTREACH & ANTHONY BOURDAIN'S LAOS VISIT
We monitored the UXO issue in Laos and made sure to keep it on the public radar through outreach to media outlets, including the PBS Vietnam War series, and...
many more. A journalist from *Anthony Bourdain: Parts Unknown* joined us to meet with survivors in Luang Prabang, highlighting the importance of life-saving UXO removal in Laos.

Legacies board members celebrating after a successful board meeting in Washington, DC, Nov 2017

Legacies board, supporters and journalist visiting with UXO survivors in Luang Prabang, May 2017

### #5 - DOUBLING THE BOARD TO SUPPORT OUR SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH

We are so grateful for our board members, who provide their leadership and guidance as we move to the next phase of Legacies' work. Welcome Alexandra Hiniker, Terry Szuplat, Sera Koulabdara, Breeda Phoummany, Suzette Gabriel-Schoebitz, and Ambassador Douglas Hartwick! THANK YOU.

Legacies board members celebrating after a successful board meeting in Washington, DC, Nov 2017

And we are grateful to YOU...

## FOR NOT GIVING UP ON OUR DREAM

We are a small organization with big dreams. We dream of the day when the millions of lethal bombs left behind by the U.S. air war in Laos will be destroyed. We dream of villagers tilling their soil in safety and Lao children playing in their school yards without fear. Thanks to your generosity, these dreams are beginning to come true.

As you make your end-of-the-year gifts, please consider a tax-deductible contribution to Legacies of War. Thank you for your past support and for your commitment to helping us bring hope to impacted villagers both in 2017 and into the future.
Legacies of War would like to thank all of our donors - our longtime supporters and especially our first time donors - who are so important to helping us build for the future. All our significant progress and achievements in 2017 were made possible by the important support and capacity offered through your generous donations.

Welcome to our family of supporters!

We are deeply grateful to you.

For those of you who have not given yet, please consider making your year-end tax-deductible gift to Legacies of War. You can also send us a check payable to NEO Philanthropy/Legacies of War and send it to Legacies of War, 1312 9th Street NW, Washington DC 20001.
The Legacies of War Team

Thank You / Kop chai / Ua koi tsaug

Donate Now

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