Dear Friends,

Over the past 10 years, Legacies of War has built a strong network of support among policymakers in Washington, DC. This week marked the beginning of a new administration in the White House and Congress with new priorities. Past commitments and policies are being reversed - nothing is guaranteed.

We are committed to keeping the issue of Laos and UXO on the radar of policymakers, amidst many new changes in our government.

We are asking you to make a gift today to help us make sure that Congress follows through on the entirety of its $90 million commitment.

We see this funding as a down payment that will provide the first comprehensive survey of UXO in Laos. This will allow the Lao government and its partners to formulate a clear strategy for clearance that reduces harm to the people of Laos and provides assistance to those already affected.

There is no doubt that more funding will be needed but our priority right now must be to re-double our efforts in Congress and make sure that its support remains strong.

We will work tirelessly to make sure the UXO sector in Laos gets the funding needed to solve the UXO issue once and for all. But we can't do it without you - help us keep progress and hope alive.

We will Monitor, Educate, and Advocate:

- **Outreach to Representatives - We Bring Your Voice To Them:** The next months will be crucial for our work. We’ll solidify support of current champions and identify new support in Congress. We are preparing briefing memos, policy documents, and outreach materials. We are scheduling Hill meetings to take our message directly to Congresspersons and their staffs.

  In addition to your donation, you can also reach out to your Congressional representative. We will be soliciting letters from our supporters and bring them with us to our meetings. See who your representative is here and contact us at info@legaciesofwar.org to learn more about what you can do to help our advocacy work.

- **Congressional Briefing in February - Educating Policymakers and Monitoring Their Commitment:** At Legacies, we’ve been speaking with multiple stakeholders, including congressional champions, NGOs and the government sector. Besides a potential Congressional briefing and panel, we will work with local think tanks and other partners to make sure Laos is safe from millions of bombs.

- **Community Engagement - Building a Stronger Foundation:** We cannot do the work alone. Policymakers want to hear from their constituents. What matters to YOU, matters to them. Legacies will be visiting more than 10 states this year to mobilize and engage communities with high populations of Lao and Hmong Americans. Bring the travel exhibit to your town and contact us for volunteer opportunities!
As you think about what you can do for future generations and to make the world a better place, will you please make a tax-deductible gift today of $1,000, $500, $100, $50, or $25 to help us reach our current goal of $20,000?

Your interest, support and enthusiasm for this work is a real inspiration to us. We have made incredible progress together but want to increase our momentum in this challenging new environment. Your gift today will keep our voice strong with new congressional members and move us a step closer to solving this problem.

Thank you and Kop chai lai lai,

The Legacies Team

After you make your gift, will you share this appeal with 3 other people who might also be able to make a similar contribution?

Volunteers & Interns

THROWBACK THURSDAY
WE'VE COME SO FAR, WE'RE NOT TURNING BACK

On April 22, 2010, Legacies of War testified at the House of Representatives hearing, "Legacies of War: Unexploded Ordnance in Laos", led by Representative Eni F.H Faleomavaega (D-AS), Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment (Committee on Foreign Affairs). As we go into new challenges ahead, watch our Executive Director Channapha Khamvongsa's powerful testimony that helped elevate the concerns of those in Laos still affected by a war that ended more than 40 years ago. You can read the statement here. Let us remember that we have come a long way!

SEE YOU IN...

1. CALIFORNIA Legacies of War is coming to the Bay area! We will be at several academic and college conferences this year, including the Listen to Silence Conference: Know History, Know Self, Know Solidary at Stanford this weekend.

2. WASHINGTON, DC Ready to reconnect? Stay tuned for our February happy hour in Washington, DC! Learn about the UXO issue and how you can help Legacies of War. We invite you to join us for a great night of sipping, socializing, and saving lives! Details to come!

3. LOTS OF PLACES Legacies of War is coming to your community in 2017! This year, we will bring our educational programs across the U.S., including California, Minnesota, Tennessee, Oregon, Washington State, Rhode Island, Virginia, Massachusetts and many more! Stay tuned and check out our facebook page, twitter and website for details over the upcoming months. Interested in bringing the travel exhibit to your town? Contact us at info@legacysofwar.org

SAVE THE DATE: NOVEMBER 6, 2017
LEGACIES OF WAR GALA IN WASHINGTON, DC

http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1101814490173&ca=9f11fa88-ece27-4579-8bf4-ebc2b8f64937