Truong Son's Leaders

The Truongs (Leaders) of the Lien Doan Truong Son are the true, unspoken heroes. Week after week, they dedicate their time that they could spend relaxing, or working, or with their families so that we—the youth—may have a chance at developing themselves. They struggle with children who are not theirs in the hopes that they can have a positive impact on the lives they touch.

It is a struggle. Some days, they are frustrated. Children won't listen, teens give them attitude, adults get fussy over their children. They take time out of their week to schedule meetings, to review merit badges and project

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proposals, to plan events. Sometimes, it feels like there is no reward.

But sometimes, there are minds that are open enough to accept the wisdom handed to them.

In the Summer, after my Freshman year of High School, I graduated from a Cadette to a Senior Girl Scout. I was young, and I was naive, and I had many different ideas with where I wanted to go in life. My thoughts were scattered and I really had no grasp on my life's direction.

That same summer, I had a heart-to-heart with one of my Truongs, whom I respect greatly. She imparted me with a few words of wisdom: "When you were brought into this world, you cried and everyone applauded. When you leave this world, leave behind a life that will make everyone cry but you applaud."

Those words have followed me ever since. When faced with a crossroads, I think about the kind of life I want to lead: I want to leave behind a legacy, something that will make me proud of myself. I make every decision with this in mind.

I would like to thank all of the leaders in Truong Son for all of their time and effort into this organization. It has not gone unnoticed, and you have truly impacted so many lives—mine being just one of them. Thank you so much.