

Social Investment Partners
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Press Release

Oct. 11, 2018

**Social Investment Partners
Announcing the support of Teachers Initiative
that provides “the 21st Century Teachers’ Program”
to teachers nationwide.**

Social Investment Partners (hereinafter “SIP”; located in Minato-ku, Tokyo, Co-CEOs: Tomoya Shiraishi, Hiroshi Nonomiya) is pleased to announce to grant 30 million yen and provide managerial support for next three years to Teachers Initiative (hereinafter “TI”, located in Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Representative Director: Kanji Miyaji) through “Japan Venture Philanthropy Foundation” (hereinafter “JVPF”), which is co-managed by SIP and The Nippon Foundation (located in Minato-ku, Tokyo, Chairperson: Yohei Sasakawa).

In belief that teachers are keys to create future, TI has been providing teachers in Japan with “the 21st Century Teachers’ Program”, specially designed since 2015. Japanese education is currently at a critical transitional stage, where the education style such as rote-learning and memorization should be shifted to encourage students to think for themselves and to help cultivate their resourcefulness. In the rapidly changing society, students need to be equipped with the ability to find and solve problems proactively and co-actively. In this context, the government also announced the new school curriculum guidelines including “Active Learning (proactive, interactive, and deeper learning)”. Whereas teachers in Japan are known to be incredibly busy, they are now required to have new educational methods and philosophy. TI supports them to be equipped new style of education and aims that students are well educated by those teaches and make good change in Japanese society.

Since 2015, TI has provided teachers who joined voluntarily from all over Japan. In 2018, TI’s program is introduced as training program for teachers in public schools in Sakai City, Osaka, as the first case. TI started to discuss with other regional government and plans to expand it in Japan. TI also aims the social impact to vitalize school educational environment by the teachers who got TI’s program. TI plans to support to establish the alumni network.

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Comment from Tomoya Shiraishi, Co-CEO of SIP

TI's program is quite unique in traditional Japanese education system. It is well designed for Japanese teachers to experience dynamic learning environment utilizing leadership training programs and organizational development such as systemic thinking, theory U, facilitation method, etc. in global companies. We look forward to working closely with TI to achieve long-term impact that Japanese teachers will vitalize Japanese education environment, extract potential of students and connecting society and schools as "change makers."

<Summary of the organization to be supported>

About Teachers Initiative, a General Incorporated Association

<Address> 6F 4-9 Yonbancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

<Representative Director> Kanji Miyaji

<Founding date> August 10th, 2015

<URL> <http://teachers-i.org/>

<Business description> Planning and operating a training program for educators, research on education and its effects, etc.

About Social Investment Partners, a General Incorporated Association

Founded in November 2012 with the purpose of advising and supporting many different organizations that focus on social businesses, to contribute to society while also being sustainable as a business. It was founded by a specialist in business investment development together with a partner with experience in social business support. They work together with pro bono partners who sympathize with the purpose of the organization, and provide continuous specialized managing support, with a 3 to 5-year mid- to long-term views.

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<Representative> Co-CEOs Tomoya Shiraishi, Hiroshi Nonomiya (info@sipartners.org)

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<Pro bono partners>

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- Clifford Chance (Gaikokuho Kyodo Jigyo): Legal advice
- Bain & Company Japan, Incorporated: Strategic consulting
- VOX Global Japan K.K.: Communication consulting

About Japan Venture Philanthropy Foundation

The first full-scale Japanese venture philanthropy (VP) foundation established in April 2013 to support and sustainably develop organizations specializing in social businesses. This foundation is co-operated by Social Investment Partners and The Nippon Foundation (located in Minato-ku, Tokyo, Chairperson: Yohei Sasakawa).

<U R L> www.jvpf.jp/

About The Nippon Foundation

A Public Interest Incorporated Foundation founded in 1962, financed by the proceeds of the Boat Race, with the purpose of supporting public interest activities within Japan and overseas. The main 3 fields that they support are activities of social welfare, education, and culture, activities concerning seas and ships, and overseas humanitarian activities as well as personnel training. They are also focusing on fostering the NPO sector in Japan, brewing the “donating” culture, propelling SCR activities of corporations, etc.

<URL> www.nippon-foundation.or.jp/

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