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| Established | October 6, 2005 |
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<Background and Purpose of Establishment>

The SBI Group, the founding body of the SBI Children's Hope Foundation, has proactively contributed to society by focusing on child welfare, a field that grapples with serious issues, based on the belief that Japan's greatest resource is its people.

The SBI Children's Hope Foundation was established with the desire to improve the welfare of children placed in harsh environments due to abuse or neglect, and to nurture all children so that they can hold on to dreams and hopes for their future. Our focus is not only on improving and enhancing children's facilities but also on nurturing children, aiming to help those in difficult situations to pursue their potential and become independent in the future.

<Activities of the SBI Children's Hope Foundation>

The SBI Children's Hope Foundation primarily engages in the following four activities:

Donations to Facilities

We make donations to improve and enhance the environments of children's nursing homes, especially for abused children.

In recent years, we have offered financial assistance for furniture and equipment in the construction of small local children's homes (annex-type small group care facilities).

Support for Independence

We provide support to help children become self-reliant after leaving institutions. This includes grants to homes and shelters that provide support for children's independence. Since fiscal 2014, we have also provided grants for English learning materials to improve the English conversation skills of children residing in nursing homes.

Staff Training

We provide staff training to help them better engage with children at nursing homes on a daily basis. The curriculum is designed to help participants acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for therapeutic parenting of abused children. It spans six days and includes additional training for graduates.

Anti-abuse Awareness Activities

We host the Childcare Support Forum nationwide in collaboration with the Japan Medical Association and prefectural medical associations. We also support the Orange Ribbon Campaign and other organizations involved in raising awareness about child abuse. Since fiscal 2021, we have also participated in providing a radio program with FM Osaka aimed at eliminating child abuse.

What We Can Do for Children

Japan has long faced the challenge of a declining birthrate and a shrinking population, which has been pointed out as the biggest obstacle to the growth of society. The trend is continuing, spurring various efforts to solve the problem.

While improving the social systems for prospective parents is of course crucial, we believe that it is even more important to ensure that the children who have already come into this world are well nurtured. Even though parents have the primary responsibility for raising their children, it is an undeniable fact that there are parents who abuse their children due to poverty, mental health issues, or other reasons. It is heart-wrenching when we think of the pain of children who are physically and emotionally abused by their parents, the ones who should be loving them the most. Isn't it our societal responsibility to support such abused children, ensuring that they are protected, have various opportunities, and can live with hope?

The SBI Children's Hope Foundation was established in October 2005, prompted by the social contribution activities of its parent organization, the SBI Group, with the aim of improving the welfare of children who are placed in difficult environments due to abuse and other challenges.

Since its establishment, the Foundation's activities have been guided by four main pillars: (1) donating to child welfare facilities, (2) providing training for children's home staff, (3) assisting children in achieving independence after leaving facilities, and (4) providing grants to welfare organizations involved in child abuse prevention activities. In particular, as part of our efforts to support independence, we focus on helping children acquire advantages that enable them to live independently in society, such as mastering English. We provide support for children working on Kumon English and organize English camps, which have reported benefits, such as increases in self-esteem, motivation to learn, and academic achievement.

Looking ahead, we will accurately grasp changes in the times, partner with the government, experts, and local communities, and offer proactive support to prevent abuse and assist children who have been mistreated, ultimately empowering them to achieve a life filled with dreams and aspirations.

Yoshihisa Tabuchi, former Chairman, often spoke of the phrase "Illuminating a corner," signifying that by each person giving their best in their respective roles, the entire society is brightened. Keeping this phrase close to our hearts, we will continue to contribute to the resolution of various child welfare issues and the promotion of public welfare.

January 2024

The SBI Children's Hope Foundation
Kumiko Seko, Chairman

History of the SBI Children's Hope Foundation

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| October 2005 | Establishment of the Foundation |
| November 2005 | Establishment of Advisory Committee to ensure appropriate and transparent operations, set up as a third-party advisory body to oversee the Foundation's management and activities |
| October 2006 | Start of training for children's home staff |
| *From FY2006 | Start of full-scale support for self-reliance support homes, shelter facilities, and organizations conducting child abuse prevention and awareness-raising activities |
| *From FY2007 | Start of support for organizations of those concerned |
| March 2010 | Transition to a public interest incorporated foundation |
| May 2011 | Start of SBI Block Specific Training, a regional training program for caregivers who have completed the Foundation's training program |
| June 2011 | Start of Childcare Support Forum co-hosted with the Japan Medical Association |
| April 2014 | Start of the SBI English Conversation Education Support Program for children in nursing homes |
| October 2015 | 10th anniversary of the Foundation's establishment |
| September 2017 | Commissioned by the Child and Family Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare to conduct the Survey and Research Project on the Implementation of Supervisor Training for Child Welfare Officers in 2017 |
| July 2018 | Commissioned to provide mandatory training for supervisors of child welfare officers at the National Child Guidance Center |
| November 2017 | Received a letter of appreciation for outstanding services in child welfare from the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare at the 2017 National Social Welfare Convention |
| July 2020 | Awarded a Medal with Dark Blue Ribbon by the Decoration Bureau of the Cabinet Office |