



PRESS RELEASE

Announcing SVP International Partnership with the National Venture Capital Association

March 4, 2003 [Seattle, WA] – The philanthropy network, Social Venture Partners International (SVPI) and trade association, National Venture Capital Association (NVCA) are proud to announce a national partnership agreement to promote philanthropy and volunteerism.

In recent years, venture philanthropy has received great interest from the philanthropic community, non-profit sector, and with community-oriented business leaders. Venture philanthropy applies venture capital strategies, skills, and resources to charitable giving. It focuses on leadership, bold ideas, collaboration between business and non-profit leaders and long-term investment. Recently, the NVCA Board of Directors made a commitment to foster the awareness of venture philanthropy among the venture capital community and the general public.

SVPI and NVCA will collaborate in 20 or more cities in the United States. SVPI will provide a philanthropic outlet for NVCA members including volunteer opportunities and educational programs. SVP Affiliates regularly sponsor educational seminars and workshops on a number of societal and philanthropy-related topics and will give NVCA members access to education programs. NVCA will include mention of SVP in regular publications and conference gatherings to promote philanthropy and volunteerism to NVCA members.

About the National Venture Capital Association (NVCA)

NVCA is the trade association that represents the venture capital industry. It is a member-based organization. Its membership consists of venture capital firms and organizations who manage pools of risk equity capital designated to be invested in young, emerging companies. Currently, the NVCA represents 460 member firms, representing the majority of venture capital invested in US based companies.

NVCA's mission is to foster the understanding of the importance of venture capital to the vitality of the US and global economies; to stimulate the flow of equity capital to emerging growth companies by representing the public policy interests of the venture capital and private equity communities at all levels of government; to maintain high professional industry standards; facilitate networking opportunities; and to provide research data and professional development for its members. Visit their website at <http://www.nvca.org>

The American Entrepreneurs for Economic Growth (AEEG), is the affiliate organization of the National Venture Capital Association (NVCA). The AEEG is the largest nationwide network of emerging growth companies that focuses on public policy issues impacting rapidly growing enterprises. AEEG represents over 12,000 CEO's of emerging growth companies. Visit their website at <http://www.aeeg.org>

Contact: Mark Heesen, President, Phone: 703.524.2549, mheesen@nvca.org

About Social Venture Partners International (SVPI)

Unlike most private foundations that are funded by a single person or family, the SVP network is comprised of 23 local giving organizations. There are presently more than 1200 individuals committing their time, professional expertise and resources to nonprofit organizations. SVP Partners hope to achieve a greater impact in their local community together than they could individually. SVP has volunteered thousands of hours and invested \$8.5 M in 107 nonprofit organizations in North America.

In addition to working with nonprofits, SVP provides seminars, workshops, and resources to its Partners to help them further develop their personal giving and community engagement objectives. This "curriculum" of Partner Education provides in-depth information about philanthropic planning, community involvement, social entrepreneurship, and the social and environmental challenges facing local communities. For more information about SVP International and its affiliates, programs and services, visit: <http://www.svpinternational.org>

Contact: Tom Donlea, Director, Phone: 206.728.7872, tom@svpintl.org