

Social Venture Partners Gave \$3.4 Million in Grants and More than 14,000 Hours in Volunteer Service to 132 Nonprofit Organizations in 2008

Social Venture Partners International (SVPI) announced its latest numbers associated with organizational growth, grant making and volunteer service. Based on 2008 affiliate network data and capacity building outcomes, the network contributed \$3.4 million to 132 nonprofits in 2008. SVP partners also contributed thousands of hours of volunteer service to nonprofits in cities throughout North America and Japan.

A key finding from the report on capacity building is that nonprofit organizations funded by SVP gave an overall rating of 4.8 out of 5.0 when asked to rate the value of partner time and talent in helping an organization build its capacity. In 2008, SVP partners contributed more than 14,000 hours of volunteer service to nonprofit organizations.

Charlotte Social Venture Partners (SVPC) is one of 24 chapters in the SVP network. SVPC Partners currently make grants and provide business expertise to nonprofit organizations in the Charlotte community in the areas of education, housing and healthcare.

"SVP partners were more engaged in 2008 than any year to date," says Susan Daniel, Executive Director of Social Venture Partners Charlotte. "Despite the economic downturn, people are eager to get involved in their communities and give more than a financial contribution to a cause. The data shows new people are joining SVP because they see its model as a proven and effective way to make a difference."

Fundamental to the SVP model is engagement in which members give of their time, professional experience and creativity to work in partnership with nonprofits and local leaders to meet community needs. Therefore, cash grants are only a portion of the value that grant recipients gain through their relationship with SVP. Partners also volunteer professional skills and strategic counsel to help nonprofits build capacity and make vital connections within the community. This level of engagement translates to a high level of satisfaction among donors/volunteers throughout the SVP network which is comprised of 24 affiliates in the United States, Canada and Tokyo.

"I think SVPC is a place where people can contribute a little money along with their time and skills in a meaningful way to help solve problems in the Charlotte community," said Mike Elliott, SVPC Board Chair. "It is extremely rewarding. Whatever you contribute, you will get back many times over."

The total number of grants awarded by an SVP affiliate in 2008 ranged from \$25,000 to \$855,500, with a median of \$115,000. Since its inception in 1997, the SVP network has made \$32.2 million in grant investments to 335 nonprofit organizations.

About Social Venture Partners Charlotte

Social Venture Partners Charlotte, established in 2005, combines financial contributions and professional skills with a passion for philanthropy to effect positive long-term social change in Charlotte. Using the venture capital approach, our Partners invest time, expertise and money to develop and support social initiatives or promising

nonprofit organizations that will have a measurable, sustainable and positive impact in the community. To learn more about Social Venture Partners Charlotte, please visit www.svpcharlotte.org.

About Social Venture Partners International

Social Venture Partners International (SVPI) is the membership association for Social Venture Partners – an international network comprised of 2,000 accomplished individuals who combine their professional skills and financial contributions with a passion for philanthropy. Partners belong to local SVP affiliates and SVPI supports each affiliate by providing technology, professional development, an annual conference and peer networking opportunities designed to share knowledge and promote best practices throughout the network. The Social Venture Partners network currently has 24 affiliates located throughout the United States, Canada and Tokyo. To learn about starting an SVP affiliate in your city or for more information on Social Venture Partners, please visit www.spvi.org.