



Social Venture Partners Cincinnati Names Civic Garden Center First Social Investment Partner

\$25,000 and a team of experts will help them launch new “green” initiative

June 11, 2008—CINCINNATI—Social Venture Partners Cincinnati today named the Civic Garden Center its first social investment partner awarding the organization \$25,000 along with a team of experts to assist them in building and operationalizing a Green Learning Station. To be built on the nearby site of an old gas station, the Station will provide education and inspiration to builders, developers, home owners and officials to incorporate green technology into their residences, businesses and public spaces. The Station also will be used as a children’s learning center.

Glenn Bitzenhofer, chair of the SVP Investment Committee, said the Civic Garden Center was chosen because its needs were the best match currently for SVP Cincinnati’s model of engaged giving.

“The inventory of available partners and their skills was a critical factor in our decision,” said Bitzenhofer. “Our \$25,000 investment comes with a goal of building the capacity of the organization, based on partners who give their time and skills to make a true impact on the community.

SVP Cincinnati offers expertise in several categories: business and strategic planning, project management, marketing, etc.

“We will work with the Civic Garden Center to put together a team that best meets their needs,” said Bitzenhofer.

The engagement between Civic Garden Center and SVP Cincinnati is expected to last 3-5 years.

“This is a very timely project and one that we felt, ultimately, had the best chance of making an immediate impact on our community and the environment,” said Bitzenhofer. “While the Civic Garden Center is an established organization, they are moving in an innovative new direction, which will significantly impact the environment. This bold step is an exciting risk.”

ABOUT SOCIAL VENTURE PARTNERS CINCINNATI

Using a “hands on” approach, SVP combines the power of business with the passion of philanthropy. People who join SVP are called partners. Partners bring their collective expertise, financial resources, professional skills, life experience and creativity to work in partnership with area nonprofits and their leaders. By pooling resources, partners produce synergistic results while learning to be better philanthropists.

SVP welcomes new partners to join at any time. Prospective partners are invited to attend casual monthly informational meetings called “SVP Lowdowns” to learn more about SVP’s model of philanthropy. A calendar of events is located on SVP’s website at www.svpcincinnati.org.

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SVP Cincinnati is one of 26 cities affiliated with SVP International, based in Seattle. SVP's overarching goals are to find solutions to some of society's most intractable problems and to create a better community and world. SVP Cincinnati operates as a program of InterAct for Change and covers a 20-county area in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. For further information, contact SVP Coordinator Lisa Davis-Roberts at (513) 458-6715 or lisa@svpcincinnati.org.