

ANKIYA

Motivation to establish NPO

On July 3, 2001, we began to provide home care services and outing support services, which were not covered with the nursing care service system, by using a vehicle which enabled a person to get on and off the car on wheelchair or a vehicle with movable seat in a sideways direction that enabled a person to get into or out of the car easily, so that persons with limited mobility would be able to enjoy various types of outings safely and freely. We established a nonprofit organization on February 21, 2002, much earlier than we had originally planned partly through recommendation of the care manager and the Bureau of Transport to obtain the judicial personality status.

The “welfare transportation service with fee-for-service” provided by our organization was legally endorsed as a new registration system under the Revised Road Transportation Law that took effect on October 1, 2006. The Law is now under review after the lapse of two years.

We offer home care services and outing support services not included in the Nursing Care Insurance Law and the Independence Support Law for Persons with Disability, thus filling the gaps between actual needs and laws. That is, we aim for creating situations in which aged and people with disabilities will be able to live comfortably in a familiar community where they have been living.

Objectives

“To create a community where people support one another, treasure warm friendship, and meet many smiles;” this is our desire. That is, people support one another with respect for human life and a sense of companionship so that people with disabilities and aged people are assured of a comfortable living and social participation.

Introduction of our services

1. Outing support service

We support various types of carefree outings such as shopping, flower viewing, film watching, hospital visit, graveyard visit, and going to Tokyo or Nagoya, etc., by using four welfare vehicles equipped with lift or movable seat in a sideway direction that enable people with disabilities get on and off easily.

The total number of drivers trained for welfare transportation service in cooperation with other NPOs: 264 drivers in FY2008

The total number of users of our outing support service: 24,464 persons (including 3,157 wheel-chaired persons) (Refer to the table in the next page.)



2. Care support service

The total number of support services excluded from the nursing care insurance such as cleaning inside and outside the house, support services in the hospital, and shopping: 147 times in FY2008

3. Introduction and inspection of welfare and assistive devices

Introduction of welfare/assistive devices and systems that enable people with disabilities or aged people to live more comfortably, and wheelchair maintenance services such as inspection and cleaning for people with disabilities and residents of nursing care facilities: 25 wheelchairs on December 6, 2008

4. Creation of meetings and exchanges

Sale of chemical-free vegetables or vegetables grown with less chemicals on every Saturday; emergency call service for children; allowing tourists and children to use our office, one of the “tourism information offices of Takayama-shi, as a resting place; and sale of used books at a market held on the eighth day in collaboration with the shopping street, i.e. Kokubun-ji Street of Takayama-shi (in every month)



Saturday morning market



Saturday morning market rest space

5. Exchanges of people with disabilities through playing sports

We provide support to people with various types of disabilities to enjoy ski-boarding using chair-ski and outrigger ski.

Participants in February 2008: 8 wheel-chaired persons, 5 persons with intellectual disability, 4 persons with physical disability, and one person each with visual disability, hearing impairment, internal disability and mental disability

The number of supporters (volunteers): 90 persons for two days



chair ski



outrigger ski

On March 10, 2008, Takayama City Mayor has sanctioned our Organization, both the facility section equipped with “four welfare vehicles” and the service section for “outing and nursing care support services for persons with disabilities, etc.” according to the “Resident-friendly Town Planning Ordinance of Takayama-shi.”

Message from users

The transportation service had not been clearly defined by the law. With increasing needs, the law was revised to expand the scope of usable vehicles, thereby allowing passenger cars to be used, without being limited to welfare vehicles. As a result, we provide bed-to-bed or door-to-door outing support service with encouragement from users saying, “We can enjoy our expanded mobility thanks to ANKIYA.”

The Japan Foundation has a clear understanding of needs for improving welfare vehicles. Owing to the Foundation that has offered its subsidy to our organization, we were able to buy three passenger cars. We are indeed indebted to the Foundation for our activities.

Our challenge for the future and what we have done

We receive no subsidies from the state, prefecture and city. That is, we operate our transportation service with fees from our service, annual membership dues, and donations from support members. As a result, we are compelled to cut down the personnel costs paid to our driving staff and office staff to a minimum level because of considerable expenses for car inspections, changing tires, voluntary insurance, and fuel.

The reason why the number of service users has been on the increase although we do not advertise our activities and why our Organization has been accredited by the Takayama city government for its compliance to universal design both in hard

components and in soft components is that we provide caring and suitable driving service and care support service that meet each user's need.

The “Declaration on United Action” by the Gifu Prefectural Government states that “a community shall be created in which each and every resident is able to carry out his/her basic activities, that is, to live, work, rest, enjoy recreation and move.” We would like to contribute to the realization of this goal and also achieve our own goals through our activities.

The number of users of our outing support service since the establishment of ANKIYA

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total number of users	2,646	5,821	12,910	14,912	19,786	20,438	24,711	24,464
Including Wheel-chaired persons	616	1,740	2,679	2,980	2,655	3,153	3,342	3,157

Origin of “ANKIYA”

The term, anki, derives from the Hida dialect meaning “time or space a person is able to spend or share without anxiety.” We named our organization with hopes that persons who have difficulties in moving around alone be able to use our services with a feeling of “anki,” i.e. comfort and safety.

The number of users of outing support service

