

October 15, 2014

Astellas donates six wheelchair vans through the Flying Star Fund, an employee-led social contribution fund

Tokyo, October 15, 2014 – Astellas Pharma Inc. Astellas Pharma Inc. (TSE: 4503; Headquarters: Tokyo; President & CEO: Yoshihiko Hatanaka) has announced that the "Flying Star Fund," a social contribution fund run by its employees, has decided to donate six wheelchair vans to six welfare facilities in Japan through the Astellas' employee matching gift program. Since 1997, Astellas has donated several wheelchair vans every year through this program as a social contribution activity. A total of 183 wheelchair vans, including the six to be donated this year, have been donated to welfare institutions throughout Japan.

The six wheelchair vans will be donated to the following institutions:

- Kamata Support Center for Disabled People "Kirara" of Social Welfare Corporation Yokokai in Fukushima-shi, Fukushima Prefecture
- Kiria of Nozomi-kai NPO in Nishi Yashiro-gun, Yamanashi Prefecture
- Social Welfare Corporation Ajisai-no-ie, Inabe-shi, Mie Prefecture
- Sakuranbo No.3 of Social Welfare Corporation Matsumi Fukushima in Tomigusuku-shi, Okinawa Prefecture
- Net One Y.K. in Matsumoto-shi, Nagano Prefecture
- Kota Sakura Kobo of Social Welfare Corporation Sakura-en in Joetsu-shi, Niigata Prefecture



Photo 1. DAIHATSU Atrai Sloper, a 4-wheel-drive wheelchair microvan to be donated

Of the vehicles to be donated this time, two are minivans equipped with a folding wheelchair ramp and an electric winch to pull a wheelchair passenger into the vehicle (Photo 1), and four vans that allow to pull two wheelchair passengers at a time using a similar function. Facilities to be donated with these vehicles have been selected from those that help physically disabled people lead more independent lives and work. The vehicles will transport wheelchair users between home and the facility or during excursions.

In addition to wheelchair vans, the Flying Star Fund donated a total of two million yen to NPO Japan Good Toy Committee, NPO Japan CliniClowns Association, NPO Japan Hospital Clowns Association, and Shine On! Kids as in previous years. The donated funds will be used to carry out "hospital toy caravans" (toy consultants visit hospitals with toys to support hospitalized children and their parents) and hospital clown events in order to bring smiles to sick children (Photo 2).



Photo 2. Toys used in "hospital toy caravans" by NPO Japan Good Toy Committee

About the Flying Star Fund

The Flying Star Fund was launched in 1996 as a small but sustainable social contribution activity by Astellas' employees to create a fund that allows donors to contribute to the health and well being of the people in Japan. At present, about 5,500 employees of Astellas Group in Japan have joined the program voluntarily to donate 100 yen every month from their wages. Astellas matches the amount of money donated by employees to donate wheelchair vans and monetary gifts once a year. The name "Flying Star" comes from the corporate symbol of Astellas, a beautiful shining star moving toward the future.

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