

For Immediate Release

April 7, 2023

Sodateage Net and the Citi Foundation

“Ato-oshi Online” Career Counseling from the Comfort of Your Home

Information session for employment support groups

Tokyo – Sodateage Net, a Certified Specified Nonprofit Organization (NPO) that supports youth employment, and the Citi Foundation will hold an information session on Ato-oshi Online, an online employability support program, for youth support groups, local governments, educational institutions, and other supporters.

Information session for youth support groups

Date and time: April 28, 2023, 20:00 – 21:00

Mode: Online

How to sign up: Access this URL (<https://atooshi0428.peatix.com>) and register yourself by April 28, 12:00 p.m. (Noon), and you will receive details on how to attend the session.

*If you wish to use Ato-oshi Online, feel free to sign up for counseling or a seminar on a trial basis through Ato-oshi Online's website or official LINE account.

Ato-oshi Online was launched in November 2020, and as of the end of February it had provided employment support to more than 300 young people in 25 prefectures, including Tokyo. In 2023, Ato-oshi Online will continue to provide online employability support that meets the needs of youth and raise the profile of its program with local governments and educational institutions with the aim of extending its reach throughout Japan.

Ato-oshi Online provides free support to people aged 15 to 29, including students, the unemployed, and those in unstable employment, to help them secure employment or change jobs. The program was started in the autumn of 2020, a time when the impact of COVID-19 on society was increasing. Program features include the ability to (1) sign up online at any time, (2) participate in online seminars, (3) attend seminars on diverse working styles, including running a small business, and (4) rent a PC and Wi-Fi router. The program has been well received by young people who were reluctant to participate in traditional in-person employment support services. More and more youth support groups, local governments and educational institutions are introducing young people to Ato-oshi Online, and it is gradually gaining recognition as a social support system for youth.

For various reasons, many young people who have difficulty finding employment also have difficulty accessing free or fee-charging support services from administrative organizations, NPOs and other support groups. Ato-oshi Online was designed to attract as many young

people as possible by using a simple signup procedure and offering a variety of workshops. The program is easily accessible to youth who have not sought advice from traditional support centers, either because they are not comfortable with face-to-face communication, live in areas where there are no support centers nearby, or are in poor health and hesitant to make plans for going out. The program is promoted as “employment advice that can be received from the comfort of your home” and has attracted interest from not only young people but also youth support groups.

Program Outline

Name: “Ato-oshi Online” Career Counseling from the Comfort of Your Home

Organizer: Certified Specified Nonprofit Organization Sodateage Net

Website: <https://www.atooshi.online/>

Official LINE account: <https://lin.ee/oCMx1kl>

Phone: 042-527-6051 (10:00 - 17:00 Monday to Friday, except on national holidays)

Content:

Online employment support using video calls

Personalized counseling to cater to individual concerns

Job search (interview) skills and document preparation support

Seminars on stress management and self-management

Workshops in introductory programming, video editing and designing

About Sodateage Net:

Sodateage Net is a certified specified nonprofit organization that engages in a wide range of activities designed to connect young people to society with the aim of creating a society in which all youth feel a sense of belonging and have the opportunity to find work and continue to work. We regard youth support as a social investment and we provide a basic vocational training program for unemployed youth called “Job Tre” as well as educational support programs for parents, schools and communities. In addition to engaging young people, we aim to foster support for youth throughout society by promoting the involvement of local communities, governments and businesses in a range of activities. Visit <http://www.sodateage.net> for more information.

About Citi:

Citi is a preeminent banking partner for institutions with cross-border needs, a global leader in wealth management and a valued personal bank in its home market of the United States. Citi does business in nearly 160 countries and jurisdictions, providing corporations, governments, investors, institutions and individuals with a broad range of financial products and services

Additional information may be found at www.citigroup.com | Twitter: [@Citi](https://twitter.com/Citi) |

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/citi | YouTube: www.youtube.com/citi | Facebook: www.facebook.com/citi

About Citi Foundation:

The Citi Foundation works to promote economic progress and improve the lives of people in low-income communities around the world. We invest in efforts that increase financial inclusion, catalyze job opportunities for youth, and reimagine approaches to building economically vibrant communities. The Citi Foundation's "More than Philanthropy" approach deploys the enormous expertise of Citi and its people to fulfill our mission and drive thought leadership and innovation. For more information, visit www.citifoundation.com.

Media Contacts:

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