



PierceGray

Position Profile

**Social Venture
Partners International**

Chief Executive Officer

Prepared by PierceGray, Inc.

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Overview

Social Venture Partners (SVP) is a preeminent global network of engaged philanthropists and social innovators working to make the world a better place. Founded in 1997 in Seattle, SVP now includes 39 SVP affiliates in 8 countries, with a combined network of more than 3,500 engaged donors (called “Partners”). At its core, SVP fosters collaborative solutions to critical social challenges. By pooling time, talent, and resources, SVP Partners work directly with nonprofits and other mission-driven organizations to extend their reach and impact.

SVP is seeking a new CEO to lead the next phase of growth and innovation in the organization. The new CEO will be responsible for elevating the health, connectivity, and impact of the SVP network while broadening SVP’s influence in the wider field of philanthropy. Among other qualities, the ideal candidate will possess: (1) a passion for philanthropy and mission-driven organizations that motivates and energizes others; (2) a servant leadership ethic and distinctive relationship building skills, consistent with supporting the success of local SVP affiliates and fostering an engaged global network; and, (3) a strong track record of strategic leadership, i.e., co-creating and translating vision into capabilities and programs that lift an organization’s capacity, influence, and results. The CEO position is based in the Seattle, Washington and reports to the Board of Directors.

The Organization

At a Glance

Social Venture Partners builds powerful relationships among people and organizations that are out to make the world a better place. The organization includes 39 SVP communities in 8 countries, with a combined network of more than 3,500 engaged donors (called “Partners”). By cultivating this global network of effective philanthropists and social innovators, SVP is able to fund and strengthen nonprofits and other mission driven organizations, and invest in collaborative solutions to critical social challenges.

Social Venture Partners International – also known as the SVP Network Office – assists each SVP affiliate to achieve deeper impact in its local community, while also propelling the entire network to broader impact worldwide. The Network Office provides innovative tools, extensive resources, outcomes data, and opportunities for engagement and learning with the goal of unleashing the potential of stakeholders to solve big problems in their communities.



SVP affiliates are independent organizations that share the SVP mission and brand. As members of the network, they have access to a wide range of programs and services; learn from the experience and best practices of other affiliates; and increase their ability to have a positive social impact in their home communities.

Future

SVP is at the forefront of a significant change in the way we address the most pressing problems in our communities. Nonprofits are embracing the challenge to grow, thrive and measure their impact. More and more businesses are seeking both financial and social returns for their investors. With government resources strained at every level, there is an urgent need for social entrepreneurs to develop innovative solutions and create new forms of collaboration among

government, business, and nonprofits in order to solve the problems in our communities.

Responding to this rapidly changing environment, SVP is committed to leading a global movement that focuses resources on the people and organizations most likely to find solutions to our shared problems. To execute this vision, the SVP Network Office has three core strategies:

1. Strengthen the health of SVP affiliates, helping them achieve maximum impact in their communities. This is the traditional role of the SVP Network Office and remains its highest priority.
 2. Connect the network to accelerate the exchange of best practices and great ideas, thereby magnifying impact in our communities.
 3. Invent and execute a new role for SVP as an actor on the international stage, using SVP's growing influence on people, organizations, and policy to achieve impact on a broad scale.
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The Position

Background

After 10 years leading SVP through tremendous growth and change, Ruth Jones has decided to step down as CEO of the SVP Network Office to return to her home country of Australia to be closer to family. SVP doubled in size and impact during Ms. Jones' tenure, and SVP's Board of Directors feels fortunate to have benefitted from her leadership, commitment, grace, and professionalism.

Position Summary

The CEO has overarching responsibility for the SVP Network Office and for accelerating and amplifying the SVP movement worldwide. Consistent with goals set by the Board of Directors, the CEO directs and manages the financial, human, programmatic, service, and brand assets and capabilities of the Network Office in order to optimize the potential of affiliates, individually and collectively. The CEO also represents the vision and interests of SVP to external audiences, including the public at large, media, government entities, foundations, corporations, and other nonprofit organizations.

The CEO role is based at the SVP Network Office in Seattle, WA.

Opportunity

The potential for SVP to be a force for positive change in the world has never been greater. The CEO is in charge of realizing this potential and will bring vision, energy and optimism to catalyze SVP's large and growing network to new levels of social impact.

Key Responsibilities

- *Strategic Planning.* Work with the Board of Directors to create and maintain contemporary strategic plans that measurably scale SVP's impact. Own delivery of the plans to achieve transformational results towards all goals.
 - *Affiliate Support.* Provide leadership that improves impact of the SVP network including supporting growth in capacity of SVP affiliates and adding new and sustainable affiliates per the strategic plan. Diagnose each affiliate's maturity stage and provide appropriate development tools, training, and coaching. Take primary responsibility for coaching founders of new affiliates.
 - *Fundraising.* Grow and sustain revenues consistent with the strategic plan, which currently calls for growth from \$1.5 million in 2016 to \$3.0 million in 2020. Hire new Chief Development Officer and work directly with CDO and Board to scale fundraising capacity. Engage directly on major donor opportunities.
 - *External Relations.* Measurably increase the public stature and brand of SVP in ways that help the network to increase impact. Elevate SVP's recognition and influence in the broader philanthropic community. Represent SVP at executive level with all external constituencies.
 - *People Development.* Develop and lead SVP's Network Office team with the passion, acumen, and emotional intelligence necessary to attract and retain top talent. Foster an open and collaborative culture. Align staff roles and responsibilities to strategic plan.
 - *Governance.* Cultivate an influential and highly engaged Board of Directors. Ensure all Directors are able to exercise their full governance and service potential on behalf of the organization by providing regular communication and strategic updates, as well as various forms of opportunity for engagement.
 - *Financial Management.* Oversee financial management, budgeting, and reporting. Ensure appropriate infrastructure of controls and procedures to provide fiscal transparency and accountability.
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The Candidate

Key Attributes

- A passion for the SVP model, supported by a history of active involvement in nonprofits or mission-driven organizations
- A strong servant leadership ethic, consistent with supporting and enabling the success of others: SVP affiliates, Board, staff
- Distinctive relationship building skills; able to maintain effective connectivity with a high volume of remote stakeholders
- A track record of strategic or transformational leadership, i.e., co-creating and translating a vision into capabilities and programs that lift an organization's capacity, influence, and results
- A management approach that relies upon building consensus and leading through influence, as opposed to hierarchical authority
- Prior success driving and sustaining a step change in an organization's fundraising performance; experience raising capital at the \$1+ million level annually
- Prior success elevating the public stature and brand of an organization on a broad scale; skilled at leveraging a mix of tools (thought leadership, strategic marketing, etc.) in these efforts
- Excellent public speaking and communication skills; possesses the credibility, experience, and gravitas to represent SVP on the international stage
- A track record of building cohesive, high performance teams; recognized for attracting top talent at the staff and Board levels
- Accustomed to prioritizing, executing, and achieving results in lean environments; recognized as entrepreneurial by nature; always ready engage and lend a hand when needed
- Cultural competence; able to build bridges across cultural boundaries through personal grace and respect; international work experience and multilingual capabilities helpful
- Multi-sector competence; at ease working across entities and stakeholders in the nonprofit, business, and government sectors
- A naturally open disposition that embraces input and ideas from others; a genuine listener

Requirements

- Experience managing people and budgets on a scale comparable to the SVP Network Office (10+ direct staff, \$1-2 million budget)
 - Comprehensive management skills, including: strategic planning, financial management, human relations, and customer service
 - Experience working effectively with an engaged Board of Directors
 - Written and verbal proficiency in English
 - Self-supportive with office technologies, e.g., MS Office, Salesforce
 - Bachelor's degree or equivalent
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Requirements (continued)

- Able to relocate to Seattle, WA
- Able to travel (20%+) within and outside of the USA

Compensation

SVP expects total compensation (salary + target bonus) for the CEO role to be in the low to middle \$100,000s, depending on candidate qualifications and experience. Additional benefits include health, savings, and vacation plans.

*Social Venture Partners
Employment Policy*

As an equal opportunity employer, Social Venture Partners embraces diversity and does not discriminate in employment on the basis of age, race, creed, gender, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation.

Application Information

Process

If you would like to apply for this CEO position, please email a cover letter and resume to:

Nicole Gilbertson
Associate | PierceGray, Inc.
ngilbertson@piercegray.com
847.563.9044

The cover letter should be a succinct statement of interest and qualifications for the role and should not exceed two pages.

PierceGray will contact applicants to confirm our receipt of cover letter and resume submissions.

The SVP Search Committee will review cover letter and resume submissions and shortlist applicants for follow up discussions.

Interested parties are encouraged to apply by February 15 as SVP's Search Committee will begin meeting leading candidates in March.

SVP expects the CEO search process to last for several months, with the timeline ultimately being guided by the Search Committee's confidence that they have found the right candidate.