The Tokyo One-Stop Business Establishment Center is a one-stop consultation service center that helps carry out the necessary procedures for business establishment. New Entrepreneur @ provides you with various information, including the voices of the Center's users, details of the services offered, and event information.

New

Entrepreneur



### er Relay Interview .....

## Opened a sign language café four years ago. Aimed to incorporate his business in opening a second café

I opened a soup café in Hongo, Tokyo as a sole proprietorship four years ago. Although our staffs include people from both the deaf and hearing communities, the official language at the shop is sign language, which is why it is referred to as a sign language café. In opening a second outlet, I aimed to incorporate my business because of the need to enhance its social credibility in order to procure funds.

Partly because I wanted to learn how society operates, I decided to attempt to go through the procedures for obtaining corporate status by myself. I immediately began doing research online, but I was only taken to sites of business establishment agencies and the like and did not get an understanding of the essentials at all. So I visited the ward office for advice and there found a brochure for the Tokyo One-Stop Business Establishment Center.

#### Having a deaf visitor seemed to bewilder the Center personnel at first, but once my requests were understood, they provided consultation in a friendly manner

Because I had no idea about where to start, the Center's brochure, which clearly explains the necessary procedures, was very helpful. As it seemed that I was the first deaf visitor to the Center, at first we communicated awkwardly by writing. But once my requests were understood,



the consultation session went very smoothly. The consultant dealt with me in a very friendly and flexible manner, saying, "This and this are necessary" and "For this, you should consult with experts," etc. Many of my acquaintances



#### Mr. Masahiro Yanagi

Deaf owner of sign language café "Sign with Me." After working as a graphic designer, engaging in R&D of vehicles, and providing job assistance business for people with disabilities, he opened a sign language café whose main staff members are deaf persons.

told me "It's such a hassle to establish a corporation by yourself," but it wasn't as bad as I expected.

#### Hoping to undertake second and third businesses aiming at further job creation and development of job categories

In this way, I established a general incorporated association, *Arigato no Tane*. Persons with disabilities often say "Thank you," but are rarely thanked themselves. For this reason, I wanted to create an environment where someone is saying "Thank you" to them. Furthermore, I think that it is very meaningful for me as a deaf person to do it.

I would like to undertake second and third businesses aiming at further the creation of employment opportunities and development of business categories.

## Wy one key tip

Most services for job assistance and business establishment support are designed for members of the social majority. Under such circumstances, the Center provides services that are also friendly to members of minority groups, so it is worth using it. I hope a lot of people will use it!

### TOSBEC Information Session (Jan) is now accepting your registration. Free of charge!

Dates: Jan. 30(Mon.) for foreigners in English Jan. 17 (Tue.), 20 (Fri.), 24 (Tue.) Session in Japanese Jan. 27 (Fri.) Hands-on learning workshop Special Exchange Meeting Program:
Special lecture/Exchange meeting (14:00–14:45)
\* Different topics, including "Fundraising you need to know" will be selected for each session. Consultation at the booth of your choice (14:45–15:30)
To register or for more details, please access the link: http://www.tosbec.com/#form

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