

Report 3.

Research on Escorted Support for Inclusive Society



Shinji Tani
(College of Letters, Professor)

Thank you for your introduction. My name is Tani. As a team leader, I'm in charge of escort support. Escort support is like an escorter who is escorting a runner in a long marathon. That's what we want to achieve. The goal of the marathon is decided by the clients. They have to decide on their own as to where they go. It's up to them whether to take a break or whether or not they continue to run. What we want to do is accompany them so that we can provide support in the marathon. Today, I'm going to talk about the details of the activities of research. There are 3 main categories in our group. The first one is direct support. This includes the development of the support programs. The second support is the study of the support for caregivers. The third is about the methodology of the dissemination of information, or the application of information that we acquire. In the escort support group, there are three sub-projects. I'm going to explain all three of them.

First is the direct support group. This group includes the researchers focus on the male caregivers. They are making programs to support male caregivers. There are also researchers who are interested in the development of a program for children with autism and the issues focusing on a foster home also attends to this group. Some researchers deal with the development of programs to support male caregivers, others develop diagnostic methods for the autism problem, and there are also researchers to provide support for the study of foreign citizens. The second one is the peer outreach support program for people who have problems with social struggles. The third group is dealing with information dissemination. What this group does is to provide information so that our clients can develop their careers in society. It also provides information to find ways to

have collaboration so that we can provide jobs for disabled people. Those three groups are under the group of the escort support group. People with disabilities, male caregivers, and children living in foster homes—those are our clients. For those people we develop programs and we also conduct studies to support those caregivers, then we share that information and disseminate information. That's what we do.

Many researchers have been involved in those programs. They are mainly explorative studies. It's about finding new ideas or developing new programs. That's the main focus of our team. What I want to do as a project leader is that I want to acquire high-quality evidence. I want to create a project that can produce high-quality evidence. Of course, a randomized controlled study is one thing we want to do, but not only that, we want to do case studies—well-planned or well-organized case studies. That's all. Thank you very much.

Inaba: Thank you very much, Prof. Tani. Next speaker is Prof. Nakamura, the leader of the team. He is now attending another meeting, so he prepared a video clip to show you today. In place of a speech by Prof. Nakamura, we'd like to see the video clip of Prof. Nakamura now.