



U.S. JAPAN COUNCIL EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND

Relief for Today, Rebuilding for the Future.

SUMMARY REPORT

REMEMBERING MARCH 11TH, 2011

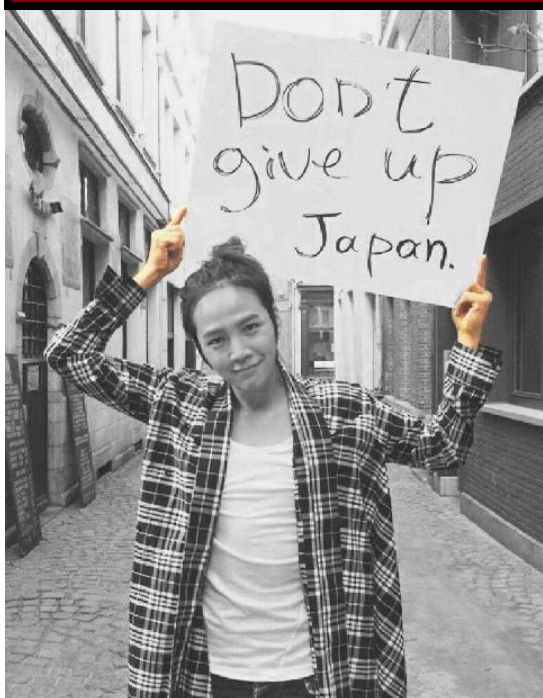
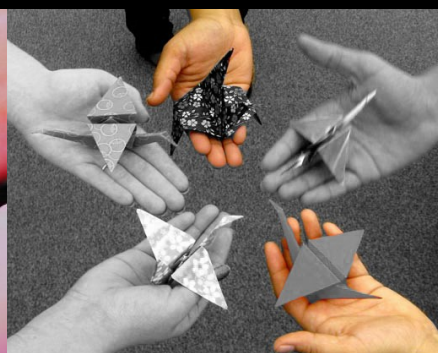


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INTRODUCTION

In immediate response to the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011, the U.S.-Japan Council created the U.S.-Japan Council Earthquake Relief Fund. The Fund received \$350,000 within 24 hours of its establishment and raised \$2,623,034.00 as of July 31, 2012.

The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund was created for both immediate disaster relief and the long-term rehabilitation of businesses and infrastructure in the Tohoku region. Working with partners in the non-profit sector to disburse these donations, our supporters have helped make a lasting, meaningful impact on the people of Tohoku. The U.S.-Japan Council decided to disburse funds primarily to Japanese Non-Profit Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations to show support for the growing civil society sector in Japan.

This report provides a glance at the tremendous work and accomplishments that these organizations have made in the devastated region. The U.S.-Japan Council is committed to maintaining the strong relationships forged during the relief and rebuilding process.



ARCHIAID

WWW.ARCHIAID.ORG


ArchiAid came together in the weeks immediately following the Great East Japan Earthquake, forming an international network of architects dedicated to promoting recovery efforts through a wide range of activities. The network has become a platform for professionals, educators and students to collaborate on innovative solutions to the challenges of reconstruction.

ArchiAid operates with three principal goals:

First, to create a foundation that assists in reconstruction and promotes the regeneration of disaster areas through a multi-faceted network.

Second, to develop a practical reconstruction education service in disaster-affected areas that matches the professional skills of architects and other experts with the specific needs of communities.

Third, to collect, evaluate, share and archive knowledge and information about the disaster for future generations.

ArchiAid has focused on three main projects in 2012:

- ⇒ **A community support program consisting of a reconstruction plan for the Oshika Peninsula, support for architectural competitions in several regional governments and an open proposal for research projects.**
- ⇒ **A human resources development and education program, featuring internship opportunities and a summer research workshop camp for students.**
- ⇒ **An information sharing and edification program, to include a symposium, exhibition, website and related publications.**



Photo Credit: ArchiAid



The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund Proudly Supported:

STORIES FROM TOHOKU WITH HEART AND HOPE



Debra Nakatomi on KTLA

Two Sansei photojournalists from Los Angeles tell of the night they slept on the floor with dozens of homeless people in Minimisanriku. A young mother in Tokyo decides to start a non-profit organization for other mothers and their newborn babies from the Tohoku region. A former diplomat makes a life-changing decision to quit his career and start a non-profit that promotes food grown in Tohoku. One of Japan's most innovative and successful business leaders talks about how the earthquake and tsunami could be an opportunity to create a new Japan. These are some of the "Stories From

Tohoku: With Heart and Hope," a documentary in production by U.S.-Japan Council Members Dianne Fukami and Debra Nakatomi, with funding from the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund. An excerpt on social innovation and social entrepreneurship was screened at the March 5th, 2012 symposium in Sendai, Empowering Civil Society for the Future of Japan; an excerpt on children and families was screened at a symposium in San Francisco on the U.S response to Tohoku; Dianne Fukami was featured in interviews for the Oakland Tribune and KQED-FM. The completion date is set for 2013.

ART IN A BOX — EMERGENCY RESPONSE ART INITIATIVE

Art in a Box provided ten boxes of art supplies to students in the Tohoku region. Each box included necessary materials and art supplies to conduct art classes for 36 students. Three Environmental Art Lesson Plans translated into Japanese and three sets of Classroom Art Resource Packages were also included. Each box contained a selection of hand-painted note cards created by American students in an expression of support and encouragement.

The boxes of art supplies were delivered to schools and community centers in Fukushima and Miyagi prefectures.



Yellow-rumped Warbler

This painting was created by Alyssa Tandingan, age 13, from Benjamin Franklin Middle School in Teaneck, New Jersey



The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund Proudly Supported:

ASHINAGA

WWW.ASHINAGA.ORG/EN



Ashinaga, a Tokyo-based non-profit, named for the 1912 American novel *Daddy-Long-Legs*, has provided educational funding and psychological support to 85,000 children who have lost one or both parents—or who have a parent with a serious disability—resulting from disaster, illness, accident or suicide for over 40 years. Ashinaga funding enables students to complete high school and pursue higher education.

The disbursement from the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund helped Ashinaga begin construction on a “Rainbow House” in Sendai for Tohoku orphans, similar to one established in Kobe after the Great Hanshin Earthquake in January 1995. The facility will provide emotional and psychological care to children who lost parents or guardians, or whose parent/guardian sustained a severe disability, in connection with the Great East Japan Earthquake. They are now working to raise 3.5 billion yen (US \$45 million) for the facilities, and hope to complete them in 2014.

The Tohoku Rainbow House will include:

- ⇒ **Accommodations for 100-200 orphans**
- ⇒ **Facilities for psychosocial care: gymnastics room, auditorium, art rooms, music rooms and rooms for talking and sharing**
- ⇒ **Facilities for lectures**
- ⇒ **Student dormitory facilities**

Ashinaga participated in the 2012 HONDA LA Marathon with 15 high school and college athletes from the Tohoku region. The athletes from Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures ran in the biggest international marathon on the West Coast as a part of efforts to appeal for support for the Tohoku Rainbow House.

Two male and female high school students who lost parents in the tsunami spoke about their experiences and hopes for the future at various events in Los Angeles including a summit co-hosted by the U.S.-Japan Council and the office of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

Below: Ashinaga students recently orphaned by the tsunami fundraising in New York City where they met with Americans orphaned by 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina.

— Photo credit: Ashinaga



Meet Daichi Saito from Miyagi Prefecture:

He lost his father in the tsunami. As his mother was having difficulties making ends meet, he was planning not to apply for further study but to enter the workforce instead. Daichi received a special one-time scholarship from the Ashinaga Scholarship Foundation and was able to once again consider attending college. He decided to pursue the field of life saving and rescue and resolved not to be resentful of the ocean despite his father's death. After studying fifteen hours a day, and under fierce competition, he was accepted to the Maritime Safety Academy. Daichi bravely spoke at the March 13th Summit in Los Angeles.

The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund Proudly Supported:

BASEBALL: THE HEALING POWER OF A SHARED SPORT

U.S.-Japan Council Earthquake Relief Fund Supports Japanese Youth Baseball

Baseball is a beloved sport in both the U.S. and Japan. After the Great East Japan Earthquake, the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund helped send Mizuno bats, balls, baseball equipment and uniforms to 18 youth teams in Tohoku, providing an opportunity to play baseball once again. One team from Shichigahama, the Little Senior team, sent a letter of appreciation for the baseball equipment. The team placed second in the Tohoku Regional League and won a ticket to the Jingu National competition. Many of the players were living in temporary shelters at the time.

Another program that the USJC Council Earthquake Relief Fund supported was the rehabilitation of a field in Ishinomaki City. The field was damaged when the U.S. military and Japanese Self-Defense Forces used it as a staging area for humanitarian relief efforts after the disaster. While it saved the lives of many, the community lost a very important place where teams from elementary, middle and high schools as well as adult leagues could practice and play tournaments. The rehabilitation of the field is almost complete, thanks to the funding from the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund, Major League Baseball, MLB Players Association and the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC).

Right: As a part of Major League Baseball's Opening Series in Japan, members of the Seattle Mariners and Oakland Athletics visited the Ishinomaki field during its reconstruction. Japanese pitcher Hisashi Iwakuma of the Mariners was a big hit with youth players during the March 27th clinic, made possible by support from the Boeing Company.



Left: Major League Baseball (Asia) Vice President Jim Small and U.S.-Japan Council President Irene Hirano Inouye visited Ishinomaki City in October of 2011 to make preparations for the rehabilitation of the city's baseball field.



BEYOND TOMORROW

WWW.BEYOND-TOMORROW.ORG/EN


BEYOND Tomorrow is a program administered by the Global Fund for Education Assistance, a Japanese NGO created in 2011 by more than 20 young leaders in business management, politics and social entrepreneurship. BEYOND Tomorrow's objective is to foster leadership development among youth who have been severely affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. They hope to serve as a template for future programs aimed at leadership development around the world.

In just a year of existence, BEYOND Tomorrow has sent students to the Summer Davos Forum in China, held summits in Tohoku and Tokyo, brought American students to meet with their Japanese counterparts and taken Japanese students to universities in the New England area to share their stories of loss and recovery.

The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund supported two of BEYOND Tomorrow's U.S. programs, a summer leadership program and a long-term study abroad program. The summer program focused on reconstruction and planning and provided opportunities for highly motivated university students to experience various leadership modules in the U.S. for three weeks in the summer of 2012. Ten high school and university students from Tohoku visited locations in Boston, New Orleans, New York and Washington, DC. In addition to team-building and leadership development, they learned how Americans responded to disasters like Hurricane Katrina and the September 11th attacks.

BEYOND Tomorrow's study abroad program enabled two highly motivated young individuals from Tohoku to study at boarding schools in the U.S. at the high-school level for one year or more. The students developed their English language skills and develop skills which will help them serve as "student ambassadors." Equipped with linguistic and cultural fluency in both countries, they can now speak to the world on behalf of Tohoku and promote U.S.-Japan relations in the context of the Great East Japan Earthquake.



Left: Beyond Tomorrow program participants with actor Will Smith at the premier of Men in Black III in Tokyo.

Right: BEYOND Tomorrow orientation activities near Mt. Fuji in Japan.

CIVIC FORCE

WWW.CIVIC-FORCE.ORG/ENGLISH


Civic Force is a Japanese non-profit focused on providing immediate relief to victims of natural disasters in Japan. A member of Japan Platform, Civic Force has been working to respond to emergencies in Japan since the 2004 Niigata earthquake. Their mission includes reaching out to the citizens of Japan to raise awareness for disaster victims to foster volunteerism.

Civic Force established a presence in Tohoku one day after the Great East Japan Earthquake and began providing relief supplies. Civic Force's total emergency aid amounted to 380 tons and included items ranging from food to appliances and clothing. In addition to meeting the immediate needs of victims, Civic Force led two initiatives to help bring normalcy back to Tohoku.

First, Civic Force identified a problem in Oshima, an island with more than 3,000 residents. The people of Oshima depended on a fleet of seven ships to connect to Kesennuma on the mainland. The tsunami destroyed all seven ships, leaving Oshima residents stranded without any medical, material or economic ties to the relief efforts. Civic Force brokered a deal with a car ferry to resume service to Kesennuma. This allowed for increased aid and also provided freedom of movement. The ferry was also used to transport temporary housing to the island.

Second, recognizing the stress and sanitation issues inherent to life in evacuation shelters, Civic Force worked to bring Japanese-style baths to Minamisanriku. Hand-crafted temporary baths and showers allowed evacuees, who were living in shelters without running water, to get out of their cramped living spaces, maintain hygiene and even relax. Civic Force gradually handed the operation of these facilities to local authorities so that the town can continue to use them as needed.

Civic Force has now shifted their activities from relief to rebuilding, and continues to partner with local organizations and governments across Tohoku, providing logistical support, volunteer manpower and funding.



Volunteers making oyster and scallop cultivation rafts with local fisherman to support recovery of fishery on Oshima.



Civic Force delivers supplies to Oshima using the ferry.

Photo Credit: Civic Force

CENTER FOR PUBLIC RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (CPRD)

WWW.PUBLIC.OR/JP/ENGLISH


The Center for Public Resources Development (CPRD) is a Japanese non-profit dedicated to developing public resources that are required for the promotion of non-profit activities. CPRD established GiveOne in 2001 as one of the first online fundraising vehicles supporting Japanese NGOs. Following the Great East Japan Earthquake, CPRD, through GiveOne, provided support to various organizations contributing to relief and recovery. CPRD has the unique mission of striving to provide aid to individuals with special needs, including mental health support and those with allergies or illnesses.

CPRD's implementing organizations include the Association of Medical Doctors of Asia (AMDA), Japan Association for Refugees, Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR, Japan) and JEN, among others. CPRD also funded NPOs such as Allergy Support Network, Atopicco Chikyunoko Network, Japan National Assembly of Disabled Peoples' International (DPI-Japan), NICCO and Tanpopo-no-Ye Foundation that provide long-term physical and psychological assistance to the most vulnerable victims of the disaster.

As of July 2012, CPRD had funded 210 different projects and initiatives through the work of 134 organizations, enabling them to:

- ⇒ **Provide emergency assistance and medical aid to those impacted by the disaster**
- ⇒ **Help victims of the disaster get back on their feet**
- ⇒ **Provide meals and medication for people with food allergies or asthma who cannot consume food provided by the government**
- ⇒ **Implement art projects for children with disabilities**
- ⇒ **Aid and advocate for the disabled affected by the disaster**
- ⇒ **Provide psychological care for children**



Kids playing with a hand-made drum set (Image courtesy of CPRD partner NICCO)



Yuki-chan making her dessert at the monthly "Snack Making" program at the Tanpopo-no-Ye HANA Art Center (Image courtesy of CPRD partner Tanpopo-no-Ye)

The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund Proudly Supported:

JOHN MANJIRO WHITFIELD COMMEMORATIVE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE (CIE)



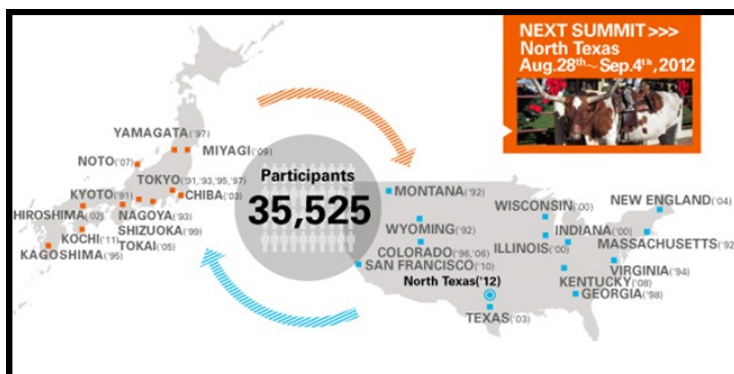
CIE is inspired by the friendship between John Manjiro and Captain W.H. Whitfield, one of the first cases of U.S.-Japanese friendship, partnership and cultural exchange. Their signature program is the Japan-America Grassroots Summit, an annual large-scale meeting of Japanese and American citizens, held alternately in Japan and America. The summit aims to strengthen the peaceful relationship between Japan and America by fostering grassroots friendships.

Grassroots Summits have been held in America and Japan for the past 21 years. Each year, an average of 200 people travel across the Pacific to attend. More than 35,000 people have participated in this grassroots exchange.

2012 Program: The 22nd Japan-America Grassroots Summit was held in North Texas from August 28th—September 4th, 2012. CIE partnered with the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth (JASDFW), in cooperation with the Consulate General of Japan (Houston), 15 cities in North Texas and other local organizations to put on the program. Visiting students participated in homestays and other cultural exchange programs throughout the week.

The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund helped bring a group of students from Kesennuma and their chaperones to the Summit. One student from each of Kesennuma's 13 middle schools was selected to join hundreds of young people from Japan and the U.S.

Funds also helped a small group of middle and high school age dancers from a shishi-odori (deer dancing) team share their art with an international audience for the first time. Finally, the fund assisted an effort to bring the Ishinomaki Technical High School baseball team to play their American counterparts during the Summit.



In 21 previous summits across both countries, 35,525 young people have developed cross-Pacific friendships and a greater understanding of a different culture.



USJC Board of Councilors Member (and Grassroots Summit Steering Committee Chairman) Amb. Thomas Schieffer (R) and Council Member William Tsutsui discuss the Summit's partnership with the Texas Rangers.

WWW.MANJIRO.OR.JP/ENG/SUMMIT

Photo Credit: David Woo, Dallas Morning News

ETIC & ILEAP: THE CENTER FOR CRITICAL SERVICE



WWW.ILEAP.ORG

WWW.ETIC.OR.JP/ENGLISH

Entrepreneurial Training for Innovative Companies (ETIC) is a leading non-profit in Japan that trains young social and business entrepreneurs. An organization with strictly domestic programming, ETIC was among the first NPOs to develop programs focused on both relief and rebuilding efforts in Tohoku.

iLEAP is an international NPO based in Seattle, Washington that builds regional and global networks of leaders working toward social change. iLEAP, partnering with ETIC and USJC, has developed the Social Innovation Forum: Japan, a program which brings four delegations of Japanese professionals and emerging social leaders to Seattle for intensive 10-day training sessions directed at energizing civil society and social innovation in Japan, connecting leaders from both countries in enduring global partnerships and rebuilding the areas hardest hit by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

As a part of the Social Innovation Forum, about 60 young Japanese leaders (ages 21 – 40) have come to Seattle to attend skills-building workshops, visit local nonprofits and charitable organizations, hear from guest speakers and develop resources and relationships with other organizations interested in helping Japan. The long-term goal is to foster a connected, thriving environment for social leaders in Japan who will continue to lead Tohoku's recovery and Japan's civil society years after the program concludes in 2014.



Photo Credit: iLEAP

TIMELINE

- July 2011: Delegation #1 visits Seattle
- January 2012: Delegation #2 visits Seattle
- May 2012: Delegation #3 visits Seattle
- August 2012: Delegation #4 visits Seattle
- February 2014: Global Summit on Social Innovation and Leadership in Seattle
- May 2013: up to 50 delegates attend a USJC conference in Japan

HANDS ON TOKYO

WWW.HANDSONTOKYO.ORG/EN


Hands On Tokyo (HOT) is a Japanese non-profit dedicated to promoting volunteerism in Tokyo and the rest of Japan. The organization is a part of the HandsOn network, which coordinates volunteer efforts in 245 American communities and another 40 cities around the globe. While Hands On Tokyo is focused on the Tokyo area, the organization reacted quickly to connect eager volunteers to the Tohoku region. Following the Great East Japan Earthquake, HOT worked with 3,300 volunteers on 295 different activities. Total volunteer hours for 2011 reached 9,100. Their support included delivering water, blankets and toiletries immediately after the earthquake and tsunami as well as sending Santa to Tohoku with Christmas care packages.



The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund is sponsoring Hands On Tokyo's efforts in Ogatsu, a small town in Ishinomaki, Miyagi Prefecture. The port town of 1,000 people was almost completely destroyed by the tsunami, but HOT plans on using the town as a model for rebuilding in the area. First, a community center will be built, serving as both a storage facility and a staging ground for volunteer and community activities. In the summer of 2012, HOT hosted a competition soliciting proposals from architecture and urban planning students. Working with local authorities, HOT and its volunteers will implement the winning plan in 2013. The total program will cost

about 64 million yen (US\$ 775,000) and provide a role model for other communities in Tohoku to emulate.

Five factors make Ogatsu a prime location for this project:

- ⇒ HOT has been helping the community since June 2011.
- ⇒ People in Ogatsu are very enthusiastic about doing something for their community and they have strong motivation to rebuild the town.
- ⇒ People in Ogatsu are enthusiastic about pursuing business opportunities.
- ⇒ The town is small enough that a community center project can make a meaningful impact.
- ⇒ Ogatsu is known for its "suzuri" inkstone, a black stone that can be used for roofing and building materials. This can be an opportunity to showcase the product and promote it in Japan and around the world.



J-AID is a non-profit with branches both in the U.S. and Japan. Both organizations were derived from J-AID 2011, a movement organized by motivated volunteers with the desire to contribute to the recovery efforts following the Great East Japan Earthquake. J-AID 2011 raised money by organizing a charity concert in Chicago, with the resulting funds being donated to the American and Japanese Red Cross organizations and other relief organizations recommended by local authorities in Tohoku.

J-AID JAPAN and J-AID USA are now focused on:

- ⇒ **Environmental restoration in areas affected by the tsunami and radioactive contamination**
- ⇒ **Economic support for employment generation for victims and their families**
- ⇒ **Financial support for orphans and children affected by the disasters**

According to J-AID, 1,512 children lost their father, mother or both parents to the earthquake and tsunami. USJC's Earthquake Relief Fund supported J-AID's "Send Your Heart to Children" fund, which was used for scholarships for three orphans, relieving some of the financial burden on their guardians. J-AID identified three cities in which there is great need with regard to orphan financial support: Soma City, Ishinomaki City and Shiogama City. The money will go toward education and assisting with living expenses until each child reaches the age of 18.

LIFE SUPPORTERS OF MIYAKO

Life Supporters of Miyako has been providing legal, psychological and social counseling for citizens of Miyako City, Iwate Prefecture since the Great East Japan Earthquake. Many residents lost their homes and businesses and continue to experience financial and social difficulties in the form of unemployment, depression, suicide, debt from failed business ventures, a loss of the sense of community, not enough care for the disabled or injured and challenges navigating insurance claims and obtaining benefits.

"My husband (in his 70's) was taken by the tsunami but was found underneath the debris. He survived but now has physical disabilities. He used to farm oysters and scallops, and was working hard even on the day of the tsunami. The tsunami swept away the oyster and scallop farming equipment and his boat, and his disability has prohibited him from working. So, he decided to close down the business. With the tsunami, he lost his house, income and his favorite work, so he has become depressed and stays at home all the time. I am concerned about my husband." — Seventy-year-old woman seeking help from Life Supporters of Miyako.

Life Supporters of Miyako has been conducting community outreach to seek out those experiencing difficulties. In addition to providing confidential counseling services, they work to foster a sense of community and lessen feelings of isolation among displaced citizens by holding events and organizing community activities. USJC's Earthquake Relief Fund, in collaboration with the Japan Club of New Orleans' NOLA Japan Quake Fund, provided a grant to Life Supports of Miyako in support of their counseling services in Miyako.



JAPAN PLATFORM

WWW.JAPANPLATFORM.ORG/E


Japan Platform is a Japanese organization which combines the efforts of 32 non-profit organizations with funding from local and national governments, the Japan Business Federation (*Keidanren*), private foundations and international organizations. Japan Platform has conducted emergency humanitarian aid missions in countries around the world, focusing on internally-displaced individuals following conflicts and natural disasters. In the immediate aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the United Nations recognized Japan Platform as a recommended Japan relief organization.

Japan Platform allows experienced NPOs to provide specialized aid to varied communities. Japan Platform's NPO implementers include the Association for Aid and Relief, Civic Force, JEN, Habitat for Humanity Japan and Peace Winds Japan. Japan Platform has approved 55 different projects to be conducted by 30 NPOs. These projects include:

- ⇒ **Search and rescue missions**
- ⇒ **Specialized support for the handicapped, elderly and international refugee populations**
- ⇒ **Psychosocial support for children**
- ⇒ **Debris removal**
- ⇒ **Scholarship funds and schooling**
- ⇒ **Immediate reinforcing of telecommunications networks**

Japan Platform has raised nearly \$90 million for Tohoku relief, with all but 7% of the total disbursed by the end of 2011.

"Japan does need aid. In conversations with Ms. Yukie Osa, Chair of Japan Platform, we heard first hand of the critical need for immediate assistance. We have been inspired by the many stories of Japanese relief workers from NGOs providing supplies by bicycle or on foot. They are working around the clock to supply on-the-ground assistance to individuals and families still in shelters or without housing."

— Irene Hirano Inouye,
U.S.-Japan Council President



Children hold stuffed toys on a cold, snowy day. Many nursery schools in the Tohoku region suffered flooding and collapse as a result of the Great East Japan Earthquake. In Otsuchi Town, Iwate Prefecture, Ando Nursery School had no place for children to play. It was borrowing rooms from a nearby elementary school and the schoolyard was filled with temporary housing.

Photo credit: Japan Platform Partner Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR JAPAN)

JEN

WWW.JEN-NPO.ORG/EN



The 2012 Japanese American Leadership Delegation (JALD) Meets with JEN, March 2012

JEN is a Japanese non-governmental organization that supports people affected by disasters. JEN operates by recognizing the needs out in the field and working together with local people for guidance and implementation. They have historically conducted work outside of Japan, but after the Great East Japan Earthquake, JEN rededicated itself to bring aid to Miyagi Prefecture. In the aftermath of the triple disasters, JEN focused on:

- ⇒ **Providing assistance to areas with low accessibility, including the towns of Minamisanriku, Higashimatsushima, Onagawa and Ishimaki**
- ⇒ **Being flexible and adapting to changing needs throughout the relief and rebuilding process**
- ⇒ **Helping communities rebuild by supporting those who were able to return home and those who were forced to resettle**
- ⇒ **Providing psychosocial care particularly to the most venerable people and conducting activities to enable people to rebuild their lives and ultimately rebuild a sustainable local economy and livelihood**

The distribution from the USJC Earthquake Relief Funds supported JEN's general administration, which allowed the organization to contribute to relief and rebuilding in the areas mentioned above.

In March, the 2012 Japanese American Leadership Delegation, comprised of a select group of Japanese American leaders, visited the Tohoku region. JEN representatives led the delegation on a tour of the devastated region, visiting several locations. While in the region, they visited the JEN offices where they received a first-hand update on the recovery process. The Delegates reported feeling incredibly inspired by the hard work and dedication of JEN .





Katariba (“place for sharing” in Japanese) is a Tokyo-based non-profit organization established in 2001 that envisions “a society flourishing with young people who are energetic with the strength to overcome life’s challenges.” Generally, Katariba trains and dispatches teams of primarily university students to high schools in order to facilitate workshops on career development. This methodology means that Katariba youth teams are able to inspire high school students by becoming their friends while simultaneously serving as their mentors.

Activities After the Great East Japan Earthquake

Right after the catastrophic Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011, Katariba started a needs analysis initiative for the recovery of educational damage in the affected area. The needs analysis concluded that they should prioritize on a mid-term, systematic intervention to restore their education infrastructure by maximizing local human resources.

Thus, the “Collaborative School” was born under a partnership between Katariba, local school authorities including the respective Municipal Boards of Education as well as teachers from supplementary education programs who had lost their jobs due to the disaster and supporters from within Japan and overseas, including corporations and foundations.

Two “night schools” have been in operation in the tsunami-affected towns of Onagawa, Miyagi Prefecture since July 2011 and Otsuchi, Iwate Prefecture since December 2011. In addition to the lectures and tutorials to improve the academic performance of children, the program aims to provide career education and creative activities.



Photo credit: Katariba

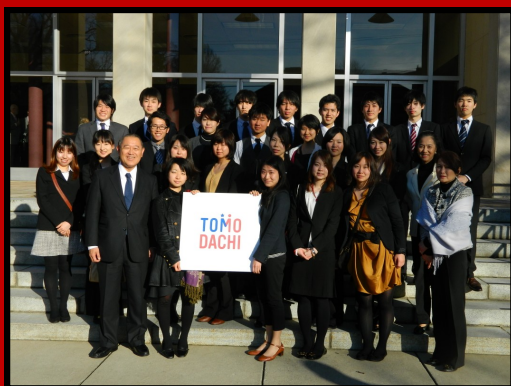


KNOWLEDGE INVESTMENT PROGRAMS (KIP)

WWW.KIPPROGRAMS.ORG/ENGLISH



Congresswoman Mazie Hirono engages with program participants



Program participants with Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki in Washington, DC



Roundtable discussion at George Washington University

Knowledge Investment Programs (KIP) is a non-profit organization founded in 2008 that promotes awareness of social issues among top-level college students attending Tokyo-area universities. KIP does this through organizing lectures by experts from different fields (corporations, governments, news media, etc.), holding discussions among students and arranging research projects.

KIP has weighed many issues related to the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake and seeks to create a response from young people in Japan including: appreciation of Americans for their assistance; ideas of restoration and reconstruction that can be applied in Japan; and motivation for university students to study abroad.

KIP brought 28 undergraduate and graduate Japanese students to the U.S. for cultural exchange and project-based research from February 26 - March 15, 2012. Ten students were from the Tohoku region and were directly affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. The KIP project, entitled "Japanese Students' Voices on March 11th," was funded by the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund and was a part of the TOMODACHI Initiative.

Before coming to the U.S., participants took part in volunteer work in the disaster-affected region. Visiting New York, Boston, Washington, DC and California during their time in the U.S., the students met with experts on post-disaster recovery and reconstruction; visited universities and participated in discussions with American students; engaged in grassroots cultural exchange programs; and conducted research on how to rebuild Japan.

PEACE BOAT

WWW.PEACEBOAT.ORG/ENGLISH


Peace Boat is an international NPO that was founded in Japan in 1983 to promote peace, human rights and sustainable development. The organization carries out its main activities through a chartered passenger ship that travels the world on “peace voyages.” The ship creates a neutral, mobile space and enables people to engage across borders in dialogue and mutual cooperation at sea and in the ports that Peace Boat visits. Peace Boat also maintains seven “Peace Centers” in Japan for domestic and regional efforts. As part of their wider peace building activities, Peace Boat has carried out emergency relief operations for 15 years, delivering emergency materials and coordinating the dispatch of experienced logisticians, interpreters and volunteer teams to affected areas all over the world.



Onagawa was a town of 12,000 people with a small but stable economy before the earthquake and tsunami. By the end of 2011, the town had only 8,445 residents and just five standing storefronts. Without businesses, there will be overwhelming unemployment in Onagawa and the population will continue to decrease.

Onagawa High School, one of the few structures that survived the tsunami, has granted a portion of its grounds for a temporary government center and 50 businesses. Peace Boat Japan is assisting the Onagawa Chamber of Commerce to fund the construction of this shopping center, which will provide a critical boost to the economy. The Chamber has located businesses ranging from groceries to nail salons, real estate agencies to florists, which will provide this town with a varied economy required for long-term survival and recovery. By supporting this project, the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund is able to help the people of Onagawa become more self-sufficient and less reliant on government supplies.



Onagawa in September 2011, six months after the tsunami.



Peace Boat volunteers raising funds.

Photo credit: Peace Boat — David Crisante

YAMAKIYA TAIKO —THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, DC



The Yamakiya district of Kawamata, Fukushima Prefecture is home to one of the most accomplished and celebrated musical groups in Japan – the award-winning Yamakiya Taiko Drum Troop, comprised entirely of children, teens and 20-year-olds.

On March 11, 2011 when the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami hit Japan, the Yamakiya District of Kawamata Town was affected by the partial meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant. In May of 2011, Yamakiya was evacuated due to high levels of radiation. All the residents, including members of Yamakiya Taiko Club, were moved from their homes and had to quickly adjust to new environments and schools. The town of Kawamata has permanently closed the elementary and junior high schools in Yamakiya.

The brave Taiko troop stayed together and practiced despite being uprooted and scattered across the surrounding countryside. Some members had to travel over an hour each way to attend practices multiple times a week. Despite these hardships, the drummers felt that their music was good for the spirit and important to the community as a whole. After facing daily adversity, the group's perseverance was rewarded when they were invited to Washington, DC to perform as a part of the Cherry Blossom Centennial Celebration.

With support from the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund, the Yamakiya Taiko Club was able to make their first ever visit to the United States in April 2012. Sponsored by the Japan America Society of Washington, DC (JASWDC) and organized by two former Kawamata English teachers, Michelle Spezzacatena and Darryl Wharton-Rigby, the group spent 10 days in Baltimore, MD and Washington, DC.

The group participated in homestays with students at a Baltimore-area school, visited the National Aquarium, toured Camden Yards and attended an Orioles game. In Washington, they toured the U.S. Capitol Building and visited the Library of Congress. The group performed at Morgan State University, the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts and the National Cherry Blossom Festival, entertaining and inspiring thousands of Americans in the process. The new fans of Yamakiya Taiko include Olympic Gold Medalist Kristi Yamaguchi, who met the children during JASWDC's *sakura matsuri* (street festival) and Japanese Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki.



Left: Yamakiya Taiko drummers pose with Olympic Gold Medalist Kristi Yamaguchi.

Right: A young Yamakiya Taiko fan shakes hands with a performer



The USJC Earthquake Relief Fund Proudly Supported:

2011 U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

— October 6th-8th, Washington, DC

Held seven months after the Great East Japan Earthquake, the 2011 U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference served as a platform for leaders in the U.S.-Japan arena to convene and discuss next steps in the rebuilding process. It also allowed community leaders from across America to come together and be recognized for their contributions to the relief efforts. The conference featured an afternoon plenary, titled “Moving Forward with Recovery,” in which leading subject experts including representatives from the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Japanese business sector provided updates on the region.

The conference was also a part of the U.S.-Japan Council’s initiative to grow and support civil society in Japan. Leaders from some of the Japanese organizations supported by the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund attended the conference, where they were able to network and share information with their counterparts in the United States. The organizations included Peacewinds Japan/ Civic Force, Ashinaga and Japan Platform. Travel expenses were allocated from the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund in order to make this possible.

At the conference, there was also a panel dedicated to growing the NPO/NGO sector in Japan, which included Sam Worthington, President & CEO of InterAction and Peacewinds Japan CEO Kensuke Onishi. According to Mr. Worthington, a disaster in a developed nation creates an environment in which civil society can thrive; with public trust and nurtured overhead costs, Japanese organizations have a great opportunity to grow. At the end of the conference, Council Members had established enduring connections with the Japanese non-profit leaders.



*Peacewinds Japan CEO
Kensuke Onishi participates
in a panel on Developing the
NGO/NPO Sector in Japan
at the 2011 U.S.-Japan
Council Annual Conference*

“A Melting Pot of America and Japan”

Susie Roos, wife of U.S. Ambassador John V. Roos, authored a recipe book to benefit the recovering Tohoku region. “A Melting Pot of America and Japan,” was sold at the 2011 U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference. All proceeds went to disaster-stricken Onagawa in Miyagi Prefecture. The funds will be used to send middle and high school students from Onagawa on the “Rainbow for Japan Kids” Program, sponsored by the Japan America Society of Hawaii. The Ambassador and Susie visited Onagawa and were inspired by the unflagging spirit of the people there. Susie created the recipe book with the aim of raising funds to support them and inspire them to be part of the TOMODACHI generation.





GENKI NOTES

Genki Notes (coming from the Japanese word for a source of happiness and energy) was a joint project of the U.S.-Japan Council, Emerson College Department of Journalism and the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. The project aimed to bring a breath of hope, a smile or a laugh to the people of Northeastern Japan in the form of hand-made notes of support. Children of all ages were encouraged to write or draw messages for Japanese people who continued to live in evacuation centers in the Tohoku region, even months after the earthquake and tsunami. The Genki Notes were written in English, Japanese or simply the universal language of images depicting empathy and encouragement. Genki Notes were received from children, schools and community groups from Honolulu, Toronto, New York, and everywhere in between.

In addition to being posted online, Genki Notes were sent to Japan, translated into Japanese and hand-delivered to the shelters. Genki Notes brought smiles to both children and adults.

TOMODACHI

From crisis to progress – investing in Japan's next generation

The U.S.-Japan Council shifted its relief and recovery efforts to the TOMODACHI Initiative as the needs of the Tohoku region called for greater emphasis on recovery, rebuilding and revitalization.

TOMODACHI is a public-private partnership that supports Japan's recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake, and invests in the next generation of Japanese and Americans in ways that strengthen cultural and economic ties, and deepen the friendship between the United States and Japan over the long-term.

Led by the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo and the U.S.-Japan Council, TOMODACHI seeks to foster a "TOMODACHI generation" of driven doers, thinkers and creators who are committed to the future of U.S.-Japan relations, appreciate each other's cultures and countries and possess the globally oriented skills and mindsets needed to thrive and make a difference.

WWW.USJAPANTOMODACHI.ORG

TO^{MO} DACHITM

"You can't help but visit the Tohoku region and be inspired by the people there." — **U.S. Ambassador to Japan John V. Roos**

"Together, we want to create a TOMODACHI generation that is deeply committed to the future of our relationship." — **Secretary of State Hillary Clinton**

Origin

The TOMODACHI Initiative was inspired by Operation Tomodachi — the collaboration of the U.S. Military and Japanese Self-Defense Forces in the immediate aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Approach

- ⇒ **Educational & Academic Programs**
- ⇒ **Sports, Music & the Arts**
- ⇒ **Entrepreneurship & Leadership Programs**



DISBURSEMENT INFORMATION

Organization/Project	Total Amount Disbursed to Organization (U.S. Dollars)
ART-IN-A-BOX	5,000.00
ASHINAGA	100,000.00
ARCHIAID	100,000.00
BEYOND TOMORROW	150,000.00
CENTER FOR PUBLIC RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (CPRD)	305,000.00
CIE GRASSROOTS SUMMIT	50,000.00
CIVIC FORCE	200,000.00
ETIC & ILEAP	225,985.00
HANDS ON TOKYO	100,000.00
J-AID	135,000.00
JAPAN PLATFORM	305,000.00
JEN	100,000.00
KATARIBA	100,000.00
KNOWLEDGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM (KIP)	40,000.00
LIFE SUPPORTERS OF MIYAKO	38,000.00
MIZUNO BASEBALL EQUIPMENT	48,694.00
MLB ISHINOMAKI FIELD	250,000.00
PEACEBOAT	100,000.00
STORIES FROM TOHOKU	150,000.00
SUSIE ROOS' COOKBOOKS	5,380.00
U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL ANNUAL CONFERENCE STIPENDS FOR NPO LEADERS (2011 & 2012)	14,975.00
YAMAKIYA TAIKO (JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, DC)	100,000.00
TOTAL AMOUNT DISBURSED (as of 8/31/2012)	2,609,360.00



EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND PARTNERS

The U.S.-Japan Council would like to thank its Earthquake Relief Fund partners for their friendship, partnership and generosity. Fund partners united to provide funds for immediate relief activities and long-term rebuilding projects in the devastated region. Our partners organized fundraising drives, held concerts, opened art exhibits, contributed restaurant proceeds, sold specialty products or otherwise contributed proceeds or in-kind support to the U.S.-Japan Council Earthquake Relief Fund. Fund partners included (but are not limited to):



The U.S.-Japan Council would like thank all those who contributed to the USJC Earthquake Relief Fund. Your generous donations enabled the U.S.-Japan Council to make a meaningful impact on the recovery of the Tohoku region and support Japanese civil society. The outpouring of support across of America demonstrated the enduring friendship between the U.S. and Japan.

\$100,000+

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