



“Kukunakihama Beach” in Nishimoune, Karakuwa Town, located on the northeastern edge of Kesenuma City, Miyagi Prefecture. The beach, so named because dry sand makes a “coo coo” sound when stepped on, is a designated cultural property of the prefecture. At this location, a three-day hands-on training for students was held in August, during which the scholars of Civic Force’s “Dream Support Project” also participated.

How Disaster-affected Children Are Living “Today”

“I lost a lot of precious people and things such as family, friends and a home, but since the earthquake, I have learned about the kindness of people and how tough it is to keep living. Now I can feel grateful about everything.” Recently, we received such messages from high school and college students who were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. The messages are part of the essays we received from scholars of Civic Force’s “Dream Support Project,” which supports students in Miyagi, Fukushima and Iwate prefectures with scholarships and support programs.

The Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011 and the ensuing tsunami inflicted enormous damages, including over 18,000 people dead or missing. As many parents lost their children, many children also lost their loved ones including their parents, relatives and friends.

According to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, the number of bereaved children and orphans who lost one or both parents in the earthquake totaled 1,723 as of 2012. These children must adapt not only to changes in their home environment but also to changes in their study environment, such as familiar school buildings destroyed and left unrepaired as well as school grounds being used for temporary housing. In particular, many children have been forced to evacuate from some areas of Fukushima Prefecture, which has been affected by the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident. Reconstruction of schools, which are the core of each local

community, and mental health care of children are major issues that must be addressed together with the reconstruction of the disaster-affected regions as a whole.

Three and a half years have passed since the earthquake. In this Monthly Report, we will portray how children in Tohoku, are facing forward and proactively tackling new challenges “today” while carrying the burden of the memories of “that day.”

During the summer holidays in August, Civic Force held a three-day hands-on training in Tome City and Kesenuma City, Miyagi Prefecture, and a networking event for the scholars of the “Dream Support Project” in Iwate and Miyagi prefectures. We will also report on these events in this issue.

In addition, we will report on the relief activities for the landslide disaster which occurred in Hiroshima Prefecture in August, a joint disaster drill held in Aichi Prefecture on National Disaster Prevention Day, and the “Jinseki-Kougen Tour” held in Hiroshima Prefecture for residents of Fukushima who are planning to relocate.

Please be informed that the Monthly Report, which has been published on the 11th of every month following the earthquake, will be discontinued after this issue and our next report will be released as a newsletter in December. Please refer to page 4 for more information.

Monthly Topics

Civic Force selects hot topics among various projects of this month.

Social Events for Dream Support Project Held in Miyagi and Iwate Prefectures

“Dream Support Project” aims to help disaster-affected students in the Tohoku region. In July and August, we organized social events for “Dream Support” scholars studying hard in the Tohoku area to give them the opportunity to meet each other.

The social events were held in Miyako City, Iwate Prefecture, on July 20 and in Ishinomaki City and Kesenuma City, both in Miyagi Prefecture, on August 8 and 9. A total of 12 high school and university students participated. At the event, students shared their hobbies and future visions with each other and created a “List of 100 Things to Do in Life”. Additionally, a staff member from the human resources department of Lawson, Inc., which founded the “Dream Support Foundation,” gave the students advice on job hunting activities.

“We were able to share our concerns among ourselves.” “I’ve been encouraged to try things out to grow myself.” “Now, I could honestly confront myself.” were some of the comments made by the participants after the event.



Students participating in the social event in Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture



Scholars not only enjoyed interacting with each other, but also received advice on job hunting.

Building Ties in Preparation for Disasters Civic Force Attends Disaster Drill in Aichi Prefecture

On July 6th, ARH transported a doctor from Sendai City to Minamisanriku Town by helicopter in response to a request from a doctor who needed to return to Minamisanriku immediately because the condition of a patient had deteriorated. As the region suffers from shortage of doctors who cannot leave the area even on their days off, it has become critical to reduce their workload

ARH will continue activities to support the improvement of regional medical preparedness by being actively involved in the transportation of doctors as well as patients.

Please see the column on the left for the actual flight records.



Participants taking part in the “shake out drill”

Civic Force Provides Support to Landslide Victims in Hiroshima Pressure Cleaners Leased to Asakita Ward

A massive landslide, which struck the northern part of Hiroshima City on August 20, left tremendous damage with more than 70 people dead and missing.



Civic Force has started a fundraiser for the landslide victims as well as leased two high-pressure cleaners to clean up the debris in Asakita Ward. Civic Force also supports its partner organization, “The NGO Collaboration Center for HANSHIN QUAKE Rehabilitation”, which provides mud shoveling and footbath services for Asakita and Asaminami Wards in Hiroshima City.



“The NGO Collaboration Center for HANSHIN QUAKE Rehabilitation” volunteers shoveling mud

Fukushima evacuees Visit Hiroshima on Relocation tour

As part of our “NPO Partner Projects,” which aim to support people affected by the earthquake of March 2011, we organized the “Jinseki-Kougen Tour” from August 22 to 24 for evacuees from the nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima Prefecture. The tour, which aimed to have participants learn more about the area, was supported by “nina Jinseki-Kougen,” an NPO which provides assistance in collective relocation to Hiroshima for evacuees from Fukushima Prefecture and supports them to regenerate and sustain their community in the new environment.

Two people from Fukushima attended the tour, and learned about the appeal of living in Jinseki-Kougen and revitalization initiatives of the area as they visited various spots, such as tourist destinations, hospitals, its town office, and schools.

One of the participants said, “In Fukushima Prefecture, an increasing number of people are looking for new, long-term residences before applying for an extension of temporary housing residence limit. Hiroshima Prefecture is far from Fukushima, however, the visit encouraged us to consider relocating here. I will recommend Hiroshima as one option.”



Tour participants cross the Shinryu Bridge in Taisyaku-kyo Valley, which is designated as a registered tangible cultural property.

Special Event: “Hands-on Training to Understand the “Current Conditions” of Disaster-affected Areas in Tohoku Region”

As part of our “Dream Support Project,” we co-hosted the “Special Summer Event: Hands-on Training to Understand the ‘Current Conditions’ of Disaster-affected Areas in Tohoku Region” with our NPO partners. The trainings were held in August for the scholars.

One of the trainings called the “Kurikoma Kougen Highlands Nature School Program,” took place from August 17 to 19 in Tome City, Miyagi Prefecture. Here, the students stayed at “Tenohira ni Taiyo no Ie (House of Sunshine in Your Hands),” which is a short-stay recreation facility that supports children of Fukushima Prefecture living in areas with high radiation levels. They enjoyed outdoor activities in rivers and hills with the children, and talked with their guardians and staff members of the facility.

From August 20, in the 3-day program supported by the NPO “Mori wa Umi no Koibito (The forest is longing for the sea, the sea is longing for the forest),” the students spent valuable time in Kesennuma City, Miyagi Prefecture, gaining understanding of the relationship between hills and oceans by talking with people engaged in oyster farming and in nature conservation activities. Following are voices of the scholars who participated:



“Adventures” with Children

Mr. Takedai Sugawara

Freshman, Aomori University of Health and Welfare
Originally from Iwate Prefecture

This is my second visit to “Tenohira ni Taiyo no Ie (House of Sunshine in Your Hand)” after staying there during my summer vacation last year.

On the first day of the training, Mr. Toyoshi Sasaki, chairperson of the facility, gave us a lecture on “Adventure Education.” All trainees went on small “adventures” while communicating with other children. The children, who were courageous to jump into the river from a high spot, showed me their great curiosity and strong motivation toward new challenges.



Children jump into the river in Tome City, Miyagi



“My Horizon Has Been Broadened”

Mr. Ryota Konno

Sophomore, Department of Physical Education, International Budo University
Originally from Fukushima Prefecture

I joined this training as I wanted to be of help in the reconstruction projects. The children I met at “Tenohira ni Taiyo no Ie (House of Sunshine in Your Hands)” were full of zest for life so I was able to feel that the “young seeds of reconstruction” are steadily growing up.

In the program supported by “Mori wa Umi no Koibito (The forest is longing for the sea, the sea is longing for the forest),” my horizon had been broadened because I gained a wide range of knowledge on the ecology of the ocean, the relationship between hills and oceans, environmental studies, industrial business, and science.

As I have the desire to play a role in reconstruction efforts, my dream is to become a person who can empower people around me. This training experience renewed my determination to work hard to make my dream come true.

Participants observe marine organisms in Kesennuma City, Miyagi Prefecture



Face to Face

Civic Force is supported by various companies, NPOs and government.

This corner features the latest messages from our partners.

【“Dream Support Project”】 : Messages from the Graduates

“Dream Support Project” has been providing JPY 30,000 per month to each scholar since September 2011. Let us introduce some of the messages we received from the graduates who had been supported by the scholarship until March 2014 and have taken new steps in the society.

Working As a Care Worker

Immediately following the earthquake, I experienced financial difficulty and I was worried as to whether I could continue my education. Then, I was able to receive assistance from the “Dream Support Foundation” so that I could continue my studies. I returned to my hometown in April and I am now working as a care worker. I will work hard as a member of the society so as to contribute to the recovery of the disaster-affected areas. I wish to convey my gratefulness to all those who have supported me.

I Was Able to Go to School for Two Years

The Great East Japan Earthquake inflicted enormous damages to my house and hometown. Facing financial difficulty, there was a time when I felt that it would be selfish to continue studying. However, the Foundation supported me so that I could fulfill my dream of advancing my studies for two more years. Now I will work hard as a member of the society so that I can repay all those who have supported me.

I Became a Kindergarten Teacher This Spring

Thanks to the “Dream Support Foundation,” I was able to go to school and receive a teaching diploma for kindergarten. Since I started working at a kindergarten in my hometown this spring, many people have helped me get to where I am today. In appreciation for those who have supported me, I will do my best to contribute to reconstruction efforts.

Helping My Father as a Fisherman

I became a fisherman after graduating from high school. After learning that my father, who is also a fisherman, was having a tough time in the aftermath of the earthquake, I decided to help my father as a fisherman. With a feeling of gratitude, I want to contribute to society as a fisherman and repay all those people who have supported me as much as I can.

Severe Drought Hits Sri Lanka, Food Supplies and Water Storage Tanks Distributed

In Sri Lanka where a severe drought has affected a wide area, the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies (CHA), Civic Force's NGO partner, submitted a request for emergency assistance at the beginning of August, as part of the activities being implemented by the Asia Pacific Alliance for Disaster Management (A-PAD).

In response to the request, A-PAD decided to allocate USD 30,000 out of its emergency relief funds and started relief activities in three districts, including Hambantota in southern Sri Lanka, in order to deal with food and water shortages.

In addition to distributing food supplies such as rice, sugar, beans, fish, tea leaves and soy products to 1,500 households, A-PAD delivered large water storage tanks and household buckets.



Information 

Notice: Monthly Report to be Discontinued and a Newsletter to be Issued

Civic Force has been issuing the Monthly Report following the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 11, 2011, to inform our donors and many others about how the disaster-affected regions are changing, to convey the resolve of the people living in the Tohoku region towards reconstruction, and to report on our aid activities. We now have decided to discontinue the publication of the Monthly Report and this 42nd issue will be the last. We would like to thank you for avidly reading the Monthly Report.

We will issue a newsletter once every three months, which will provide a report on our activities. The first newsletter, a year-end special edition, is slated to be published this December. We look forward to your continued interest.

Easy-to-use Donation Application for Your Smartphone

“KazashiteBokin (Scan and Donate)” is SoftBank Mobile Corp.’s new application which enables users to make donations online and pay with their monthly mobile phone fees. This free iOS app was distributed along with the “Heart Wrapping Project” which enables organizations which people have donated to, to receive up to an additional 1.5 million yen in donations from SoftBank Mobile Corp. The “Heart Wrapping Project” will continue on until September 30, 2014. For details, please see the “How to Use KazashiteBokin Application” on the left.

How to Use Kazashite Bokin

①Download Kazashite Bokin app



②Start the application and scan the “Civic Force” logo



③Donations can be made in ¥100– ¥10,000. Choose your donation amount and click the confirmation button.



Your donation is completed!

Where Your Money Goes

We appreciate your donations to Civic Force. The amount of donations for the earthquake reached 1.31 billion yen as of the end of August 2014. Since March 2012, we have spent 15% of the total amount of donations on expenditures. We will provide a tentative report on how your donation has been spent during this time. Financial contributions are screened by members of the board. You can also view the financial statement for Fiscal Year 2013 and the project report on our website: <http://www.civic-force.org/about/>

Emergency-relief, reconstruction support	556.5
Procurement and delivery of emergency relief supplies	233.1
Installation of handmade baths	18.8
Car ferry operations to outlying islands	20.0
NPO partner project (1st& 2nd phase)	161.6
Provision of multi-purpose mobile bases	72.1
Tents for volunteers	36.9
Survey projects on reconstruction	14.0
Aid activities for reconstruction	463.7
Funds project	95.8
Dispatch of employee volunteers	2.6
NPO partner project (3rd phase ~)	176.5
Wings for Life Project (Mid-to Long-term reconstruction)	117.0
Tourism Revitalization Project (Mid-to Long-term reconstruction)	35.0
Green Circle Project (Mid-to Long-term reconstruction)	21.7
Community Revival Project (Mid-to Long-term reconstruction)	15.2
Expenditure for supporting local activities*	118.1
Total	1,138.3

* Includes publication and fundraising costs
*The figures are rounded off to one decimal place.

※Additionally, we also implement the “Dream Support Project” with Lawson, Inc., individual supporters and organizations. We have raised 827 million yen, of which 459.6 million yen has already been used for scholarship money and expenditures for the project.

Support Us with Single-click Donations

Now you can make social contributions in one click a day. For each click you make on the “Single-click donation”, our sponsors will donate 1 yen. Thanks to our corporate partners, you can make contributions in a quick and simple way from the sites below:

- United People Fund
<http://www.clickbokin.ekokoro.jp/139.html>
- PSC Click Fund
<http://www.psc-inc.co.jp/clickdonation/index.html>
- gooddo
<http://bit.ly/17Xr7N3>
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