

## **Tohoku HELP “Grand House / Project”**

### **Report from January ~ March of the Second Year**

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#### **1. Outline**

As you may understand from the numbers below, the evacuee from Tohoku 3 prefectures at the time of March 2013 are as follows.

- a. Those who moved in to the temporary housings 52,305 families
- b. Those who moved in to public housing prepared for the disaster victims 5,222 families
- c. Those who moved in to rental houses receiving financial aid from the government 54,808 families

Tohoku HELP has a bipolar structure, the Centre Office, and the Support Centre for field site. It conducts a Grand House Project which copes with the ever changing disaster-stricken area, by deploying smooth support activities. This project entered its last half of the second year on January 2013, and though still keeping up the activities of the first half of the second year, we have started to discuss about the activities for the third year. Below written are the summary of the present situation of the disaster-stricken area, the objective for the third year, and the problem of Fukushima, which we have received from each support center.

### **1-1. Present Situation**

We were able to pay a visit to Mr. Kamon Nitagai who has been researching the social conditions after the disaster since Han-Shin Awaji Earthquake Disaster. And he said that the concern for the disaster by earthquake depreciates rapidly from the third year. (Mr. Kamon Nitagai highly evaluated one of our activities "The Heart Knit Project", and often gives us advice.) Yet, there are still numbers of volunteers now (though the number is diminishing), and the sales of "Heart Knit" shows no sign of slowing. However, it is true that the weariness and fatigue of the supporters is increasing, and the disaster victims are feeling irritation for the unchanging situation. It is a fact that there are very few changes at the disaster-stricken area. Since the government did not change the law system after the earthquake, this is causing countless procedures for each restoration measure. But this issue is starting to show great movement forward, after the change of government which occurred at the end of last year.

### **1-2. Vision**

Due to the above situation, we would like to clear a way for the following vision in the new fiscal year.

#### **1-2-1. Making use of churches and temple buildings**

Changes start in the capital/center, and then it spreads to the field site/and its vicinity. Those who were afflicted by the disaster feel irritation and distress by this time lag. Organizations that are closely attached to the field site, and are also directly connected to the center, which is in distant places, are churches and temples.

We are a support organization which has the foundation of ecumenical network. We are also in good relationship with a variety of Buddhist organization. Making use of these characteristics, we cooperate with the support activities of churches and temples, by linking each church and temples. In this way we support their function. In order to do this, we need to be trusted from each churches and temples. We think that the short-term recuperation project which is currently being conducted will greatly contribute for this purpose.

#### **1-2-2. Sharing Supporters Information**

The supporters in distant places even now have their thoughts to supporting, and desires for information. The supporters working in the field site fighting with weariness and exhaustion, seeks for the solidarity with their copartner in sharing their load.

Grand House Project, by forming and joining each support centers as a nucleus, formulate solidarity of supporters working in the field site. Besides, it can consolidate the information gathered to the Centre Office, and deliver it to the supporters in distant areas. Managing of Homepages, publishing Newsletters, lecture meeting held inside and outside the country, Field site supporter conference, all of these which are being conducted now, will greatly contribute for this purpose.

### **1-2-3. Reorganization**

The conditions of disaster-stricken area are changing. The government offices are laying out the framework, and many of the activities that were being burdened by the support organizations are expected to be handed over to the government offices within a year. Yet on the other hand, we would have to keep on responding to the insecurity and isolation of people. The destruction by this recent earthquake is massive, and we already know that there will be many people who will fall out from governmental support. If we are able to cope and reply to those people in need, we will be able to show a new support model to the world.

Given what was described above, Tohoku HELP is reorganizing its structure for the coming new situation. Concerning "Grand House Project", we will organize the support activities conducted until now, and after making necessary amendments, like acquiring financial support from support organization for each project, is planning to specialize the work of "Grand House Project" to unification function. Moreover, by organizing and utilizing the results until now, we aim for the strengthening of donation system within our country.

### **1-3. Fukushima**

The report of Fukushima Citizen Health Care Research was announced from Fukushima Medical University on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013. This report stated that there used to be one child out of a million who had infant thyroid cancer, but now the outbreak of this illness has increased the number from 10 ~ 600. However, this reports disclosure of information totally lacks sufficient evidence, and this number of "used to be", is emphasized to have no basis. That is to say, no one as of now is able to back up with the facts of the effects caused by the Nuclear Power Plant Explosion.

On the other hand, according to the report of Chernobyl disaster, health hazard from the radiation was actualized on the 4<sup>th</sup> year after the incident. It is our 3<sup>rd</sup> year now, and we cannot ignore the voice that fears the coming of the catastrophic situation next year.

Above written current situations indicates the assignment given to Grand House Project on their latter half of the second year and the third year. The assignment given, is to support those relief center, which are closely attached to the community, to maintain the minimum function of collecting, organizing and combining the information at the Centre Office, and to preserve the structure to cope flexibly to the contingency situation that could happen "on the 4<sup>th</sup> year after the incident".

## **2. Relief Activity carried out by various Relief Centre**

### **2-1. Wakabayashi Relief Centre / "Wakabayashi HELP"**

#### **2-1-1. General Situation**

Sendai Wakabayashi Ward are one of the regions, which experienced most devastation from the tsunami. Out of the 3000 reconstruction houses planned to be built in this area, only fifty houses have been built. In the beginning Grand House Project established the Centre Office in Sendai City, and at the same time established the Relief Centre in the temporary housing of Sendai City. This Relief Centre was named "Wakabayashi HELP",

and it became an independent organization. At present, the activity in Sendai City cooperated and progressed by “Wakabayashi HELP” is in a period of transition to the self-help organization established by the disaster afflicted people themselves, and to church social workers. The Centre Office will continually cooperate with Wakabayashi HELP, self-help organization established by the disaster-afflicted people, and to church social workers, and will support them.

### **2-1-2. Educational Support**

University student volunteers conduct educational Support twice a week, for the disaster afflicted grade school students. This relief activity forms the solidarity of the students’ parents, and is approaching to become a foundation for a new community. The beneficiaries from the support conducted between January through March are as follows.

January	8 times	Total Participants	108
February	8 times	Total Participants	110
March	6 times	Total Participants	82

### **2-1-3. Side job Support**

Assembly hall has been rented in a low price since 2011, so that the disaster victims who do not live in temporary housings can also come together. Side job support has been conducted for the disaster victims, and this is approaching to become a new community. Moreover, the earnings from the side jobs are all delivered to the disaster victims who participate in this job. The achievements are as follows.

January	Tumbling Doll	Income	¥245,000
February	Star festival decoration	Income	¥25,746
March	Star festival decoration	Income	¥16,200

#### **2 – 1 – 4. Counseling Massage**

Specialist were invited as a volunteer (only transportation expenses were covered by Grand House Project), and they gave counseling and massages to the disaster victims. The number of times this activity were operated, and the beneficiary are as follows.

January	1 time	31
February	8 times	42
March	1 time	33

#### **2 – 1 – 5. Door to door Counseling**

Cooperating with "Hope Miyagi" the support organization established by Shiogama Bible Church, who has been working mainly at Wakabayashi Ward Sendai City, we conducted a door to door counseling, by visiting the disaster victims living in temporary housings.

Watari District Temporary Housing visited (January 26<sup>th</sup>, February 15<sup>th</sup>)

We presented a noodle soup, 1Liter X 50 houses when paying a visit.

Wakabayashi Ward "Nipperia" Temporary Housing visited (January 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, February 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>)

We presented a teacake, 300 Yen X 60 houses when paying a visit.

Visiting Shichigahama District (Visiting houses excluding temporary housing, February 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, Visiting temporary housing February 13<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>)

We visited and handed 5kg of rice to 15 houses, which is not in the temporary housing, and who get little support. Moreover, when we visited the temporary housing's assembly hall, we took and presented 1L X 60 noodle soup.

#### **2 – 1 – 6. "Agri Partners" Support**

New union organization, "Agri Partners" was organized by the Tsunami disaster victims living in temporary housing at Wakabayashi Ward. These people wanted to restart farming at the Tsunami afflicted area. Grand House Project cooperated with Japan International Food for the Hungry, to buy and set up a bunkhouse for union organization usage.

#### **2 – 1 – 7. "Wakamatsu Club" Support**

The disaster victims who moved into the private rental house in Wakabayashi Ward, and not in to the temporary housing, formed a new organization called "Wakamatsu Club". We paid for the lunches for this organizations' gathering, thus assisting the organizations' operation.

### **2-2. Support given to temporary housing "Kaisei" in Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture**

(Ishinomaki Relief Centre / "Demae Terakoya")

#### **2-2-1. General Situation**

Grand House Project cooperates with NGO "Demae Terakoya", to support an educational activity in the

temporary housing at Ishinomaki City, which experienced the worst tsunami disaster. The name of this temporary housing is "Kaisei Industrial Park Temporary Housing", and as of December 2012, 1104 families, (nearly 4000 people) live here. Our yearly activity at this temporary housing is as follows.

- (1) Schooling for English and Kanji is conducted twice a month.
- (2) English Proficiency Examination takes place in a pace of 2-3 times a year, and Kanji Proficiency Examination 3 times a year.
- (3) Flower arrangement is conducted once a month, as an extra-curriculum to have the disaster victims have a peace of mind.

Through these activities, all the staff can feel that the disaster victims are trying to stand up on their own feet. In the past 4 Kanji Proficiency Examination, 56 examinee out of 68, passed the exam (Elementary and Junior High Kids 19, general people 37). The past English Proficiency Examination, 12 examinee out of 13 passed the exam (Elementary and Junior High Kids 9, general people 3).

On March 2013, we inquired a survey, and there were several general people who said they have regained their confidence to live at the temporary housing by passing the above written proficiency test. Below noted are the instances of survey inquired.

Case 1:

Examinee Mr./Ms. OM, who passed the 3<sup>rd</sup>, pre 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kanji Proficiency Exams at Demae Terakoya, and is now studying for the pre first certificate said, "There were many Kanji I did not know, sometimes I could not even read the Kanji, and took time to learn it, but am now feeling that I am progressing little by little."

Case 2:

Examinee Mr./Ms. AK, who passed the pre 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kanji Proficiency Exams at Demae Teraokoya, and is now studying for the pre first certificate said, "It is hard to read a Kanji with its Chinese-derived pronunciation. But it is fun to learn Kanji, and I myself am feeling the reality that I'm progressing."

Case 3:

Examinee Mr./Ms. OK, who passed the pre 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kanji Proficiency Exams at Demae Terakoya, and is now studying for the pre first certificate said, "I want to live a stress-free life. Study at Terakoya refreshes the stress and irritation. I also can feel that I'm progressing too."

The above written Junior High 3<sup>rd</sup> examinee of English and Kanji Proficiency Examination continued the study at Terokoya even after passing the examination and was able to enter the prefectural high school to which they wanted to go. Also the High School 3<sup>rd</sup> students continued their study after passing the examination, and have passed the exams to enter public university. The situation of other participants is as follows.

1. Three Junior High 3<sup>rd</sup> students passed the 3<sup>rd</sup> English Proficiency Examination, and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kanji Proficiency Examination at Demae Terakoya on November 2012. They desired to keep on studying at Terakoya until they took the exams to enter High School. Accordingly, we presented them the winter class text of AIM Study Seminar, and specially conducted a class for English Exams at the time of schooling. For these Junior High 3<sup>rd</sup> students, Demae Terakoya became the "Terakoya Cram School for Exams" for 3 months during

December to February. Changing the Terakoya study to studying for Exams bore fruit, and all of them were able to pass the midyear examination (February), and Second examination (March) of Miyagi Prefectural High School, which was of their first choice.

2. A high school 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student, even after passing the Pre 2<sup>nd</sup> English Proficiency Examination, kept studying for the 2<sup>nd</sup> English Proficiency Examination together with her studying for exams to enter university. She took the National Center Test, and passed the test in March to enter Public University. Her house in Onagawa Town was swept away by the Tsunami, and the High School she was going became the evacuation center for the people who survived, and since she did not have enough money to attend university crammer, she had a hard time with her College Entrance Exams. Yet, the proper advice she got from a Tohoku University student, who was participating as the instructor at Terakoya, helped her to pass the test for Japanese Literature at the Public University. The dream she had, of one day becoming a national language teacher at a High School was not crushed by the earthquake disaster.

In March, on the Educational Support Activity Day, all three of them passed the exams for their High School of their first choice, and one passed the exams for the University of her first choice, all the member in the class gave them a big round of applause, and blessed them. All the students at Terakoya had in mind of the student preparing for an examination, and were supporting them. An amazing sense of solidarity had been brought up there.

## 2-2-2. Details of Support Activities

· Schooling Participants Situation from January ~ March

Date	January 13 <sup>th</sup>	January 26 <sup>th</sup>	February 9 <sup>th</sup>	January 12 <sup>th</sup>	March 10 <sup>th</sup>	January 8 <sup>th</sup>
Count	37	38	39	40	41	42
Student	33	21	27	32	28	23
Male	9	7	9	11	10	10
Female	24	14	18	21	18	13
Student	21	11	16	20	17	16
General	12	10	11	12	11	7
Staff	4	3	4	4	5	4

## 2-3. Relief Activities in Morioka City, Iwate Prefecture (Morioka Relief Centre / "Heart Knit")

### 2-3-1. General Situation

There are people still living in temporary houses, the total of 19,139 houses in Iwate Prefecture. We are working together with NGO "Heart Knit" to heal the mind and body of elder ladies living in the Iwate Prefecture Coastal area through knitting, and improving on the knitting skills sell the product, and return all the profits to the disaster victims.

### 2-3-2. Details of this support activity

Following support activities were conducted from January to March.

- a. Public gathering to coach knitting were held 44 times.
- b. Bazaars were held 131 times.
- c. 27 interviews were held for various media.
- d. Through these activities, the sales amounted to 6,086,658 yen, and the whole sum was delivered to the disaster victims.

## 2-4. Support given to Minami Sanriku Town, Miyagi Prefecture (Minami Sanriku Relief Centre / "Christian Network which supports Minami Sanriku")

### 2-4-1. General Situation

"Christian Network which supports Minami Sanriku" was established at Minami Sanriku Town, where half of the population was lost in the disaster. Grand House Project cooperated with this network, and supported the special event held there by transplanting the project of Iwate Prefecture's "Heart Knit", and also aided to visit the people in this area.



## 2-4-2. Details of this support activity

The activity from January to March are as follows.

January

Date	Content	Places	Number of visits (Houses)	Beneficiary (numbers)
4	Event	Yokoyama Kindergarten Site Temporary Housing	24	32
5	Event	Junior High School Temporary Housing		17
8	Visited	Home	1	11
12	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing		2
12	Visited	Junior High School Temporary Housing	3	6
12	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		11
12	Visited	Home	1	3
13	Event	Centre		7
16	Visit	Temporary Housing	2	6
16	Visit	Temporary Housing	4	11
16	Visit	Office	2	12
17	Event	Institution		43
17	Visit	Home	1	3
18	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		14
18	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing		2
22	Event	Nursery		21
22	Event	Town Office		24
25	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		14
25	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing		3
29	Visit	Home	1	9
30	Event	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall	49	11
31	Event	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		71

February

Date	Content	Places	Number of visits (Houses)	Beneficiary (numbers)
3	Event	Centre	0	42
5	Event	Komori Temporary Housing	48	7
7	Event	Komori Temporary Housing		10
5	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		13
8	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing		2
10	Event	Centre		7
12	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		10
12	Visit	Yamano Kamidaira	1	2

12	Visit	Dojishita Temporary Housing	2	4
12	Visit	Iriya Elementary School Temporary Housing	1	3
12	Visit	Group Home		7
12	Event	Institution	38	11
15	Visit	Home		3
15	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall	2	5
19	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing		14
22	Event	Nursery		6
23	Event	Town Office		7
25	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall	4	17
26	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing		11
27	Visit	Home	2	5
28	Event	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall	67	32
28	Event	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall	1	12

March

Date	Content	Places	Number of visits (Houses)	Beneficiary (numbers)
1	Visit	Temporary Housing	1	3
1	Visit	Yokoyama Kindergarten Site Temporary Housing	2	5
1	Visit	Sodehama Temporary Housing	1	2
1	Visit	Sodehama Temporary Housing		22
1	Event	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		32
2	Event	Nakase Area Temporary Housing		21
2	Visit	Aeon site Temporary Housing	2	2
5	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		14
5	Visit	Arato Temporary Housing	30	14
7	Visit	Hiragai Area Temporary Housing	44	10
8	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing		8
11	Event	Centre		43
12	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		14
12	Visit	Aeon site Temporary Housing	1	3
13	Visit	Sodehama		27
15	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing	2	3
19	Heart Knit	Asahigaoka Assembly Hall		11
22	Visit	San San Shopping Street	1	3

22	Heart Knit	Junior High School Temporary Housing	2	7
22	Visit	Komori Temporary Housing	48	8
22	Visit	Tajiribatake Temporary Housing	12	2
22	Visit	Mawararitate Temporary Housing	35	10
23	Event	Komori Temporary Housing		9
23	Event	Tajiribatake Temporary Housing		13
23	Event	Mawararitate Temporary Housing		21
24	Event	Centre		8
24	Event	Hiragai Area Temporary Housing		14
24	Event	Arato Temporary Housing		7
26	Café Event	Junior High School Temporary Housing		21
28	Café Event	Centre		25
30	Event	Aeon site Temporary Housing		40

## **2-5. Relief Activities in Aomori City, Aomori Prefecture (Aomori Relief Centre / “Aomori Christian Centre”)**

### **2-5-1. General Situation**

Radioactive substances are being released from the nuclear power plant, especially by the explosion, which took place on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Its soil has been contaminated, and the contaminated soil disturbed by the air is much feared to have exposed the children to internal radiation. At the time of disaster, there were 360,000 children in Fukushima Prefecture who were under 18 years of age. Only 50,000 of them have escaped to other prefectures. The current situation are, though people feel insecure about the internal exposure, they are still forced to keep on living in the contaminated areas.

Tohoku HELP teamed up with “Aomori Christian Centre”, to conduct a short-term recuperation support project for the parents and children who felt uneasiness of their health hazard through radiation. This project has been decided to be succeeded and continued by the churches in Fukushima Prefecture. January through March would be the time for its transition. Support was deployed by the following method.

- a. Disaster victims, who wished for short-term recuperation, had an interview with the pastor who will be in charge.
- b. The pastor in charge reports the necessities of its support to the Centre Office.
- c. The Centre Office entrusts 20,000 yen to the pastor in charge for transportation expense.
- d. The pastors in charge, hands over the transportation expense to the disaster victim directly, and receive report on it after the recuperation ends.

The above procedures were taken, so that the local pastor and the disaster victim could become acquainted. This was done not just to ease the victim’s anxiety, but also to create a relationship of mutual trust for the

future, preparing for the more acute health hazard that is worried for the next year.

### 2-5-2. Details of this support activity

Date	Number of Family	Place
11/13	9	Aomori
1/30	9	Aomori
1/30	7	Iwate
1/30	9	Aizu
1/30	9	Shizuoka
1/30	20	Iwate
2/21	1	Osaka
3/5	1	Tochigi Prefecture Nasu Town
3/5	1	Tochigi Prefecture Nasu Town
3/5	1	Miyagi Prefecture Sendai City
3/5	1	Fukushima Prefecture Urabandai
3/5	1	Miyagi Prefecture Murata Town
3/5	1	Fukushima Prefecture Bandai Atsumi
3/5	1	Fukushima Prefecture Bandai Atsumi
3/5	1	Miyagi Prefecture Sendai City
3/5	1	Tokyo
3/5	1	Iwate Prefecture Kinshuko
3/5	1	Aizu District
3/11	1	Saitama Prefecture Kawagoe City
3/11	1	Okinawa
3/14	10	Tokyo Disney Sea
3/26	1	Gifu Prefecture
3/26	1	Okinawa
3/26	1	Niigata Prefecture
3/26	1	Nara Prefecture
3/26	1	Nara Prefecture
3/26	1	Tokyo Area
3/26	1	Tokyo Area
3/26	1	Miyagi Prefecture Sendai City
3/26	1	Yamagata Prefecture Yonezawa City
3/26	1	Miyagi Prefecture Sendai City
3/26	1	Tokyo
3/26	1	Tokyo
3/28	1	Tokyo

### 2-5-3. Others

Many organizations have been helping out with this recuperation support project. Grand House Project dispatched an employee to a conference held for connecting and cooperating. From the network that was

created through this conference, each person in charge consults the victims who need recuperation. The report follows.

- a. There were 200 people who came to the meeting place at Iwaki City Consulting Venue in February. There were 30 families who applied for consultation at the reception.
- b. There were other 20 families who applied for the consultation personally through mail after the meeting.
- c. The families who applied from January to March totaled to 50.
- d. The content of things these people consulted were recuperation for parents and children, recuperation for only children in early adolescence, and their worries of future health. These conditions are escalating, as the nuclear power plant accident is lengthening. We felt that there were needs where these victims could homestay without fearing anything, as we heard from them that they were waiting for this consultancy, and found out on the internet about this recuperation project.

## **2-6. Support given to the settler in Iwaki City (Iwaki Relief Centre / "Iwaki CERS Net")**

### 2-6-1. General Situation

Many victims of nuclear power plant have taken shelter in the Iwaki City. It's total number to 2000. "Namie Peace Club" has been founded by these victims. We cooperated with Iwaki Church Network to extend our help by providing them an auditorium, in order to transplant the "Heart Knit Project" from Iwate Prefecture.

### 2-6-2 Details of this support activity

Auditorium was arranged and opened for public, so that "Peace Club" could freely gather. As a result, 76 people gathered and exchanged information from January to March.

## **2-7 Support given to temporary housings in Natori City (Natori Relief Centre / "Yamachan Service")**

### 2-7-1. General Situation

910 families now live in the 8 temporary housings in Natori City. Mr. Masaharu Yamaki who is a social worker cooperated with NGO "Yamachan Service" and held a consultant project in the temporary housings in Natori City.

### 2-7-2 Details of this support activity

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, rice sent from Asia Rural Institute was distributed at the two temporary housing auditoriums, and also consultation was provided to the disaster victim.

## **2-8. Support given to temporary housings in Souma Area (Souma Relief Centre / "Fukushima Prefecture Christian Liaison Committee)**

### 2-8-1. General Situation

Nuclear Power Plant accident victims and the Tsunami Victims together have taken refuge in the temporary

housings in Souma Area which is located to the northern part of "Off Limits Site", due to nuclear power plant accident. More than 12,000 victims of nuclear power plant have taken shelter in these areas. We cooperated with Fukushima Prefecture Christian Liaison Committee, and visited the temporary housings. One pastor has been designated as a full-time worker for this project, and conducted a special event called "Flower Café", which is a combination of Japanese flower arrangement and Café.

#### 2-8-2. Details of this support activities

January 18<sup>th</sup> (Fri.) Yunoki Temporary Housing (Flower Café) 10A.M. to 1P.M.

Participants 52 people

Comments from the person in charge: We are happy that all preparations for this activity was taken care by the people living in the temporary housings. Though it was very cold, the preparators gladly participated in the preparation. There were also 7 men, and they participated with their faces lit up. They even had second helpings. "Oroshi Rice Cakes are also called Takato Rice Cakes, and I like the Rice cakes stuffed with red beans" they chatted. The ladies also were able to take a rest in this 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> day of the lunar New Year. It was an enjoyable time also for those who prepared. At noon, Dr. Kasai joined in the conversation of those who had their fill, and the enjoyable time of chatting must have increased. We expect another Visiting Activity again in the future.

February 8<sup>th</sup> (Fri.) "Flower Café" Vacant Lot Gangoya Temporary Housing 15:00 ~ 18:00

Participants 13 people

Comments from the person in charge: Tea party was enjoyed in a calm atmosphere, while the participants poured their own tea. Cherry Rice Cakes were also enjoyed, and the participants said that they had a time of repose. There were people from Odaka Area, Haramachi Area, and Ukedo Area, who had lost their homes in the tsunamis, or had to leave their homes because of the radiation. Since they had small grandchildren, they decided to take refuge in this place. Some wet their eyes with tears, showing their complicated mental state. The people also were able to relax through a shoulder and foot massage volunteered by our sister Yokokawa, and by the songs and beanbag tossing.

February 22<sup>nd</sup> (Fri) (Pottery Class) Koike Naganuma Temporary Housing 1P.M. ~ 3P.M.

Participants 9 people

Comments from the person in charge: Making of teacups for powdered green tee. This was enjoyed by kneading clays in an easy way, shaping it with a hand driven spinning lathe. Drying, baking and coloring were taken care by brother Miyazawa. There were tea and game time, and the present of song from Mr. Miyazaki. Reunion and tea party were enjoyed harmoniously. Praise the Lord.

March 14<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) "Flower Café" 4 P.M. ~ Vacant Lot Gangoya Temporary Housing

Participants 19 people

Comments from the person in charge: Conversation of 2 mothers and Helen. In tears, they discussed on how to protect and rear up healthy children. Dianne and few boys, with also one girl, enjoyed their game like talk. Mr. Goto also played games with 7 children, and had some conversation with them. They promised to see each other again.

March 15<sup>th</sup> (Fri.) "Flower Café" 10 A.M. ~ Onodai Sixth Temporary Housing

Participants 2 people

Comments from the person in charge: Two guys Mr. Ara and Mr. Oyama came. Mr. Ara has poor health, and his brothers live in the temporary housing. Both of them do not have jobs. Actually they aren't able to have jobs. Counselor discussed and gave advice.

March 22<sup>nd</sup> (Fri.) "Health Counseling" 1:30 P.M.~ Koike Naganuma Temporary Housing

Participants 11 people (4 Males, 7 Females)

\* 2 Nurses were dispatched from Sagamihara Pastors Gathering

Comments from the person in charge: People all have pains and suffering (stresses). Everyone receives some kinds of effects on their bodies, when their environment changes. The participants had their blood pressure checked up, and they intently listened to the advice on health counseling. The health proposal presented by Dr. Kasai had pictures in it, and people liked it. Participants enjoyed the time of counseling on serious issues.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> (Sat.) "Health Counseling" 9: 00 A.M. ~ Yunoki Temporary Housing

Participants 4 people

Comments from the person in charge: 6-7 minutes per person were given to each participant for checking their blood pressure and for counseling. Dr. Kasai presented the Health Proposal, and later had an enjoyable tea time. Each checked their own health. Abe, Kihata, Suzuki were all happy and shared their pains through their conversation. The nurses gave them good care and advices. One of them said that she had trouble getting along with others, but since she seemed to have no issue while she was talking with others, we were relieved.

March 23<sup>rd</sup> (Sat.) "Health Counseling" 1:30 P.M. ~ 3:00 P.M. Onodai Sixth Temporary Housing

Participants 4 people

Comments from the person in charge: The auditorium was closed since it was Saturday, but the time passed by as they had their blood pressure checked, and enjoyed chatting. People living in temporary housings are trying to forget their heartaches and loneliness by drinking spirits. The president of neighborhood association stated that they do not know how many years it will take until they are allowed to go back to Iidate. Some said 2 years, and some 4, but they all talked about returning to the place together. They also had conversation on the delay of radiation removal.

### **3. Relief Activity carried out by the Centre Office**

3-1. Conference hosted by the supporters

Conferences were held for supporters who have their offices in the Sendai region as follows.

January 23<sup>rd</sup> (Wed.) 13:30 ~ 15:30

The Anglican Episcopal Church of Japan - Let's walk together! Held at Project Conference Room

Organization who participated: Japan International Food for the Hungry, United Church of Christ in Japan Tohoku Parish Disaster Victim Support Centre Emmaus, Tohoku HELP

February 26<sup>th</sup> (Tue.) 13:30 ~ 15:30

The Anglican Episcopal Church of Japan - Let's walk together! Held at Project Conference Room

Organization who participated: The Anglican Episcopal Church of Japan - "Let's walk together!" Project, United Church of Christ in Japan Tohoku Parish Disaster Victim Support Centre Emmaus, Tohoku HELP

March 21<sup>st</sup> (Thur.) 13:30 ~ 15:30 At Tohoku HELP Secretariat

Organization who participated: Christian Network which supports Minami Sanriku, United Church of Christ in Japan Hyogo Parish Disaster Victim Support Nagata Centre, Tohoku HELP

### 3-2. Transmitting Information to the World

The church of Japan and Korean Church' commune, and Mission Cooperation Promotion Tour were conducted, and the current situation of disaster affected area has been reported as follows.

Date:

February 15<sup>th</sup> (Fri.)

7 A.M. ~ 9 A.M. Service and Japan Korea Mission Cooperation Promotion Forum (Place: Semnan Church)

8 P.M. ~ 10 P.M. Participated in the evening prayer meeting in various churches.

7 P.M. ~ 9 P.M. 5 people participated in the ministrations of Asia ACF Gathering.

February 16<sup>th</sup> (Sat.)

5 P.M. ~ 8 P.M. 5 people participated as a volunteer for the Gyeonggi-do Shinkyō Senmon University Charity Concert

February 17<sup>th</sup> (Sun.) Morning/Evening Attended the church services in each churches in Seoul City, and gave testimony, reports, and appreciation.

Participants: 14 pastors from the disaster affected areas

Service and Japan Korea Mission Cooperation Promotion Forum (Place: Semnan Church)

## 4. Working toward the Future

### 4-1. Relief Activity by each Centre

Continue the activity carried out by each Centre, and formulate the plan for the coming year.

### 4-2. Relief Activity carried out by the Centre Office

a. Preparation to transmit the information at the WCC Pusan Gathering.

b. Search for a possible way to participate in the Lausanne Movement and the World Evangelical Alliance Seoul General Conference.

c. Preside the information obtained from each Support Centre and connect it with the fund-raising activities in and outside the country.