



# CIVIC FORCE

## NEWS LETTER Vol.17

(MARCH, 2019)



Last summer, Uwajima City in Ehime Prefecture was affected by the Western Japan Floods. To support the salon activities in Kawachigami and Tachima areas, hot water from Amagase hot springs in Hita City, Oita Prefecture, was delivered to these areas. Hita City, where the hot springs is located, was affected by the Northern Kyushu Torrential Rain in 2017, so an exchange event was held in mid-February. A woman who participated in the event said that "I sometimes feel depressed and stay in my shell, but I was glad to hear stories from people who had experienced the same situation."

Photo provided by Hichiku Volunteer Center

## Eight years from Great East Japan Earthquake: "This time it's my turn"

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Date of issue : Mar 2019  
 Publisher : Civic Force  
 Tomigaya Ogawa Bldg.2F, 2-41-12  
 Tomigaya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo  
 151-0063 Japan  
 TEL : +81-3-5790-9366  
 e-mail : info@civic-force.org

"I once gave up going on to higher education, but now I am working at a local hospital." "Thanks to the support, I was able to go to university from the year after the earthquake and I am now working hard utilizing what I have learned."

Eight years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred on March 11, 2011. Youngsters who were high school students at that time are now adults and many of them are working. A large number of the former scholarship students of the Civic Force "Dream Support Project" spent their adolescence in hardship, but now they have grown up and are working hard to be the ones to help others this time while feeling thankful to the people who supported them from all over the country.

Even though the recovery of the severely affected area is still half way down the road, the know-how and the network for disaster support that Civic Force has acquired has also been utilized in the Western Japan Floods and the Hokkaido Earthquake that happened last year.

The industry reconstruction support fund, which was established by the donations to Civic Force, has been receiving reimbursement from part of the supporting organizations since 2017, so it is aiming to create a new fund cycle by using the reimbursement funds as capital. Newly called the "Common Benefit Investment Fund JAPAN," not only supports the Tohoku region but also other disaster-affected areas and depopulated areas. The "Asia Pacific Alliance (so called A-PAD)," which was established to make use of the experiences of the Great East Japan Earthquake, has expanded to six countries now and functions as a platform of bilateral cooperation with various countries and organizations.

We always make new challenges and make effort to be an organization worth donating to.

# Supporting Disaster Affected

The following articles describe the emergency responses, the aid activities, and the reconstruction efforts that Civic Force has provided in various disaster-affected areas in Japan.

## 【Support for Western Japan Floods Victims】 Donate Now!!

■ Bank name: Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation  
Branch name: Aoyama  
Account number: 6977180 (savings account)

■ Bank name: Japan Post Bank  
Account number: 00140-6-361805  
Account name: Civic Force

\*Please fill out the space for correspondence as "Donation for the people affected by the Western Japan Floods."

■ via credit cards or electronic money

[https://bokinchan2.com/civicforce/donation/bokin/page1.php?bokin\\_type=donation](https://bokinchan2.com/civicforce/donation/bokin/page1.php?bokin_type=donation)

\*We would appreciate your understanding that 15% of your donation will be spent on the operating expenses for our support activities.

### Western Japan Floods

## Reconstruction of the Affected Areas in a Mid- to Long-Term Perspective

To support the reconstruction efforts of the affected areas of the Western Japan Floods, NPO Partner Projects was launched in August 2018 and cooperative projects are underway with seven partner organizations in three prefectures thus far. But the reconstruction has just started. We need your continuous support.

### Hichiku Volunteer Center



## Reconstruction Festival in Uwajima City in March

Hichiku Volunteer Center, which has been taking part in reconstruction activities in Uwajima City, Ehime Prefecture, attended the evaluation meeting of the Uwajima Disaster Volunteer Center in January to exchange views about the current status of the support activities and the preparedness for future disasters. Hichiku Volunteer Center continues to manage footbath events and to support mandarin orange farms affected by the Floods in collaboration with U.Grandma, a local support organization in Uwajima City. They also plan to organize a reconstruction festival in Uwajima City at the end of March and to visit the affected areas of the Northern Kyushu Torrential Rain.

### NGO Collaboration Center

## Assistance to Sustain Local Mutual Support

Although the daily life of the affected people who live in temporary houses looks settling down, the number of people who suffer from insomnia or physical discomfort is increasing. The NGO Collaboration Center provides the assistance services to ease their hearts such as footbath and haircut in the temporary houses. The Center is also planning to organize assistance activities such as a mutual support center and a reconstruction school, utilizing the support experiences accumulated since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.



### Soul Visiting Nurse Station

## Disaster Prevention Workshop for Floods Next Summer



Soul Visiting Nurse Station, which provides support in Mabi Town, Kurashiki City, Okayama Prefecture, has kept on its activities using a trailer house of the Civic Force as its temporary office. Soul Visiting Nurse Station also puts effort in offering a community café, a health check and a workshop to be held once or twice a month for local people to mingle with each other. As the area has often been hit by floods, the Station has emphasized on the disaster prevention measures for the next rainy season and is planning to organize a disaster prevention workshop in the town on March 24.

### Okayama Mind Kokoro

## Incorporation Event on March 30

Okayama Mind Kokoro, which works on mid- to long-term reconstruction activities of Mabi Town, organizes the Mabi liaison committee, comprised of 20 local medical or welfare groups, as well as town reconstruction activities and musical events every month. "Ottagaisama Center Mabi," which opened in November, continues to provide support according to the needs of local people such as counselling and transportation services. A kick-off event to commemorate a new start where the support group turns to a general incorporation foundation is planned to be held on March 30 this year.



### Arts and Sports for Everyone (ASE)

## Toward Boccia Gathering Based on Experience of Kumamoto

Arts and Sports for Everyone, which works for "the realization of a society where both disabled and non-disabled person can enjoy arts and sports together," initiated a research on the experience of boccia\* gatherings continuously held in the

the affected areas of the Kumamoto Earthquake so that the experiences can be utilized in the affected areas of Hiroshima and Okayama as well.

\*Boccia is a sport designed for people with severe cerebral palsy or other severe disabilities affecting motor skills, and one of the official Paralympic events.



## NPO Partner Projects Ongoing

To support the restoration and reconstruction effort of the areas affected by the Hokkaido Eastern Iburi Earthquake, Civic Force has been supporting the NPO activities through NPO Partner Projects.

ezorock

### Handing Out Dried Vegetables at the Restoration Event

A non-profitable organization, ezorock, has been seeking ways to produce and sell dried vegetables in cooperation with child-raising groups in an affected area, Atsuma Town. They have not only improved the manufacturing technology but also focused on the package design. They are planning to hand out the dried vegetable samples at the restoration event in Atsuma Town in March. They will further make efforts to expand their market.



## 【Support for Hokkaido Earthquake Victims】 Donate Now!

■ Bank name: Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation  
Branch name: Aoyama  
Account number: 7027390

(savings account)

■ Bank name: Japan Post Bank  
Account number: 00140-6-361805

Account name: Civic Force

\*Please fill out the space for correspondence as "Donation for the people affected by the Hokkaido Earthquake."

■ via credit cards or electronic money

[https://bokinchan2.com/civicforce/donation/bokin/page1.php?bokin\\_type=donation](https://bokinchan2.com/civicforce/donation/bokin/page1.php?bokin_type=donation)



Common  
Benefit  
Investment  
Fund  
JAPAN

## The Second Round of Fund Circulation Achieved: Total Redemption of Eight Million Yen in Eight Projects

<http://kyoueki.jp/>

General Incorporated Foundation "Common Benefit Investment Fund JAPAN (former Tohoku Common Benefit Investment Fund)," established in 2011 with the money donated to Civic Force, supports the restoration and reconstruction of the affected areas based on a concept of "common benefit investment." It invested 170 million yen for 14 projects in Tohoku, and 6 million yen for 3 projects in Kumamoto until 2018, which has been contributing to expanding the business of disaster affected companies and to securing and increasing the local employment.

As for another objective of the fund, which is "the second round of fund circulation," totally eight million yen of investment to eight projects, has been redeemed since 2017. The redemption is assumed to last for ten years at longest. We expect to receive all of our first-round lending funds as much as possible and will keep eyes on the situation of local companies so that they can robustly develop as their sustainable and community-based businesses. We also plan to get the places of the supported groups and the fund redemption entities matched - the fund repaid in Tohoku to be used for Tohoku based groups and likewise for Kumamoto, which arrangement helps solve the various local problems.

### 【Projects Related to the Great East Japan Earthquake】

- ◆Ogatsu Suzuri Association
- ◆Sato Zosenjo
- ◆Oikawa Electric Co., Ltd.
- ◆Trust Co., Ltd.
- ◆Onagawa accommodation village Ryokan Association
- ◆Kamaishi Hikari Foods Co., Ltd.
- ◆Sanrikuriya Suisan Co., Ltd.
- ◆Onagawa Factory
- ◆TATAKIAGE Japan
- ◆DoBe Social Division
- ◆On the Road
- ◆Kahiwadai Lynks Co., Ltd.
- ◆dreamLab Co., Ltd.

### 【Projects Related to the Kumamoto Earthquake】

- ◆Sogen Saisei Operator Association
- ◆Yamato Deshika Co., Ltd.
- ◆Kirari Corporation Co., Ltd.

# Creating an Emergency Preparedness

We are undertaking various efforts to develop our emergency preparedness mechanism in the face of disasters. This page introduces media coverage of our activity and information associated with our partner organizations.

## Emergency Preparedness Mechanism

### Lecture for Junior High School Students

Six second-grader students of Nakano Junior High School in Nakano Ward, Tokyo visited the Civic Force Tokyo office on Feb. 15 for “Research on Social Contribution Activity” in the integrated study. We talked about our emergency disaster relief activities and the roles of private organizations which address public interests. The students asked many questions such as “What was the toughest thing in the activities ever?”, “What does the group name mean?”, and “What can we do for the social contribution?”

## Great East Japan Earthquake

### Yahoo! JAPAN “3.11 Project”

Comments from Civic Force secretary general, Kaori Neki were introduced in the article featured in Yahoo! JAPAN “3.11 Project – What I Can Do Now.”

## Emergency Preparedness Mechanism

### Support Activities in an Easy Manner!

Donations are being accepted on the following company websites.

#### << General Donations >>

##### ■ Value Books “Charibon”

Please donate used books and CDs!

<https://www.charibon.jp/partner/cf/>

##### ■ Hondana-Otasuke-Tai

“Donation by Selling Second-Hand Books”

<https://hondana.biz/second-hand-books-sell-ing-for-charity/charity.html>

##### ■ EC Navi “Smile Project”

[https://ecnavi.jp/smile\\_project/](https://ecnavi.jp/smile_project/)

#### << Western Japan Floods >>

##### ■ Japangiving

<https://japangiving.jp/campaigns/33840>

##### ■ GlobalGiving (US)

<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/flood-and-landslide-relief-in-japan-we-need-you/>

#### << Hokkaido Earthquake >>

##### ■ Japangiving

<https://japangiving.jp/campaigns/33873>

##### ■ GlobalGiving (US)

<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/hokkaido-japan-earthquake-rescue-medical-operations/#menu>

#### << Great East Japan Earthquake >>

##### ■ Value Books “Books for Japan”

<http://www.booksforjapan.jp/action/>

## Great East Japan Earthquake

### Charity Wine Tasting Event

Civic Force’ A charity wine tasting event (organizer: FWINES Co., Ltd) was held in Tokyo on March 2. All of the revenues including admission fee were to be donated. 285 people attended from both in and out of Japan. Civic Force secretary general, Ms. Neki introduced its support activities in disaster affected areas..

### Publication of the Financial Statement for Fiscal 2018

We publicized the financial statement data for fiscal 2018 (Sep. 2017 through Aug. 2018) on our website. It was prepared based on the public corporations accounting standard.

## Emergency Preparedness Mechanism

### Start Your Support with Only 33 Yen per Day

In order to be better prepared for future disasters, we need your support. Become a monthly supporter and you can donate a fixed amount each month (in 1,000 yen units) and help prepare for future large-scale disasters. Payments can be made through bank transfers to Civic Force:

•Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation:  
Aoyama Branch Account No. 6953964

•Japan Postal Bank  
Account No. 00140-6-361805  
Account holder’s name of the above banks is “Civic Force”

•Credit card:  
Please check the “Donate Now!” section of the Civic Force website below

[https://bokinchan3.com/civicforce\\_e/donation/bokin/page2.php?pm\\_type=card](https://bokinchan3.com/civicforce_e/donation/bokin/page2.php?pm_type=card)

