



## **NORTHERN JAPAN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND UPDATE (3/16/11)**

To the Local and International Community,

Your thoughts and prayers are being felt in Japan and in particular by the victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami that hit the Tohoku region of northern Japan on Friday, March 11, 2011. We know from our experience and relief efforts with the Great Hanshin Awaji (Kobe) Earthquake of 1995, that there will be more bad news to come as the recovery and rescue efforts continue.

We all want to do something, but at times can feel helpless watching the television and the internet trying to absorb all the devastation and destruction.

Already we have received thousands of calls and donations from ordinary people wanting to know how they could help. On Friday March 11, we established the Northern Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, over \$130,000.00 of your donations have already been sent to some of the most affected areas to provide water, food, blankets and shelter supplies.

100% of the donations received are going directly to citizen relief efforts through the National YMCAs of Japan and other Non-Governmental Organizations that we have very long relationships with since the Kobe earthquake. No fees will be taken out from the JCCCNC or the organizations in Japan; funds will go to the people who need it most but are often forgotten. We will be getting more information out over the next several weeks.

**At this time, the JCCCNC is only accepting monetary donations.** All donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law and will be acknowledged. Please no relief goods or supplies at this time.

The Northern Japan Earthquake Relief Fund established by the JCCCNC is a three-fold plan over the next several months:

- **Relief** (Meeting immediate life saving and survival needs)
- **Recovery** (Creating sustainability, temporary shelters and housing needs, Post Traumatic Stress counseling, supplies for children, families and seniors)
- **Rebuild** (Supporting community and neighborhood capital and improvement projects and programs)

In 1995, the JCCCNC raised over \$600,000 towards citizen relief efforts for the Great Hanshin Awaji Earthquake that killed over 6,000 people and left over 300,000 people homeless. The donations received helped organize volunteer efforts to get food and water directly to the victims, citizen search efforts, provide clothing for those *who* lost their homes, distribute essential supplies for women, children and seniors, and we helped to feed and rebuild orphanages in Kobe. We have continued to visit and donate to the orphanage every year since 1995.

If there is one bright light in all this devastation, we know from our years of experience with the Kobe earthquake relief efforts that Japan and its people will endure and they will rise from the ashes and destruction.

The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) was established as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in California in 1973. The JCCCNC serves over 185,000 individuals a year and conducts numerous exchange programs between the United States and Japan. In spring of 2009, the JCCCNC lead a tour to Sendai, Japan.

To make a donation, please visit our website: [www.jcccnc.org](http://www.jcccnc.org) or call at: (415) 529-1322. Checks are preferred and can be sent to the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California at 1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA. 94115. **Checks can be made out to: The Northern Japan Earthquake Relief Fund.** *All donations will be acknowledged.*

Go to our Facebook Cause page:

[http://www.causes.com/campaigns/97128?cause\\_id=590211](http://www.causes.com/campaigns/97128?cause_id=590211)

We will be posting websites, fundraising events and other information.

***"The true test of a friendship is being there during the worst of times"***

We know that you join us in sending our thoughts and prayers to our friends throughout Japan.

Sincerely,

Paul Osaki  
Executive Director

***"Spread the Word, Share the Love"***

**Northern Japan Earthquake Relief Fund**

Established by the  
Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California  
1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115

**(415) 529-1322 [www.jcccnc.org](http://www.jcccnc.org)**

