

This is the fifth year of the Great East Japan Earthquake Recovery Program by Save the Children Japan, an international child rights organization.

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Four years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. We have been providing programs in the core areas of education, child protection, and creating child-friendly communities in the Tohoku area. In order to exhaustively cover those programs, the disaster risk reduction program for school children, the community grants initiative program which assists the activities and capacity-building of local NPOs, and the Fukushima program which provides children in Fukushima with greater opportunities for safe indoor and outdoor play, have been provided.

In the area of education, we have provided scholarships and have supported a practical training program for students of agricultural and fisheries high schools. Under our child protection program, we started providing *gakudo* (afterschool) programs with school supplies, better facilities, staff training, conducted surveys on safe environments for post 3.11 children, organized awareness-raising activities, and disseminated information on emergency mental health care for children at the time of the disaster.

In the area of creating child-friendly communities, we continue to listen to the voices of children while providing children with opportunities to help initiate the rebuilding of their communities. As a result, children's ideas has been bringing positive change to their communities as has been demonstrated by the completion of a child center, designed and developed by children, and by their involvement in the revitalization of their communities.

In disaster risk reduction, we have developed learning materials based on children's experience of the disaster, which have been utilized to raise awareness on disaster risk reduction within the community. Under the community grants initiative, besides our financial support, we have also been providing networking and capacity-building opportunities for local NPOs involved in children's causes.

In 2015, while engaging in the recovery efforts in the Tohoku area, Save the Children Japan will continue fulfilling our mission of realizing child rights to "survive, develop, be protected, and participate."

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