

## Great East Japan Earthquake, 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake, and 2019 Typhoon Hagibis Relief Fund Recipients as of January 2020

### IN TOHOKU (46 ORGANIZATIONS AND 68 PROJECTS):

**AFS Intercultural Programs Japan (AFS 日本協会)** AFS Intercultural Programs Japan is a nonprofit international exchange organization for students and adults. AFS Japan provides a wide range of programming, including summer camp programs, school-based exchanges, and shorter summer programs for high school students. With support from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, AFS Japan provided scholarships for students from the Tohoku region to participate in school-based exchanges, primarily to study in the United States.

<http://www.afs.or.jp/> (Japanese)

**Archi+Aid (アーキエイド)** was an organization and network of over 300 architects and university professors teaching architecture across Japan that operated for five years to assist in the reconstruction efforts in Tohoku. Archi+Aid conducted many projects that preserved memories of lost towns post-3.11, and to give local citizens a voice in the reconstruction of their devastated towns and help them visualize their future towns. With the goals of safety, sustainability, and preserving local culture, Archi+Aid used funds from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund to organize workshops that brought together architects, students of architecture, urban planners, and disaster prevention professionals together with local businesses, cooperatives, and residents to share their visions for the future of their cities.

**Ashinaga (あしなが育英会)** has provided financial, educational and emotional support to Japanese children who have lost one or both parents for any reason for the past 40 years. Funds from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund were used for programs providing much needed emotional support for children from Tohoku.

<https://en.ashinaga.org/> (English)

<http://www.ashinaga.org/> (Japanese)

**Ashoka Japan (アショカ・ジャパン)** provides opportunities for junior high, high school and college students who have creative and innovative ideas for revitalizing the Tohoku region to pitch their ideas as part of Tohoku Youth Venture. A grant from Japan Society's Relief Fund provided seed funding for 11 students to put their ideas into action. Projects included traditional dance workshops to unite community members and the creation of educational picture books for children on disaster prevention. A second grant provided funding for additional innovative Youth Ventures, including creating student support networks and helping residents in temporary housing feel more at home. The Tohoku Youth Venture initiative was launched with the vision to change society by enabling and empowering youth.

<http://japan.ashoka.org/> (Japanese)

**Association for the Corporate Support for the Arts (企業メセナ協議会)** conducts research, surveys and seminars to build partnerships between business and the arts community to promote arts and culture. With a grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, the Association provided local communities in Tohoku with funds to revitalize local festivals and folk entertainment as part of its "Hundred Festivals Revival Fund," which played a vital role in bringing communities together and preserving local cultural heritage. With a second grant, the "Hundred Festivals Revival Fund" was able to adopt six new activities focused on revitalizing the lives of people in the affected areas, including replacing ritual equipment and costumes that had been lost in the disaster.

<https://www.mecenat.or.jp/en/> (English)

<https://www.mecenat.or.jp/ja/> (Japanese)

**Asu e no Kibo (アスヘノキボウ)** works to build connections between the NPO, public, and private sectors to support entrepreneurs and NPO leaders as part of the long term reconstruction and revitalization of Onagawa in Miyagi prefecture. With support from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, Asu e no Kibo conducted a project to collect relevant data that local government, the civil sector and businesses can use to better understand the current situation in Onagawa and better measure impact and progress as stakeholders move forward on reconstruction and revitalization. Onagawa also served as a model for the data collection and analysis project for other towns. The second grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund helped Asu e no Kibo launch the VENTURE FOR JAPAN project, a recruitment business modeled after VENTURE FOR AMERICA in New York. The project aims to offer new graduates who are aspiring to become entrepreneurs an opportunity to train at local start-ups in Tohoku to promote entrepreneurship in Japan while supporting Tohoku's economy. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Asu e no Kibo has adjusted the original recruitment plan from having in-person information sessions to providing more information through a redesigned website and online events.

<http://www.asuenokibou.jp/> (Japanese)

**BEYOND Tomorrow** enables the youth of Tohoku to follow their dreams and aspirations while becoming the leaders of tomorrow through scholarships and mentoring programs. An initial grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund enabled three scholarship programs and five leadership programs for youth in Tohoku. A second grant provided increased opportunities for underrepresented youth who had experienced great adversity and would not otherwise have exposure to leadership programs.

<http://www.beyond-tomorrow.org/en/> (English)

<http://www.beyond-tomorrow.org/> (Japanese)

**Care Center Yawaragi (ケア・センターやわらぎ)** is a non-profit organization in Tokyo that offers personalized home care services for the elderly, including group homes, short-stay services, day services, and home help services. With support from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, the organization provided healthcare kits, including bicycles, ponchos, gloves, masks, and antiseptic, among other essentials necessary for healthcare providers in the region who care for the elderly, ill, disabled or pregnant. The healthcare workers focused on those outside of the shelters who lack mobility or means and require home care.

<http://www.yawaragi.or.jp/> (Japanese)

**ETIC. (エティック)** is a leading non-profit organization in Japan that trains and supports young social and business entrepreneurs. With the most recent grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, ETIC. organized a series of online activities in lead up to the 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of 3.11, helping to document the impact of the disaster, examine progress in Tohoku's recovery, disseminate stories of social entrepreneurs in Tohoku who turned crises into opportunities and U.S.-Japan collaboration, and identify lessons-learned from 3.11 about crisis management, leadership and resiliency in the context of the outbreak of the global pandemic in 2020. The final grant built on previous grants that supported the following projects: 1) a series of events to mark the 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of 3.11 and reflect on recovery in the region and looked to the future a project to nurture and support "hubs" that emphasized human resource development to promote self-sustaining economic and community revitalization; a fellowship program ("right-hand man" program) selecting and matching Fellows with specific expertise to small businesses, entrepreneurs and NPOs in an effort to help revitalize local economies. In the immediate aftermath 3.11, the Relief Fund supported ETIC's work to identify the most vulnerable (the elderly,

disabled, those with special medical needs) and match them with the critical services they needed.

<http://www.etic.or.jp/english/index.html> (English)

<http://www.etic.or.jp/> (Japanese)

**Fukushima Agriculture Revitalizing Network** (FAR-Net) started the Minero Dairy Farm, a nonprofit corporation governed by its members, to help revitalize dairy farming in Fukushima. The Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported the farm's Mo-Mo School, which fostered the understanding of dairy farming through educational programs as well as an internship program.

<http://far-net.or.jp/> (Japanese)

**Fukushima Organic Agriculture Network** (福島県有機農業ネットワーク) is a network of organic farmers, agricultural scientists, consumers and wholesalers in Fukushima Prefecture that promotes organic farming. A grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported its work with local farmers through new sales outlets, the decontamination of local farmland, and programs that improved farming in Fukushima. A second grant supported facilities and programs for enhancing cooperation between producers and consumers, additional programs to improve organic farming techniques, and initiatives to overcome stigma. <http://fukushima-yuuki.net/> (Japanese)

**Fukushima Solar and Agriculture Experience Association** (福島復興ソーラー・アグリ体験交流の会) is an agricultural project powered with its own solar energy park. As part of the programming, the Association started the Green Academy, an experiential learning program for students, elementary through university, which emphasizes teaching students to think and act. The Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported the construction of a permanent facility for the Green Academy.

**Ganbatte 365**, started after 3.11, used the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund to work with organizations in the disaster affected areas to help them tell their stories of recovery and renewal through videos, provide additional communication services to NPOs and other groups, and teach children technology and presentation skills through storytelling.

<https://www.ganbatte365.jp/> (English)

<https://www.ganbatte365.jp/index.php/ja/> (Japanese)

**General Reconstruction Association, Inc.** (GRA) is working to revitalize strawberry farming in Miyagi Prefecture by hiring local strawberry farmers and using new technology that will enable them to grow strawberries year round. Support from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund enabled the company to purchase necessary equipment for state-of-the-art greenhouses.

<http://www.gra-inc.jp/> (Japanese)

**Hand-in-Hand** is a collaborative program that brought three chorus groups from Tohoku, a region known for having among the best chorus groups in Japan, to New York on March 28, 2012 for a special performance with the New York City Opera Orchestra and special guests at Lincoln Center. The program included 90 elementary school and college students and was intended to lift their spirits and restore their hopes for the future.

**Human Rights Watch Japan** (ヒューマン・ライツ・ウォッチ) is a non-profit international organization dedicated to raising human rights awareness through reports and media coverage that focus international attention where human rights are violated. Focusing on children from Tohoku who lost one or both parents and are in alternative care, Human Rights Watch Japan received support from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund to work with the Japanese government and civic groups, investigated and

reported on the situation of these vulnerable children to improve alternative care not only in Tohoku, but throughout Japan.

<http://www.hrw.org/> (English)

<http://www.hrw.org/ja> (Japanese)

**IIE (イー)** in Aizu, Fukushima works with craftsmen to market and brand the highest level crafts produced in Tohoku as an effort to revitalize local communities. The Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported IIE's Tohoku Products Project, which provided educational opportunities for local craftsmen, assistance to develop new products, and disseminated information on the crafts through a website and publication.

<http://iie-aizu.jp/> (Japanese)

**Iitate Village (飯舘村)** was evacuated as a result of radioactive contamination from the nuclear accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. Although located outside the radiation exclusion zone, radiation carried by wind contaminated the village. The village's dynamic Mayor, Norio Kanno, was determined to bring the village back to life. The Relief Fund supported reunions organized by the village to help residents stay connected and maintain their sense of community.

<https://www.vill.iitate.fukushima.jp/> (Japanese)

**Japan Civil Network for Disaster Relief in East Japan (JCN) (東日本大震災支援全国ネットワーク)** is a network of 600 organizations that provide support to survivors of 3.11. With Japan Earthquake Relief Fund support, JCN shed light on the situation of citizens who had to evacuate from the Tohoku region, many of whom found themselves isolated and without support. JCN played a critical role in information sharing and networking among the approximately 200 organizations helping former Tohoku residents, who were scattered from Hokkaido to Okinawa.

<https://www.jpn-civil.net/2014/english/> (English)

<http://www.jpn-civil.net/> (Japanese)

**Japan Community Cinema Center (コミュニティシネマセンター)**, which brings quality, community-based film programs to regional areas throughout Japan, used its second grant to continue providing cultural and emotional support and unity in Tohoku through small and large-scale screenings of classic and contemporary films. Films and workshops took place at temporary housing locations and in community spaces.

<http://jc3.jp/wp/> (Japanese)

**Japanese Medical Society of America (JMSA) (米国日本人医師会)** is a professional medical association of Japanese-speaking doctors in New York. The Japan Earthquake Relief Fund's first grant supported JMSA's partnership with Kokoro-no-Care Nagomi, a project that created community-based multidisciplinary mental health care in Fukushima. Services were provided to patients with symptoms resulting from the 3.11 disaster, as well as those with pre-existing conditions. Through the second grant, JMSA partnered with the Kokoro-no-Kakehashi and a coalition of collaborators, including the Japan Association for Emergency Psychiatry, Japan Medical Support Network, University of California San Francisco, JAMSnet Tokyo and New York and various local welfare organizations in Iwate Prefecture, to provide mental health services to citizens in Otsuchi, Iwate Prefecture and to create a new regional model for mental health care using mobile units and new communication technologies. The project also supported the training and development of disaster psychiatrists and educated those affected by the disaster on issues of mental health.

<http://www.jmsa.org/> (English)

<https://www.jmsa.org/ja/> (Japanese)

**Japan NPO Center (日本 NPO センター)** was established after the Kobe earthquake to support the development of NPOs throughout Japan. In partnership with its sister organization, the Civil Society Initiative Fund (**市民社会創造ファンド**), used funds from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund to identify and support local community-based, grassroots NPOs and volunteer organizations involved in relief and sustainable recovery work throughout the affected region. The grants were mostly small in size, averaging 1,000,000 yen each, to reach smaller community-based organizations with speed and flexibility. In this way, community-based organizations that are not well known, but known in their communities, were supported in their efforts in amounts appropriate to their size.

<http://www.inpoc.ne.jp/?p=985> (English)

<http://www.inpoc.ne.jp/> (Japanese)

**Japan Primary Care Association (日本プライマリ・ケア連合学会)** is a professional society of medical practitioners, researchers and students that promotes best practices in the medical and health and welfare fields. In response to 3.11, the Japan Primary Care Association established the Primary Care for All Team (PCAT) to undertake medical relief work in the region. The Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported PCAT—multidisciplinary healthcare teams headed by doctors—who provided medical care to evacuees in shelters and temporary housing, and to those in need in their homes. The healthcare teams also provided long-term support for local physicians in the region to ensure that patients had access to continued primary care, including a specialized team in obstetrics.

[http://www.primary-care.or.jp/jpca\\_eng/index.html](http://www.primary-care.or.jp/jpca_eng/index.html) (English)

<http://www.primary-care.or.jp/> (Japanese)

**Japanese Society of Certified Clinical Psychologists (日本臨床心理士会)** is an association of certified clinical psychologists with organizations in all 47 prefectures in Japan, which serves and educates clinical psychologists. Funds supported psychological support programs in Miyagi and Iwate Prefectures.

<http://www.jsccp.jp/> (Japanese)

**JEN (ジェン)** is an international humanitarian relief and development organization with experience responding to disasters around the world, including Japan. A first grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported JEN's work in Ishinomaki, Miyagi Prefecture. It enabled JEN to provide emergency relief and debris and sludge clean up, as well as serving meals to evacuees. A second grant provided timely support to aqua-farmers and fishermen in four ports on the Oshika peninsula. The third grant supported JEN's "Memory Program," a storytelling contest that highlighted the work of individuals active in Tohoku reconstruction. JEN also received a grant for their relief and recovery work in Kumamoto after the earthquake in April 2016.

<http://www.jen-npo.org/en/> (English)

<http://www.jen-npo.org/> (Japanese)

**Jibunmirai Club (NPO法人じぶん未来クラブ)** partners with an American non-profit group called Young Americans to bring Japanese and American youth together through popular musical workshops aiming to instill values of respect, self-esteem, teamwork and the discovery of one's potential. With two grants from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, they organized a series of workshops in Tohoku in the fall of 2012 and the fall of 2013 that were very well received by the communities.

<http://jibunmirai.com/ya/index.html> (Japanese)

**KISYN (帰心の会)**, an organization started by five leading Japanese architects including Kengo Kuma, Toyo Ito, Kazuyo Sejima, Riken Yamamoto and Hiroshi Naito, built communal spaces called “Home-for-All” in communities devastated by the 3.11 tsunami (<http://www.home-for-all.org/about>). Partnering with a younger generation of architects and in close collaboration with local residents, “Home-for-All” provides a place of comfort, for sharing information, and a place for discussing recovery and reconstruction. The Relief Fund supported the construction of a “Home-for-All” for fishermen in Kamaishi city.

**Kokoro no Sodanshitsu (心の相談室)** was a collaborative effort of medical professionals and spiritual leaders that provided psycho-social support to those affected by the 3.11 disasters through toll free telephone consultations and “Café de Monk”, a radio program aired in Miyagi, Fukushima and Iwate Prefectures.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/Cobrapool> (Japanese)

**MAKOTO** supports and trains entrepreneurs in Miyagi, Iwate and Fukushima Prefectures and started the Council of Supporting Entrepreneurs for Recovery, which brings together organizations, government officials, corporations and universities interested in supporting entrepreneurship in Tohoku. MAKOTO’s programs include cocolin (<https://www.cocolin.jp/>), a co-working space in Sendai; a crowd funding site, Challenge Star; and a crowd sourcing program to match entrepreneurs with expertise. A second grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported MAKOTO’s work with entrepreneurs in Tohoku.

<https://www.mkto.org/english/> (English)

<http://www.mkto.org> (Japanese)

**Mirai Kikin (東日本大震災子ども未来基金)** is a foundation established in direct response to the large number of children who lost one or both parents in the March 11 disaster. Using a grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, Mirai Kikin provided children who lost one or both parents with financial support for educational expenses. Working with local boards of education and school principals, eligible children, from elementary to high school students, received a maximum of five years of financial support.

<http://www.mirai-kikin.com/> (Japanese)

**O.G.A. for Aid** supports economic, social and community rebuilding and healing in Minamisanriku and Kitakami in Miyagi and Iwate prefectures, respectively. The Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported OGA for Aid’s Green Farmers Miyagi project, including land reclamation to start new farms, sourcing new markets for local farmers, and developing secondary processing of food products to sell as Minamisanriku omiyage (gifts).

<http://www.ogaforaid.org/index.html> (English)

<http://www.ogaforaid.org/jp/> (Japanese)

**re:terra** started the Kesen Tsubaki Dream Project, a community development project including job creation, forestry conservation and tourism. Partnering with a small refinery that was damaged as a result of 3.11, an NPO that helps the disabled find employment, and a group of women doctors, re:terra developed and sold Kesen Tsubaki hand crème using oil from camellia seeds. re:terra also supported the conservation of the cedar forests in Kesen where the camellia plants grow.

<http://www.reterra.org/> (Japanese)

<http://kesentsubaki.jp/> (Japanese)

<https://www.facebook.com/KesenTsubakiDreamProject> (Japanese)

**Rias no Mori (りあすの森)** works in Ishinomaki in Miyagi prefecture on restoration and community-

building efforts in a way that takes into consideration the area's educational, environmental, economic and welfare needs. A grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported Satoyama Activity Center's diverse educational and recreational programs that promote more sustainable ways of life. A second grant continued support for the Satoyama Activity Center's programs, as well as repairs on the facility and wilderness maintenance.

<http://www.riasnomori.jp> (Japanese)

**Riku Café (りくカフェ)** started after 3.11 as a small community space where local residents could relax, come together over tea or coffee, and share information in Rikuzentakata in Iwate prefecture. Given the success of the space, the Relief Fund supported the building of a larger café designed by architect Yuri Naruse for the organization to provide more services and activities for the community. The Relief Fund also supported NPO Riku Café to bridge the increased costs of construction due to the building boom in Tohoku.

<https://www.facebook.com/rikucafe>; <http://rikucafe.jp/> (Japanese)

<http://rikucafe.jp/about-english> (English)

**Safecast** is a Tokyo-based global volunteer-driven non-profit organization that was formed to gather and share data on radiation and air quality from throughout the world to provide citizens real-time and accurate environmental data. With the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund grant, Safecast installed seven Pointcast sensors in Fukushima, Miyagi and Iwate prefectures, and developed the generation Pointcast sensor.

<http://blog.safecast.org/> (English)

<http://safecast.jp/> (Japanese)

**Sanaburi Foundation (地域創造基金さなぶり)** in Tohoku supports local groups working on long-term recovery and community development efforts in Fukushima, Miyagi and Iwate Prefectures. Funds from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund went towards supporting the Foundation's data initiative, which aimed to help the region better understand the needs in each prefecture as well as their progress through the use of data. The project has been indefinitely postponed due to unforeseen circumstances faced by the Foundation.

<http://www.sanaburifund.org/shiensupport/en/> (English)

<http://www.sanaburifund.org/> (Japanese)

**Studio for Cultural Exchange (文化交流工房)** was founded to promote cultural exchange activities between Japan and the United States. *Voices from Japan: Despair and Hope from Disaster* was its first collaborative project between the two countries and included *tanka* written by survivors of the earthquake and tsunamis. With support from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, the experience of the *tanka* poets from Tohoku were shared in the United States and beyond.

**Supporting Union for Practical-Use of Educational Resources (教育支援協会)**, in partnership with Abukuma NS Net, both of which run summer camps for children all over Japan, started the Fukushima Kids Summer Camp (ふくしまキッズ夏季林間学校) in the summer of 2011. The camp included first through ninth graders from Fukushima Prefecture who were not able to enjoy the outdoors due to radiation concerns. In the summer of 2014, with support from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, the Supporting Union's fourth Fukushima Kids Summer Camp took place in Hokkaido.

<https://fukushima-kids.org/> (Japanese)



**Sweet Treat 311** supports children affected by the 3.11 disasters through the Ogatsu Academy. Three grants from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported the Academy, which provides academic support, farming, fishing and nature programs, and IT training programs for children of Ogatsu in Miyagi prefecture. Sweet Treat 311 purchased an abandoned school, and an additional grant in 2014—a matching grant—from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported the renovation of the school into a place that connects the children and citizens of Ogatsu to nature and others from around Japan and the world.

**The Taylor Anderson Memorial Fund (テイラー・アンダーソン記念基金)** was started by Taylor's family to honor her memory after 3.11. Taylor was teaching English in Ishinomaki in Miyagi prefecture as part of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme at the time of 3.11. The Memorial Fund focused on recovery projects in Ishinomaki that benefited students, schools and families, starting with creation of reading corners in schools and inviting Japanese students to the United States. The Memorial Fund has supported eight projects in Ishinomaki.

<https://tamf.jp/en/> (English)

<https://tamf.jp/> (Japanese)

**Tokyo Volunteer Network for Disaster Relief (東京災害ボランティアネットワーク)** is a disaster preparedness, relief and recovery organization based in Tokyo with extensive experience in the region (including during the 1998 Fukushima flood). Funds from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported the establishment of a distribution center in the city Tome in Miyagi Prefecture for the food, water, blankets and other goods collected by the Network. The network coordinated the efforts of approximately 3,000 volunteers who came to the region in groups of 15-50 for one week at a time to help distribute emergency relief supplies and help with clean-up efforts.

<http://www.tosaibo.net/> (Japanese)

**Tsumugi, Inc. (紬)** is a social business that started the Kumiki Project, which produces interlocking wood blocks that can be made into furniture and buildings. With a grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, the wood blocks were used to construct a building in Ishinomaki in Miyagi prefecture that served as a community space and a market for local businesses who have not been able to rebuild.

<http://kumiki.in/> (Japanese)

**Tumugiya (つむぎや)** provides economic, social and community support in Tohoku. A grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund enabled the opening of a new food shop on the Oshika Peninsula near Ishinomaki in Miyagi prefecture utilizing local fresh seafood, to revitalize local communities that were damaged by the disaster. With a second grant, Tumugiya worked with the local fishing community to build a facility for processing and selling seafood to revitalize the cultivation and sale of products like seaweed (wakame).

<http://www.facebook.com/TUMUGIYA?sk=wall> (Japanese)

**Voluntary Architects Network (ボランティア・アーキテツ・ネットワーク)** was established by Japanese architect Shigeru Ban as a disaster assistance organization that focuses on architectural projects in post-disaster areas around the world. Mr. Ban designed the new train station in Onagawa in Miyagi prefecture, which was swept away by the tsunami. A public bath was included as part of the train station, and the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported the Onagawa Town Onsen Hot Bath Facility Tile Art Project. Local residents and individuals involved in the recovery process were invited to paint tiles for two murals that decorated the public bath. Working with Mr. Ban, artist Hiroshi Senju and industrial



designer Eiji Mitooka oversaw the design of the murals.

<https://www.facebook.com/VoluntaryArchitectsNetwork> (English and Japanese)

**World in Tohoku (WiT)** works with social entrepreneurs in Tohoku to scale their social impact and help them achieve financial and organizational sustainability in order to strengthen their capacity and impact in the region. The grant from the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported projects such as coaching for social ventures, establishing a free school in Sendai for children in need, and branding support for a nature school in Fukushima.

<http://worldintohoku.org/> (Japanese)

### **IN KUMAMOTO (6 ORGANIZATIONS, 7 PROJECTS):**

The **Association for Aid and Relief (AAR)**, an international organization that works with people with disabilities in emergency situations, is rebuilding Tanpopo House, a center for disabled persons in the village of Nishihara. JERF provided institutional support and funded the purchase of equipment for the house and kitchen, which served the disabled, the economically disadvantaged, and the elderly.

<http://www.aarjapan.gr.jp/english/activity/japan/> (English)

<http://www.aarjapan.gr.jp/> (Japanese)

**FUMIDAS** serves as a liaison between youth, work opportunities, and the community in Kumamoto. The Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported FUMIDAS to accelerate the work of local businesses and organizations working on recovery by partnering them with professionals who have specific business knowledge such as branding, sales, IT, and management. The students are called “right arm fellows”. .  
<http://www.fumidas-project.com/> (Japanese) Their latest project, The Kumamoto Reconstruction Subsidiary Business Program, was launched to address labor shortages experienced by disaster area businesses and organizations affected by the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake and the subsequent heavy rain disaster in July 2020. The project matches people who are interested in getting involved in reconstruction as a side job with organizations that need workers to accelerate recovery.

**JEN** is a leading non-profit organization providing post-disaster relief, recovery and reconstruction in Japan. Recognizing that many of the local NPOs in Kumamoto have limited experience in recovery and reconstruction, JEN partnered with 20 local community leaders to enhance recovery and reconstruction efforts and strengthen the capacity of local leaders. JERF supported training programs for these local leaders.

<http://www.jen-npo.org/en/> (English)

<http://www.jen-npo.org/> (Japanese)

**Katariba**, which works with junior and senior high schools students throughout Japan, started the Kumamoto Collab School in Mashiki village. The school provides support to junior and senior high school students with afterschool tutoring, mental health support, and “a place to hang out” where they can talk about their hopes and desires for the future. Japan Society’s Relief Fund provided institutional support and enabled Katariba to organize four retreats for the students to expand their horizons and knowledge, inspire them, and bring them together with other students.

<http://www.katariba.or.jp/> (Japanese)

**The Kumamoto University Faculty of Education** launched the Mashiki Project with funds from Japan Society’s Relief Fund to provide support for students and schools in Mashiki town and other regions

suffering serious damage from the 2016 earthquake. The project offered opportunities for students in the affected region to attend night study groups and test prep sessions, among other forms of support.

<https://www.educ.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/?lang=en> (English)

<https://www.educ.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/> (Japanese)

The **Kumamoto Wellness Support Institute** started KumaCafe to support residents living in temporary housing in Mashiki, Mifune, Minami-Aso, Ushiki, Uzuchi and Kousa towns in Kumamoto. Through the café, the Institute helped these communities build self-reliance and healthy living through programs such as exercise classes to prevent health problems due to inactivity such as the so-called “economy class syndrome”, stress elimination classes, and community gardening. The Japan Earthquake Relief Fund supported the purchase of equipment and the work of healthcare professionals at Kumacafe.

<http://www.kwsi.co.jp/> (Japanese)

#### **Hagibis (4 organizations, 4 projects)**

The **Ibaraki Council of Social Welfare** facilitates cooperation between local people, organizations and groups in the Ibaraki region. With support from Japan Society’s Relief Fund, they are launching projects to enhance future disaster-preparedness in the region. Funds will go toward maintaining stockyards for materials and equipment that can be used by disaster volunteer centers. Funds will also support visits to community meet-up spaces to share information about recovery from Typhoon Hagibis as well as infection-prevention strategies for the COVID-19 pandemic.

<http://ibaraki-welfare.or.jp/> (Japanese)

**Ibaraki NPO Center Commons** serves as a hub for the network of over 830 non-profit organizations in Ibaraki, helps create safety nets in the community, and strengthens the capacity of local NPOs. Through Japan Society’s Relief Fund they will create programs and guidelines to promote disaster prevention strategies for foreign residents in the area, including disaster prevention classes, multilingual guidebooks, and information exchanges with disaster prevention organizations outside the prefecture.

<http://www.npocommons.org/> (Japanese)

The **Nagano Council of Social Welfare** provides information and project support for community welfare services throughout Nagano Prefecture, and manages the operation of disaster volunteer centers during times of crisis. Japan Society’s Relief Fund supported their “Rakuno Project Supporting Farmers Affected by Typhoon Hagibis”, which focuses on revitalizing the region’s main industry, i.e. fruit cultivation, as well as promoting the local economy and generating employment opportunities.

<http://www.nsyakyo.or.jp/> (Japanese)

**Nagano NPO Center** connects local organizations with specialized NPOs to support disaster-resilient urban development. The Saku City Disaster-Resistant Town Development Project was launched with funds from Japan Society’s Relief Fund to raise citizens’ awareness of disaster prevention through the creation of disaster prevention maps and workshops for local residents.

<https://www.npo-nagano.org/> (Japanese)