



**American  
Red Cross**

## Japan Earthquake and Pacific Tsunami

Six Month Donor Bulletin  
September 11, 2011



### SIGNS OF RECOVERY

It has been six months since the earthquake and tsunami caused widespread devastation through northeastern Japan. Mr. Yuki and Mrs. Teruko Kumagai, two of more than 300,000 people directly affected by this devastating event, are slowly getting their lives back on track, tending their small tomato and cucumber garden and transforming their temporary house into a home. For them, this small garden serves as a symbol of hope for a full recovery.



Japanese Red Cross

Mr. and Mrs. Kumagai tend to their garden at their temporary home six months after the tsunami destroyed their previous home.

Across the region, similar signs of recovery are rising from the debris as the Red Cross continues to play a lead role in relief and recovery. Although 6,800 people still live in evacuation centers, the Japanese Red Cross has helped approximately 100,000 families, such as Mr. and Mrs. Kumagai, to move into temporary homes. Each family has received an appliance package, funded in part by the donations to the American Red Cross, containing a television set, refrigerator, washing machine, rice cooker, microwave oven, and hot water dispenser items which help them resume their normal, daily lives.

"We're extremely grateful for this help, because it would have been hard for us to find the money to buy these things ourselves," Mr. Kumagai said.

The Kumagais are also recipients of a cash grant funded by the Japanese Red Cross. "A lot of that money has been vital for food and basic necessities," said Mrs. Kumagai.

This Japanese Red Cross assistance is possible in part, because of the support shown by the American Red Cross. To date, the American Red Cross has dedicated nearly \$260 million in assistance through the generosity of the American public.

### RED CROSS RELIEF AND RECOVERY EFFORTS

The Japanese Red Cross and its global Red Cross partners have provided assistance from the first day, including food, emergency kits, blankets and supplies. The Japanese Red Cross staffed government-run evacuation centers, improved water and sanitation conditions and provided partitions to increase privacy and air purifiers to improve inside air quality.

One of the primary concerns for those affected was access to medical care and emotional support. More than 800 Japanese Red Cross medical teams have treated nearly 80,000 people and emotional support teams have counseled nearly 14,000. Special elder care teams are in evacuation centers, to provide for the needs of the elderly, who make up the majority of those affected by the tsunami. With funds provided in part by the American Red Cross, the Japanese Red Cross also plans to build a temporary hospital and rebuild a nursing school dedicated to training specialists in disaster medical care. Other recovery projects include social welfare programs for the elderly and children as well as psychological support services.

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The Japanese Red Cross has developed a \$350 million long-term recovery plan that focuses on improving living conditions for people in evacuation centers and in temporary homes. The plan also aims to improve medical services and facilities and increase the capacity of the Japanese Red Cross to respond to future disasters.

In addition, the Japanese Red Cross has provided approximately \$3.4 billion to local governments to distribute to survivors who have lost their homes, loved ones and livelihoods as a result of the tsunami.



Student Red Cross nurses have cared for many in the aftermath of the tsunami and earthquake in Japan.

The American Red Cross continues to work with the Japanese Red Cross to support their long-term recovery plans to ensure that donor dollars meet the needs of survivors in the most effective way possible.

## **The American Red Cross has—**

- Committed nearly \$260 million to date for relief and recovery operations:
- Provided \$241 million in support of the Japanese Red Cross;
- Provided \$500,000 to the World Food Programme for logistical support to the government of Japan;
- Provided \$3 million to the International Organization for Migration to support the return of foreign nationals;
- Assisted 7,800 U.S. military families as they return from Japan, drawing on the strength of our Service to the Armed Forces global network;
- Helped more than 2,500 people prepare for the tsunami's possible impact on the West Coast and in Hawaii; and
- Deployed three specialists to provide technical support for Japanese Red Cross response activities.

## **The Japanese Red Cross, with support from the global Red Cross and Red Crescent network, has—**

- Supplied families with food and thousands of blankets, clothing items, sleeping supplies and cleaning tools;
- Supported people in evacuation centers with improved hygiene facilities, privacy measures, healthcare counseling and volunteers to provide care and operational support;
- Reached nearly 80,000 people with healthcare services;
- Provided psychological and emotional support for nearly 14,000 people; and
- Provided nearly 100,000 families, with a set of appliances for temporary housing. Their goal is to reach 110,000 families.

## **THANK YOU**

American Red Cross support of the response and recovery work in Japan is made possible by the generosity of corporations, foundations and individuals. You can help people affected by disasters like earthquakes, floods, fires and hurricanes, as well as countless crises at home and around the world, by making a donation to support American Red Cross Disaster Relief. Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for and provide shelter, food, emotional support and other assistance in response to disasters. Contributions may also be sent to your local American Red Cross chapter or to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013.

To learn more about the work of the American Red Cross in the U.S. and around the world, please visit [redcross.org](http://redcross.org).