



Reaching Out in the City, Connecting to the Community

An Outreach & Companion-Support Project for Children and Young People

NPO aim (Specified Nonprofit Corporation)

About Our Executive Director

Shoko Fujino

Based in Fukuoka City. While a student at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, she spent a year living in Bangladesh. Coming home, she felt that Japan's own social problems were just as serious — so after two and a half years at a private company, she started a tutoring service for students who had stopped attending school.

She came to believe that support cannot reach children and young people who are simply waiting to be found, so in July 2022 she began reaching out to them directly at Kego Park.

What she loves most: sharing a laugh with the young people others call “delinquent.”



About the Organization

NPO aim

aim began in 2019 as an informal group offering home tutoring to students who had stopped attending school.

Believing that support cannot reach children and young people who are simply waiting to be found, aim started street outreach with children and young people in entertainment districts across Fukuoka Prefecture in July 2022.

From October 2023 to September 2024, aim connected with 1,483 children and young people.

Today aim's work includes street outreach, consultations and accompanied visits, a drop-in space, food assistance, emergency overnight shelter, tutoring, and experience-based events. In December 2025, aim also began outreach in Kurume City.





How aim Sees Children and Young People

aim believes children and young people are

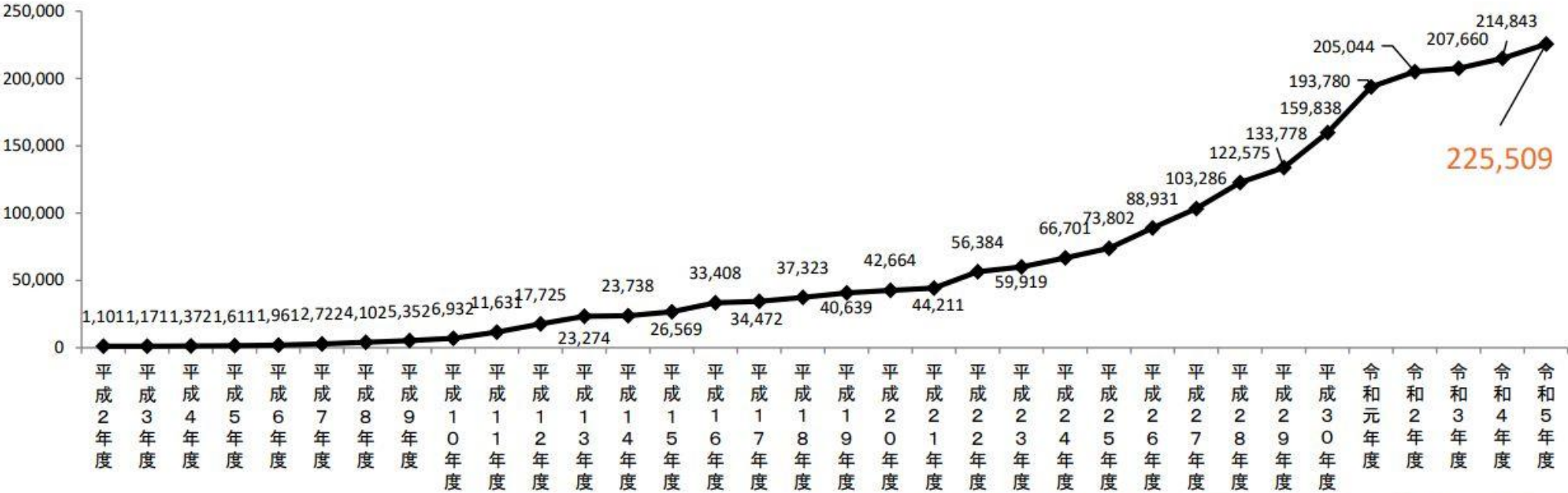
**“people who can take ownership of
their own lives.”**





The Challenge aim Is Addressing

Trend in Child Abuse Consultations Handled by Child Guidance Centers



(注) 平成22年度の件数は、東日本大震災の影響により、福島県を除いて集計した数値。

Note: this chart is reproduced exactly as published and its axis labels remain in Japanese. The x-axis lists Japanese fiscal years from Heisei 2 (1990) through Reiwa 5 (2023); the y-axis is the number of cases handled. The most recent figure shown is 225,509 cases.

Source: Children and Families Agency, “Number of Child Abuse Consultations Handled by Child Guidance Centers, FY2022 (Preliminary)”

Social Factors That Make It Hard to Reach Support



- Child abuse consultations handled by child guidance centers are now 200 times higher than 30 years ago.
- “Yami-baito” (illicit gig work recruited over social media) fits neatly with how young people use social media — a sign of a broader shift in who gets drawn into crime.



The Reality for Children and Young People Who Gather in Entertainment Districts Like Kego Park

— They gather here because they cannot rely on, or feel unable to turn to, their parents — often because of abuse —

Young people who gather around Kego Park are often judged only by their visible behavior and labeled “delinquent” or “a problem.” But behind that behavior are children and young people who cannot rely on, or feel unable to turn to, their parents — often because of abuse.

Many have already tried talking to public agencies or other support groups, found it didn't work out, and are left with a negative impression of “support.” Even where systems exist, these are children and young people who have not been able to reach them.



The Reality for Children and Young People Who Gather at Kego Park

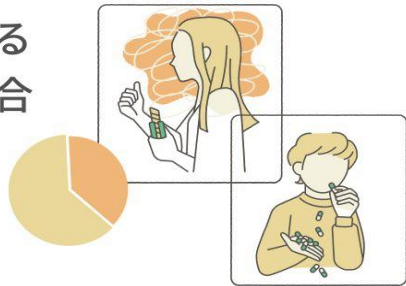
およそ**2**人に**1**人が
家庭に問題がある子ども・若者である



EN: Roughly 1 in 2 is a child or young person with problems at home.

自傷行為をしている
子ども・若者の割合

37 %



EN: Share who engage in self-harm: 37%.

精神疾患、発達障害など
何かしらの生きづらさを
抱えている子ども・
若者の割合



EN: Share living with some form of difficulty —
mental illness, developmental disability, etc.: 69%.

困っているものの
相談したことのない
子ども・若者

40 %



EN: Struggling, but never told anyone: 40%.

Source: survey of 45 children and young people who gather at Kego Park, July–October 2024. (Images shown exactly as published; Japanese labels reproduced unaltered, with English captions added alongside.)

Why the Existing System Makes Support Difficult



- Government support windows are open only on weekdays, 8:45 AM–5:15 PM — support for nights, weekends, and emergencies is limited. (Notably, last year-end and New Year we received reports of runaways from the police and parents.)
 - Public agencies focus mainly on public-safety patrols and monitoring; few organizations provide ongoing street outreach.
 - We remain reachable even after a young person drops out of public support — using the outreach experience we've built, we can actively reach back out and bring them into a consultation.
- 

実績と信頼性



活動開始：2022年7月

夜回り、フリースペース、
伴走支援の3つの柱で活動



夜回り



フリースペース



伴走支援

延べ5,019人の
子ども・若者と接点を持つ

→ 5,019 →



多様な背景を持つ子ども・若者たち
と繋がる

個別伴走支援：
延べ600件以上の実績

→ 600件以上



一人ひとりに寄り添う、
きめ細やかな支援体制。



学習支援



メンタル健康
サポート



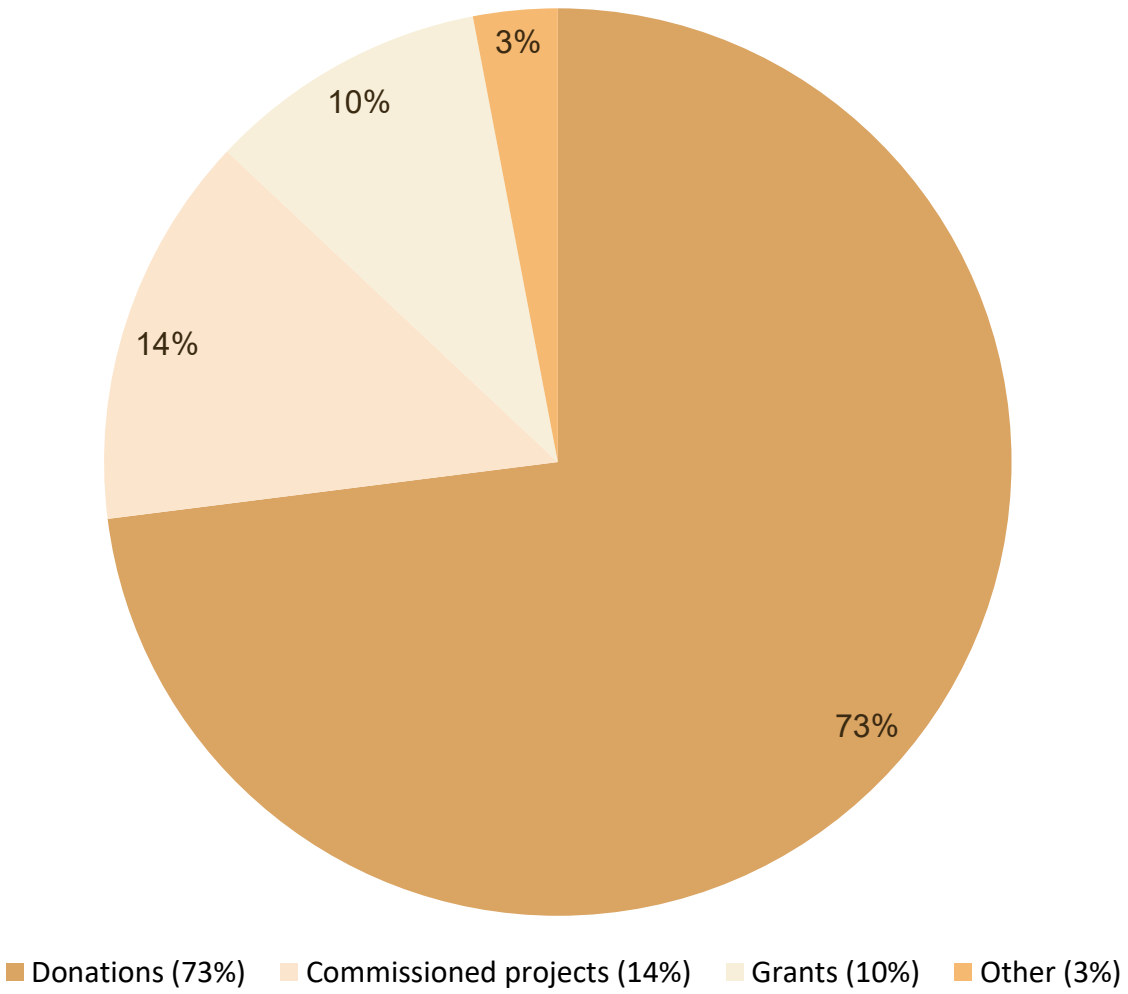
住宅支援

子ども・若者の未来のために、確かな一歩を。

EN summary: Track Record & Credibility — Activities began July 2022, built on three pillars: night outreach, a free drop-in space, and companion support. Total contacts: 5,019. Companion-support cases: 600+, incl. tutoring, mental-health support, housing help. “A solid step forward for the future of children and young people.” (Image unaltered; Japanese text retained.)

Breakdown of Income (%)

Total: ¥11,656,379



73% of our income comes from donations

Commissioned projects reflect a model-project grant, so that figure applies to a single fiscal year only.
73% of our revenue comes from donations.

A Typical Month's Income and Expenses

Income: roughly ¥160,000–180,000/month

- Monthly supporter donations: ¥130,000
- One-time donations: ¥30,000–50,000

(excludes one-off donations, crowdfunding, and grants)

Expenses:

- Personnel costs: ¥500,000 (about ¥300,000 goes directly to frontline support)
- Office rent, etc.: ¥100,000
- Transportation: ¥40,000
- Consultation-related costs: ¥50,000

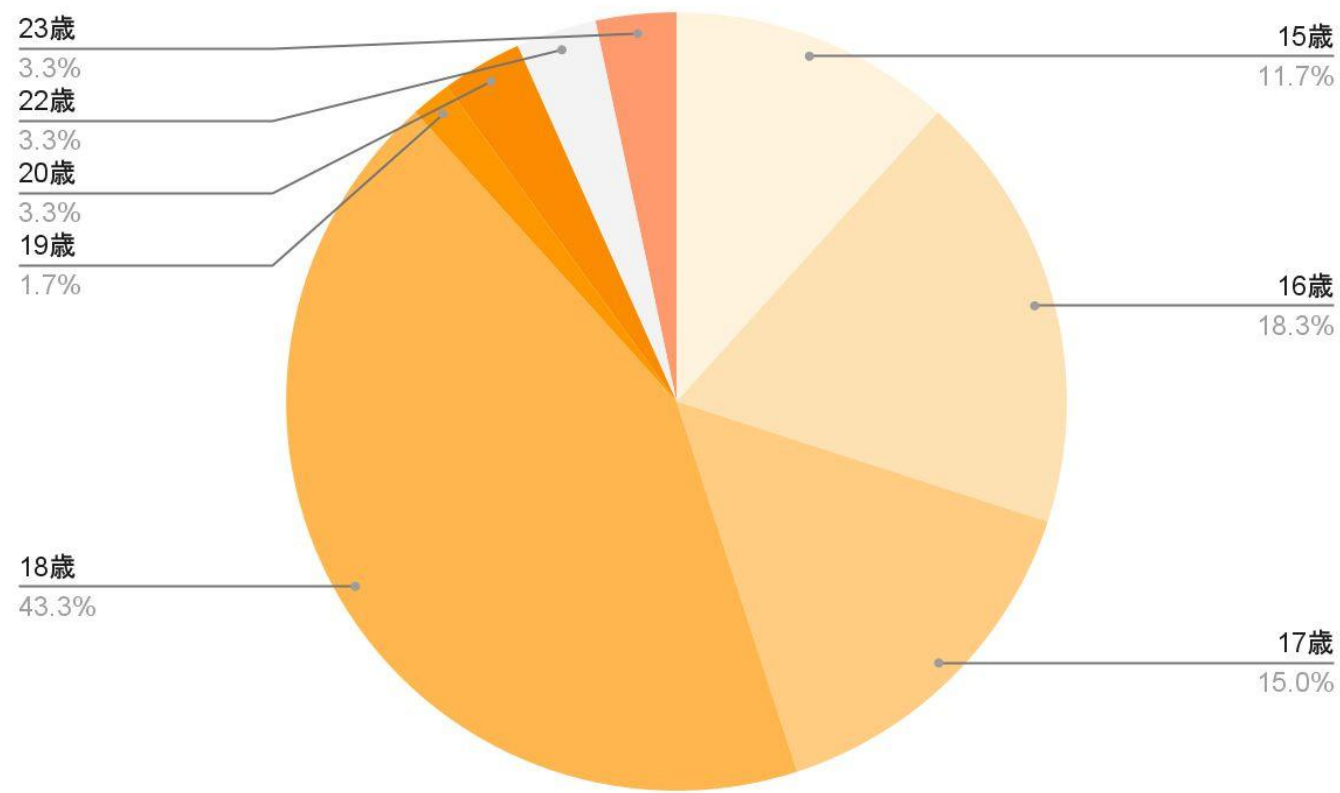
These are typical baseline monthly costs. Snacks handed out on night outreach are covered separately by donations — about ¥40,000 worth a month.



What the People We Support Come to Us About



Ages of People We Talked With (%)



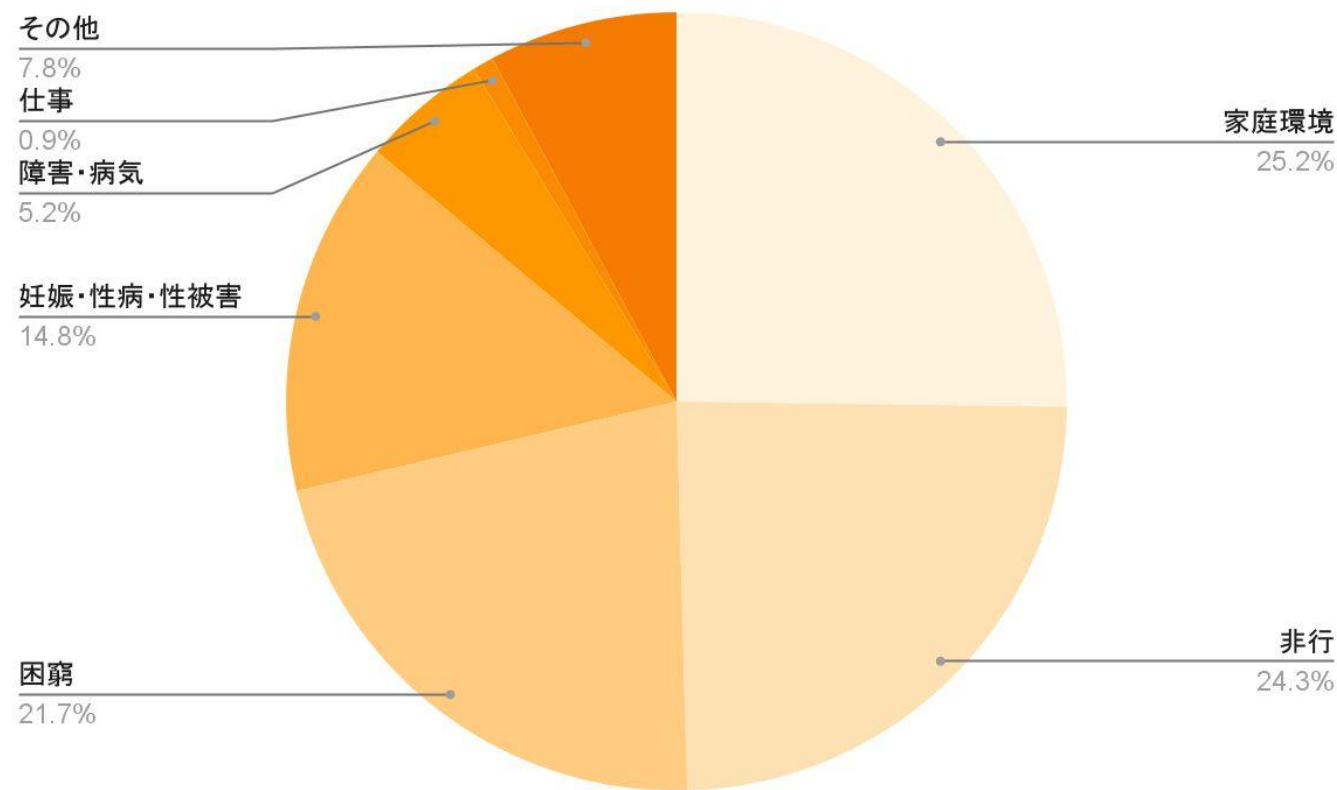
85% were age 15–18

About 45% were minors (age 15–17).
The single largest group was 18-year-olds, at about 40%.

Chart image reproduced unaltered (Japanese age labels). Reading left to right in the original: age 15 → 11.7%, 16 → 18.3%, 17 → 15.0%, 18 → 43.3%, 19 → 1.7%, 20 → 3.3%, 22 → 3.3%, 23 → 3.3%.

Source: 79 children and young people who came in for consultation with NPO aim, October–December 2024.

Types of Concerns Raised (%)



Most concerns are about home life, delinquency, or hardship

Given the age range, very few concern employment. Consultations about pregnancy and related issues have also been increasing recently.

Chart image reproduced unaltered (Japanese labels): Home environment 25.2%, Delinquency 24.3%, Poverty/hardship 21.7%, Pregnancy/STIs/sexual harm 14.8%, Disability/illness 5.2%, Other 7.8%, Work 0.9%.

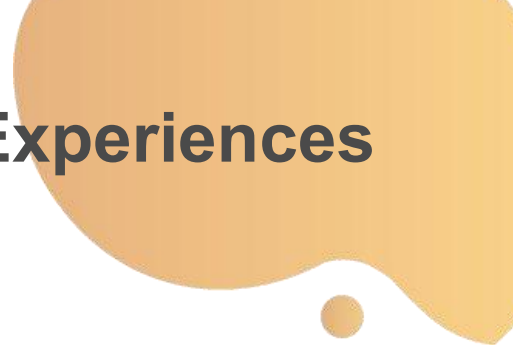
Source: 79 children and young people who came in for consultation with NPO aim, October–December 2024.

A Real Case: A Woman We Met at Age 16 (Now 19)

- In an infant home from birth, then a children's care home until junior-high graduation → grew up in the social-welfare system, but not currently connected to any support.
- After leaving care, moved back and forth between psychiatric hospitalization and a group home for people with disabilities.
- Left the group home to live alone, on public welfare assistance → this is when she met aim at Kego Park.
- We accompany her to the welfare office every month when she collects her benefits.
- Her home has filled with trash and she's fallen behind on utility bills, cycling between internet cafes and home → we've helped her clean up together many times.
- No contact with family; when police take her into protective custody, they call aim.
- Unable to trust people, she repeatedly tests the relationship.
- Sometimes works nights in the adult-entertainment industry, but never for long.



A Common Pattern in Kego-Area Support: Negative Past Experiences



Some young people were once connected to public support — but that experience itself was negative.

→ Home doesn't feel safe, yet they don't want to enter a child guidance center's temporary shelter.

→ So they run away instead. (Fukuoka Prefecture has begun offering shelters for children and young people, but once we explain that a shelter stay could later lead to a temporary protective facility, many become unwilling to use the shelter at all.)



A Common Pattern: Not Recognizing Themselves as a Victim



In some cases, young people were never connected to support simply because they didn't know it existed — or weren't aware they were being victimized.

→ Example: physical abuse by a parent. Asked, “Have you ever talked to a child guidance center about this?”, they often say, “It's only sometimes, and it's partly my fault,” and never make contact.

How common is this? → Most have contacted a child guidance center or similar service at least once; it's rarer to find someone who has never told anyone at all. (The situation in Kurume City is not yet known.)



What It Takes to Reconnect Young People With Public Support

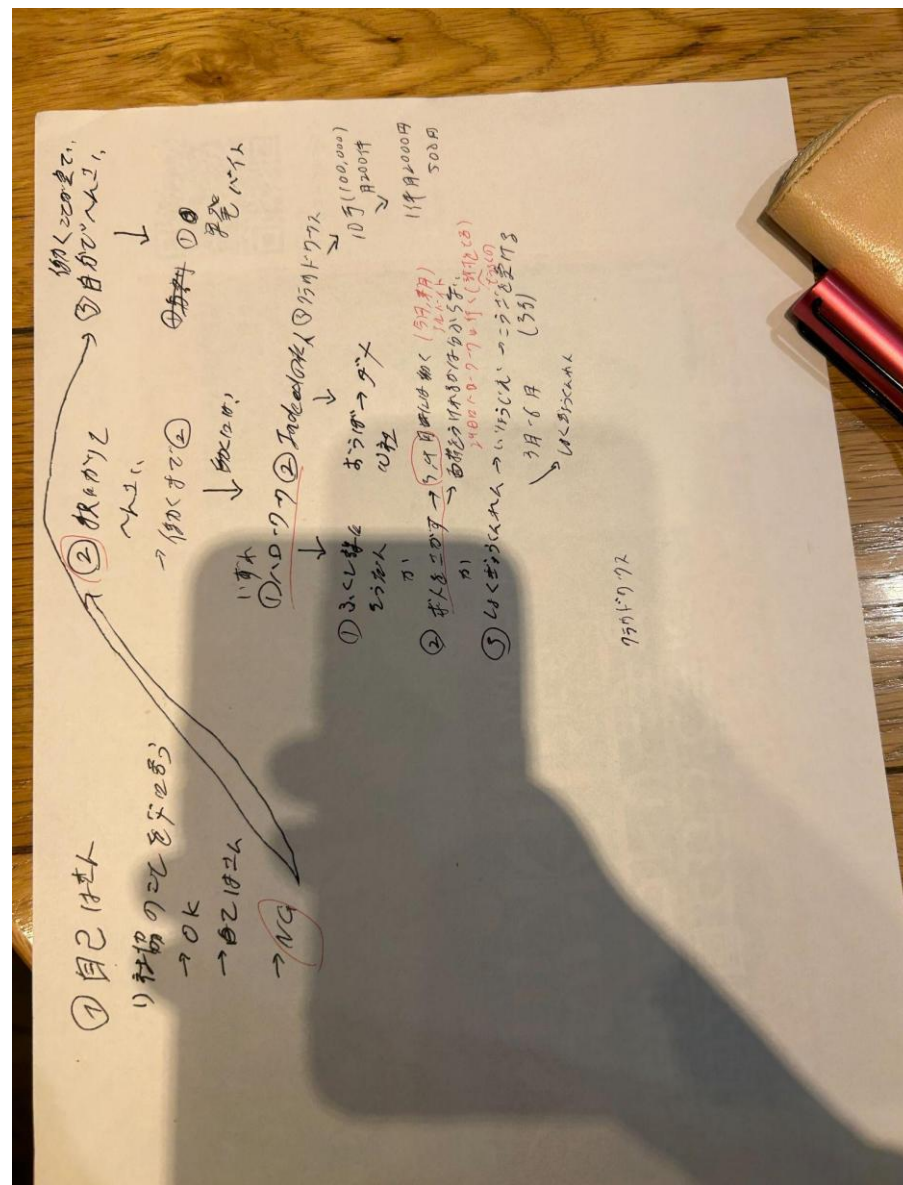


For young people once connected to public support, what motivates them to reconnect after disengaging?

→ Being accompanied to appointments, and already being connected to us by the time a serious problem hits “rock bottom,” both matter. Meeting them during police custody, or exchanging visits and letters while they're in a juvenile classification home or training school, also does a great deal to deepen trust.

Beyond having the right structures, the caseworker's actual skill matters just as much: clearly naming a specific problem and explaining the benefit of talking it through; choosing between casual conversation and visual tools depending on what works for that person; and judging whether the young person is ready to act before making any suggestion.





EN note: a young person's own handwritten notes, made together with staff, weighing job-search options (Hello Work, job listing sites, crowdsourced work). Shown unaltered as an example of the visual, hands-on casework described on the previous slide.

Why Young People Drop Out of Public Support



We said we keep walking alongside young people even after they drop out of public support — so what usually causes that dropout?

→ Most often, a facility feels too restrictive and they leave. Support agencies also tend to stop reaching out once a situation looks settled. And because many services carry an age limit, contact often ends there too.



Working With the Police



What does our cooperation with the police look like, and has it changed how they see these young people?

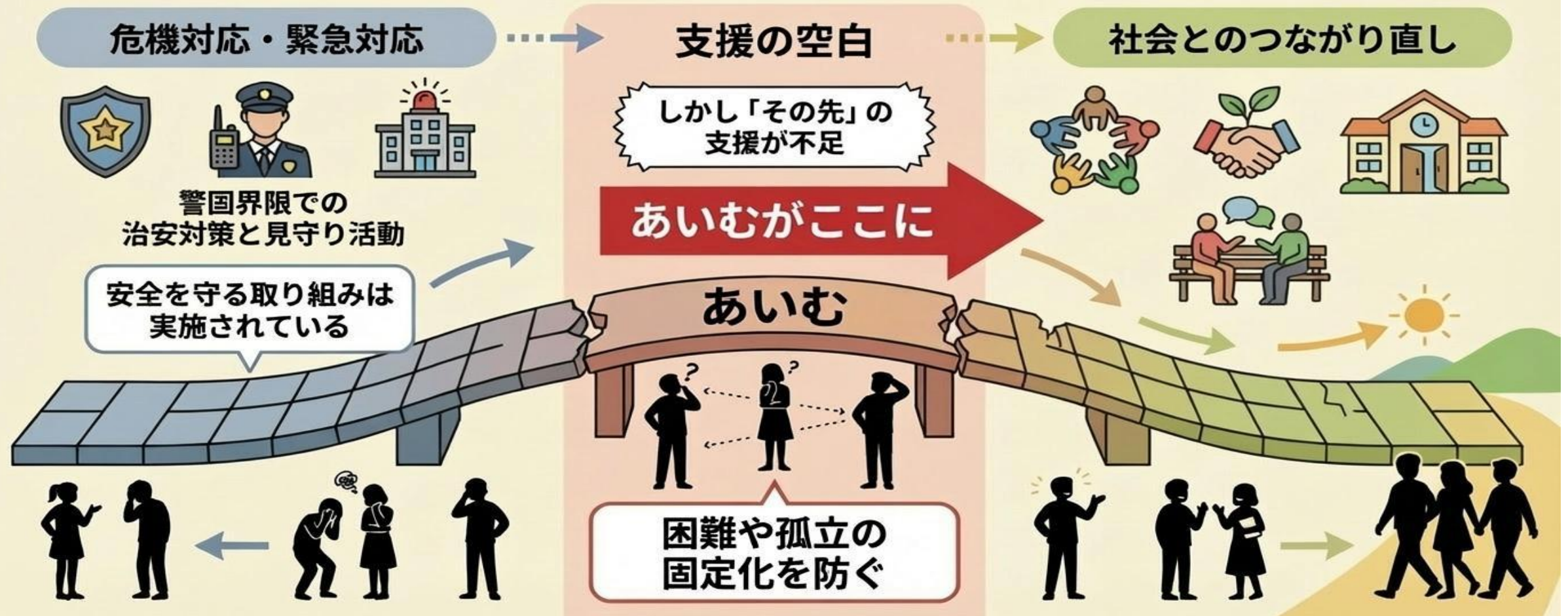
→ We give talks at Fukuoka Prefectural Police's Chuo Station (which covers Kego Park) and at Kurume Station, and sit as a committee member on the Prefectural Police's “Committee to Protect Children and Young People in the Kego Area.” We're also occasionally consulted directly.

These efforts exist because everyone agrees the real need is welfare-based support, not enforcement — but in practice, we often still sense that public-safety concerns are the main motivation.



「守る」から「立ち上がる」までをつなぐ支援の不足

危機対応・緊急対応の後に残される「人と関わり直す経験」を支える仕組みの空白



EN summary: "Crisis Response" → "The Support Gap" (aim works here) → "Reconnecting With Society." Public-safety patrols and monitoring exist, but support for what comes after — the experience of relating to people again — is missing. aim fills that gap, preventing hardship and isolation from becoming permanent. (Image reproduced unaltered; Japanese text retained.)

あいむの使命と基盤となる考えと成果

— 使命から成果への繋がり —

あいむは、行動から始めるのではなく、
「人との関係を取り戻す」という使命を起点に、
支援を組み立てています。

実 | 成果：

- ・ こども・若者たちの就労や社会参画
- ・ こども・若者たちが公的支援に繋がる
- ・ 地域のこども・若者の支え方が更新される

枝・葉 | 活動：アウトリーチ・居場所・伴走支援

活動開始から2025年8月までにのべ**5,019人**と接点を持ち、のべ**600件**の伴走支援を行った

幹 | 基盤：安心して関わり方を試せる長期的な信頼関係

根 | 使命：「どんな『わたらしさ』にも、あたたかな居場所を」を目指して、こども・若者が他者や社会との関係性を取り戻せるようになる

EN summary: Roots/Mission — “A warm place to belong, whatever form your true self takes,” so children/young people can rebuild relationships with others and society. Trunk/Foundation — a long-term relationship of trust for safely trying out new ways of relating. Branches/Activities — outreach, drop-in space, companion support (5,019 contacts, 600+ cases through Aug 2025). Fruit/Results — employment & social participation, connection to public support, an updated way for the community to support its young people. (Image unaltered.)



Night Outreach (Street Outreach)

From September 2024 through August 2025, we connected with 1,516 children and young people. Many still gather at Kego Park. This past year too, it's been a place where we've offered emergency overnight shelter, held on-the-spot consultations, and first met children and young people facing serious difficulties.



Consultations & Accompanied Support

From September 2024 through August 2025, 240 children and young people used this service.

We hold consultations mainly with those we first meet through street outreach, and accompany them to government offices, the police, and other support organizations.

We try to bring as many as possible into ongoing consultations, so we can walk alongside them toward independence.

2,338 people

People who went on to connect with other support organizations or public agencies
Many children and young people do so because they first connected with aim.

Total number connected, September 2024 – August 2025.

活動で目指す成果①

経験を重ね、力を取り戻す

あいむが提供する

こども・若者は、安心してできる関係の中で、関わり方を試し、つまずき、やり直す経験を重ねていきます。その中で「謝る」「相談する」「頼る」「続ける」といった行動が少しずつ可能になり、人との距離感や関係の保ち方を学ぶ機会になります。

人間関係の
リハーサルが
出来る場

これは就労や自立の場面で表面化する人間関係のつまずきを減らし、社会参画につながる土台となり、孤立の長期化を防ぎます。



EN summary — Outcome 1: Building Back Experience and Strength. In a safe relationship, children/young people repeat the experience of trying a way of relating, stumbling, and starting again — gradually learning to apologize, ask for help, rely on someone, and keep going. A “place to rehearse relationships,” reducing stumbles that surface around work/independence and preventing isolation from becoming long-term. (Image unaltered.)

活動で目指す成果②

公的支援につなぎ、公的支援をドロップアウトした後も伴走



安全な場所での交流と信頼の構築



つながりと共感の瞬間

あいむは、こども・若者と継続的な関係を築く中で、「相談しても大丈夫」「途中でつまずいても見捨てられない」という感覚を育んでいます。その関係性を土台に、不安を下げながら一步步公的支援につなげていきます。近年、警固界限では行政主導による公的支援への接続が進んでいますが、支援につながった後に継続でず離脱しケースも少なくありません。あいむは公的支援からドロップアウトした後も、伴走支援を続けます。



EN summary — Outcome II: Connecting to Public Support, and Staying Alongside Even After They Drop Out. Through an ongoing relationship, aim builds the sense that “it’s okay to ask for help” and “I won’t be abandoned if I stumble.” On that foundation, aim lowers anxiety and connects young people to public support step by step — and keeps walking with them even if they later drop out. (Image unaltered.)

活動で目指す成果③

地域でのこども・若者の支え方が更新される

孤独・孤立を個人の問題にせず、地域の中で支え合う仕組みに
にしていくことも当団体の成果です。



現場で得られる知見を、
行政・警察・関係機関と共有し、
仕組化をしていきます。

行政・警察
との共有



地域支援システム

2022年7月

あいむ活動開始
at 警固公園



2025年

福岡県・福岡県警の
公的支援開始



2022年7月に当団体が警固公園での活動を始め、
2025年に福岡県と福岡県警が警固界限に集まる
こども・若者への公的支援が始まりました。



EN summary — Outcome III: Updating How the Community Supports Its Children and Young People. Turning loneliness/isolation from an individual problem into something the community supports together, by sharing frontline knowledge with government, police, and other agencies. Timeline: July 2022, aim began at Kego Park → 2025, Fukuoka Prefecture and its police began public support for children/young people in the Kego area. (Image unaltered.)

メディア掲載実績



- 2022年12月16日 KBC「アサデス」
- 2024年2月3日 神戸新聞(共同通信)
- 2024年2月6日 熊本日日新聞(共同通信)
- 2024年3月17日 西日本新聞
- 2024年6月6日 TNC「記者のチカラ」
- 2024年9月4日 NHK「ロクいち！」
- 2025年4月11日 朝日新聞デジタル
- 2025年5月26日 FBS「目撃者f」
- 2025年7月18日 読売新聞 朝刊
- 2025年8月16日 関西テレビ「報道ランナー」
- 2025年8月19日 FBS「めんたいワイド」
- 2026年1月24日 TBS「報道特集」など

→今までは福岡のローカルの番組で取り上げられることが中心でしたが、最近では全国放送のドキュメンタリーにも取り上げられています。

Media Coverage

Dec 2022 – KBC “Asadesu”

2024 – Kobe Shimbun, Kumamoto Nichinichi Shimbun, Nishinippon Shimbun, TNC “Kisha no Chikara,” NHK “Rokuichi!”

2025 – Asahi Shimbun Digital, FBS

“Mokugekisha f,” Yomiuri Shimbun, Kansai TV “Hodo Runner,” FBS “Mentai Wide”

Jan 2026 – TBS “Hodo Tokushu,” and others

Coverage used to center on local Fukuoka programs; recently we've also been featured in nationally broadcast documentaries.

What We Keep in Mind When Engaging With Children and Young People

In a word:

“Nearby — but outside.”

We stay close enough to be present, without stepping uninvited into a young person's inner world.

Commissioned Projects



FY2024 (Reiwa 6)

Survey of NPO Model Initiatives on Countering Loneliness and Isolation in Local Communities: ¥1,677,653



This Isn't About a Big Budget Reaching Lots of Kids, or Lots of People Being Loosely Involved



The children and young people who end up at Kego Park are the ones who have slipped through the cracks of existing services.

By the time they reach Kego Park and start talking with aim, they're carrying real expectations. We believe support workers have a responsibility not to betray that.

And we don't believe this kind of relationship-building with children and young people is something a large number of people can simply do at scale.



Please Help Create an Environment Where Committed People Can Work at Full Commitment



In many cases, an organization needs a certain scale before it can even qualify for commissioned government projects.

aim is a small organization, but we are doing this in earnest.

Small organizations and individuals — who can't spare extra staff and don't have an established organizational base — need a system, especially around funding, that lets them focus fully on frontline work.



Appendix







