

GREAT EAST JAPAN EARTHQUAKE

Three Month Report

Period: 11 March 2011 to 10 June 2011

PEACE WINDS JAPAN

Three months have elapsed since the great earthquake hit Japan on March 11 and nearly 100,000 people are still living in emergency shelters in the affected prefectures in the Tohoku and Kanto regions. Nevertheless, signs of recovery are beginning to appear including the construction of temporary housing units, the reopening of some stores and fishery activities.



Peace Winds Japan (PWJ) entered the affected areas immediately after the great disaster and carried out support activities trying to best address the existing and changing needs. In the beginning our activities centered on emergency aid such as distribution of relief goods. Our emphasis was gradually shifted to support activities with an eye on recovery. PWJ opened an office at an inland area on Iwate prefecture, Ichinoseki in mid-April, to be better prepared for mid and long term support activities.

As of June 10th, PWJ has received over 360 million yen in donations from more than 3000 individuals and corporations in support of its activities. We would like to take this opportunity to express our heart-felt gratitude for this support.

We would like to present to you in this report an outline of our activities during the three months since the occurrence of the great disaster and our plans for future activities.

Initial Action – Relief Activities (Up to early April)

1. Initial Assessment

On March 11, the very day of the great earthquake and tsunami, PWJ decided to carry out relief activities in the affected area. We conducted studies of the areas hit by the disaster on the 12 and 13, using helicopters. We also interviewed the survivors at emergency shelters and counter-disaster headquarters, etc. These survey activities led us to concentrate our initial effort at the shorefront areas of Sanriku, including such cities as Kesennuma, which seemed in dire need of help. PWJ decided to dispatch its staff to this area.



Tsunami-affected areas taken from the sky (on March 12, around Natori)



Ruins left by the deadly tsunami and fire (March 21, in Kesennuma)

2. Distribution of Relief Goods

Because the affected areas were so wide and extensive and because of the shortage of gasoline, there were serious delays in the supply of foods and other daily necessities. PWJ tackled the distribution problem of emergency relief goods in cooperation with its disaster-aid partner corporation, Civic Force, which supplied transportation.

The first delivery of relief goods was on March 14. We delivered bread and fruit brought over by helicopters to the evacuation center at Kesennuma Junior High School, which turned out to be PWJ's initial support base camp. PWJ distributed massive amounts of food, futons (bedding), blankets, hygienic goods, heaters and kerosene, etc. to the evacuation centers and other locations in Kesennuma. PWJ's effort was extended to cover Rikuzentakata and Ofunato on March 16 and to Minami-sanriku on the 20th.



Sanitary goods delivered and distributed (March 17, at an evacuation shelter in Kesennuma)

The amount of goods delivered to date totals about 160 tons, or 40 truck loads. On top of what was purchased by PWJ, a great quantity of goods was offered free of charge by many private corporations.

*Details of delivered goods;

Items	Major items delivered/supplied
Food	Bread, Alpha-rice, fruits, water, vegetable juice, powdered milk, coffee, fish cakes (kamaboko), confectionaries, etc.
Heating	stoves, kerosene, blankets, quilts, nursing mats, mattresses, etc.
Hygienic Goods	masks, wet tissues, towels, sanitary items, diapers, makeshift-toilets, washing detergent, etc.
Others	Emergency tents, gasoline, polyethylene-tanks, wet-proof blue-sheets, portable cooking stoves and gas cylinders, etc.

A summary of the number of people receiving assistance:

Program Description	Individuals received assistance	Remarks
Distribution of Relief Goods	19,555 (9,878 in Kesennuma, 5,158 in Rikuzentakata, 3,848 in Minamisanriku, 671 in Ofunato)	Kesennuma numbers includes those in the evacuation centers. The other locations include the number of evacuees at registered shelters where PWJ made deliveries directly (numbers are as of 3/31/2011)

3. Other support activities

1) Use of satellite telephones and charging cell phones

For 3 days from March 16 to 18 at the Kesennuma Junior High school evacuation center, PWJ made available the use of satellite telephones to the evacuees who were suffering difficulties in finding out the safety of their loved ones and friends. A total of 94 persons took advantage of the services, including foreigners who experienced the disaster while working at such places as marine fisheries processing factories, etc. Also, PWJ offered charging services for cell phones, for which communication networks were gradually recovering, by using electric generators when blackouts continued.



Satellite phone offered for confirming safety (March 16, at the Kesennuma Junior High school shelter)

2) Medical check-ups by a visiting doctor

PWJ, with the cooperation of the Miura Citizens' Hospital (Kanagawa Prefecture), helped to arrange the visit of a doctor to check on those staying at private homes on the island of Oshima, including elderly people suffering from chronic diseases. The activity was carried out under close collaboration with the counter-disaster headquarters of Kesennuma. The doctor reported his findings to the medical team in charge of the Oshima area, paving the way for easier follow-up.

3) Coffee Services

PWJ offered about 1,000 cups of fair trade coffee made in East Timor and directly imported by PWJ. The coffee service was offered at 8 evacuation centers in Minamisanriku and Kesennuma for a period from April 7 to 10. At Kesennuma Junior High, in corroboration with volunteer students, PWJ offered coffee drip-packs which enable the users to make fresh coffee by simply pouring hot water.

4) Construction of a Makeshift Bath House

Making use of the materials obtainable at the site including logs recovered from the debris resulting from the tsunami, PWJ constructed a temporary bathhouse at one of the shelters in Ofunato. Carpenters from the area helped with the construction and PWJ obtained and supplied additional materials for the construction.

Number of beneficiaries

Program Description	Individuals received assistance	Service area
Satellite phone & cell phone charge	About 194 (94 phone, 100 phone charge)	Kesennuma
Doctors Visit	About 20	Oshima (in Kesennuma)
Coffee Services	About 1000 (8 centers)	Kesennuma, Minamisanriku
Temporary Bathhouse	About 120	Takonoura Fishery Village Welfare Center (in Ofunato)

Mid- to Longer-term Action - From Relief to Recovery (beginning in early April)

1. Household items for moving into temporary shelters

In the face of the great disaster, thousands of people lost everything including household goods that were washed away by the colossal tsunami. To move out of the shelters and to rebuild their lives requires obtaining everything from scratch including those basic items such as clothes and kitchen utensils, etc. This creates a heavy monetary burden on the disaster victims.

Since April 9, PWJ has supplied daily necessities to 11,000 households in Iwate Prefecture (Rikuzentakata, Ofunato, and Kamaishi) as evacuees were transferred into temporary housing units. The kits of household items were carefully prepared in collaboration with the prefecture, city, town and village offices as well as other support organizations to meet the need of each family. Goods were gathered with the cooperation of AEON Company Ltd. and PWJ staff and volunteers packed them for each household and made deliveries. So far, goods have been supplied to 3,769 households, including to those families who evacuated from seaside areas to public housing in the 4 towns in the inland area of Iwate Prefecture.

Household goods supplied by PWJ

To every household: Shampoo, soap, bath towels, a washing basin, a hot pot, pan, frying pan, emergency kit, clock, etc.

To Individuals: Bedding (coverlets, under-quilts, pillows, sheets) utensils (plates, cups, tea cups, bowls, chopsticks), umbrellas, toothbrushes, etc.



PWJ staff and volunteers carry items to temporary units (April 30, in Ofunato-shi)

Number of beneficiaries

Program Description	Individuals receiving assistance	Service area
Household Items for Temporary Shelter	10,205 persons (3,769 households)	Rikuzentakata, Ofunato, Kamaishi, Sumita, Kitakami, Kanagasaki, Hanamaki

2. Child Friendly Space/Psychosocial Care for Children

Many children lost their families and friends in the disaster and are suffering physical and mental stress. In an effort to ease the pain in their hearts, PWJ is supplying those children opportunities to freely express themselves through play, creative activities, as well as sports.



Film Caravan (April 15, evacuation center in Kesennuma)

Beginning on April 6, PWJ dispatched volunteers who play with children at evacuation centers in Kesennuma. Simultaneously, PWJ delivered toys to about 40 centers and schools in Rikuzentakata, Ishimaki. A Film Caravan was held at a total of 19 evacuation centers from April 7-20 in cooperation with Studio Ghibli, showing such Ghibli movies as 'My neighbor Totoro' in Kesennuma, Rikuzentakata, Ofunato, and Minamisanriku.

Timed to coincide with the reopening of schools in May, PWJ started an "Art & Sports Caravan" at Kesennuma and Rikuzentakata. A trained art therapist joined our staff to create and conduct these activities. The caravan visits schools and shelters on weekends, offering children opportunities to enjoy themselves. Furthermore, PWJ supplied gardening kits to bring about soothing effects to the adults who have been putting up with prolonged stays at evacuation centers and temporary houses. PWJ also supplied books and magazines to about 35 centers.



Vehicle for Art Caravan



Art & Sports Caravan

Various training have been conducted for those who have direct contact with children, including school teachers, parents, social workers, etc., aiming at creating community environments supportive of children. PWJ has so far conducted 4 trainings, attended by volunteers who play with children and teachers of junior high schools in Kesennuma. PWJ intends to continue the endeavor, enlarging the scope of trainees. Furthermore, PWJ is holding informal teatimes, dispatching a pediatrician or a counselor to evacuation centers or temporary units where evacuees can relax and discuss or seek advice from a specialist, while sipping teas. These activities are being carried out in collaboration with Mercy Corps and the Doughy Center.

Number of beneficiaries

Program Description	Individuals received assistance	Serving area
Distribution of Toys	About 1200 (40 centers)	Kesennuma, Rikuzentakata, Ishinomaki
Movie Caravan	About 790 (19 centers)	Kesennuma, Rikuzentakata, Ofunato, Minamisanriku
Book and Magazine Distribution	About 1000 (35 centers)	Kesennuma, Rikuzentakata
Art & Sport Caravan	About 200 (10 centers, schools, temporary houses)	Ofunato
Gardening	About 80 (mainly elderly people)	Kesennuma
Training	About 30	Kesennuma

3. Economic Recovery Assistance Programs

In order for the disaster stricken area to recover, it is critical to revitalize the local industry. In cooperation with local chamber of commerce offices and fishing associations, PWJ has been providing necessary supplies and resources to help restart local businesses and fishing industries.

At the end of April, PWJ provided laptops, LCD TVs, color printers, bookshelves, and set up internet connections to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (COCI) of Rikuzentakata area. A “mobile shop”, a truck equipped to work as a store, was requested by some of COCI members so that they could resume their businesses. On May 16, the first mobile shop was donated to COCI. PWJ will provide three more mobile shops and has just started accepting applications for 6 more to be donated.

By the request from the city of Rikuzentakata, PWJ has been providing free shuttle bus services from evacuation shelters to shopping centers in neighboring Ofunato City to help people at the shelter purchase necessities.



Mobile-shop in business (May 16, at Rikuzentakata)



Launched *Omoiyari* (considerate) Bus (May 2)

In the city of Ofunato, PWJ has helped set up internet access for the Ofunato Chamber of Commerce office. PWJ also has been distributing vouchers for local area stores to those who have moved into temporary housing. As of June 10, PWJ has distributed vouchers to be used at local shops to 701 households, or 1311 temporary housing residents. In June, the bonito fishing will start in the area. Working with Ofunato Chamber of Commerce, PWJ is preparing to help to restore the city's fish market.

In city of Minamisanriku, PWJ participated in the "Recovery Festival" by providing transportation services from evacuation shelters to the festival location. To Udatsu and Shizukawa fishing cooperatives, PWJ has provided boots and waterproof jackets for supporting underwater debris removal work which started in early May. PWJ also provided ropes to tie ships not anchored and also provided equipment for underwater work. In cooperation with both fishing cooperatives, which have moved their offices back to the city, PWJ is working to identify support programs to help their members to become financially independent soon.

A summary of individuals receiving assistance:

Program Description	Individuals received assistance	Serving area
Equipment to Chamber of Commerce	Staff: 37, Member businesses: 2550	Rikuzentakata, Ofunato
Mobile Shops	About 650 (daily avg. 25)	Rikuzentakata
Shuttle bus service to shopping centers	1032	Rikuzentakata
Shopping voucher distribution	1311 (701 households)	Ofunato
Shuttle bus service to Recovery Festival	About 10	Minami Sanriku
Boots and rain jackets	About 300	Minami Sanriku Fishing cooperatives (Udatsu & Shizukawa)

Donations/Grants allocations

As of June 10, PWJ has received over \$3.0 million in donations from individuals and corporations worldwide. PWJ has also received in-kind goods, supplies and services from corporations and groups. From overseas, PWJ has received donations through our sister organization, Peace Winds America. To see the list of corporations and groups which have provided goods and services, please go to: <http://peace-winds.org/jp/ep/about.html>. Aside from donations, PWJ has also received program grants from Japan Platform and Mercy Corps.

PWJ has utilized about \$1.78M of the donations and grants to our relief activities so far. About \$610,000 was spent for initial needs assessments and emergency relief activities, \$800,000 to provide assistance to support temporary housings, \$30,000 for children's relief, and \$340,000 to economic recovery programs. A detailed financial report will be available on our home page soon.

PWJ's relief and recovery plans

We will continue providing relief activities to speed recovery of the Iwate and Miyagi prefectures from a base office in Ichinoseki city. We are planning to focus on three main programs: 1) providing household goods for people moving into temporary housings, 2) providing assistance to children, particularly psychological support, and 3) providing economic recovery assistance. We are, however, also interested in supporting Fukushima Prefecture farmers who have been severely affected by the issues around the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant incident by helping sell their agricultural produce.

Current projections are for the construction of temporary housing to continue into August. Throughout this time people will also be moving into housing for employment promotion as well as government rented housing. PWJ is planning on providing housing necessities until October. PWJ will also continue to provide programs targeting children until next March or as long as there is a need for them. PWJ also wishes to support programs that provide an environment where new residents of temporary housing and their neighbors can build together resilient communities where people can live and support each other.

As for the economic recovery programs, PWJ will continue to support chambers of commerce as well as local retail stores so that they can reopen their businesses at temporary retail spaces by next March.

PWJ will also continue to support fisherman's co-ops to restart local fisheries cultivation through the summer, in support of the central government plan of recovery of the area.

For the mid to long-term recovery process, PWJ envisions being involved in more programs initiated by the people affected by the disaster to take on their own recovery of the area. We will keep monitoring the situation and adopt any changes around the relief work to better provide effective relief activities.

PWJ sincerely appreciates your continuous support on our relief activities.



PWJ activities timeline

March 11	Large earthquake shakes on the coast of Miyagi Prefecture. PWJ strategic committee decides to assist.
March 12	Starts initial needs assessment. Flies over Natori, Ishinomaki and Kesennuma cities in a helicopter.
March 13	Decides to provide assistance to Kesennuma City. Starts to procure and deliver emergency assistance goods via air and land.
March 14	Starts to distribute emergency supplies to Kesennuma City.
March 16	Provides satellite telephone and mobile phone battery recharging services at Kesennuma Junior High School.
March 18	Expands relief assistance to Rikuzentakata and Ofunato Cities in Iwate Prefecture.
March 20	Expands relief assistance to Minami Sanriku in Miyagi Prefecture. Provides medical doctor visit services in Oshima area of Kesennuma City.
March 28	Starts construction of temporary bath facilities (completes on March 31).
April 6	Starts dispatching volunteers to care for children.
April 7	Presents Gibli animated movies to shelters (until April 20). Provides coffee services to shelters in Minami Sanriku (until April 21)
April 9	Starts delivering household goods to people moving into temporary housing in Rikuzentakata.
April 11	Opens PWJ satellite office in Ichinoseki City.
April 21	Provides office equipment to Rikuzentakata Chamber of Commerce and Industry office.
April 25	Starts free shuttle bus service between shelters in Rikuzentakata to shopping district in Ofunato city (until end of June)
April 27	Provides boots, raingear, gloves and other supplies for under water debris removal work in Minami Sanriku.
April 30	Starts delivering household goods to people moving into temporary housing in Minami Sanriku.
May 2	Distributes boxes of assorted toys in Ishinomaki City, Iwate Prefecture.
May 5	Holds art events for a Children's Day in Oshima.
May 8	Launches arts & sports caravan (mobile art program) at shelters in Kesennuma City. Starts delivering household goods to people moving into temporary housing in Kamaichi City, Iwate.
May 9	Starts delivering household goods to people moving into temporary housing in Sumida-cho, Iwate.
May 12	Starts distributing magazines and books to shelters in Kesennuma and Rikuzentakata.
May 16	First mobile shop starts in Rikuzentakata.
May 17	Starts distributing vouchers valid at local shops in Ofunato. (until end of July)
May 18	Starts delivering household goods to people moving into temporary housing in Kanagasaki Machi, Iwate.
May 21	Starts delivering household goods to people moving into temporary housing in Kitagami City, Iwate.
May 20	Assists in opening a satellite office for a fishing cooperative in Minami Sanriku.
May 29	Provides free shuttle bus services to a festival held in Minami Sanriku. Holds consultations for adults and mobile art program in Oshima.
June 7	Opens applications for mobile shop operators in Rikuzentakata. Starts delivering household goods to people moving into temporary housing in Hanamaki City, Iwate.

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