

HFHJ Newsletter

BUILDING HOUSES, BUILDING HOPE

Issue #17 April 2010

Haiti Quake Relief: Habitat to Implement Immediate Relief Efforts

On 12 January, Haiti was struck by a massive earthquake (M7.0). More than two hundred thousand were killed and made a million people homeless. This tragedy is reported even worse in terms that the quake hit almost only Haiti, an extremely poor nation than the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami (14 countries affected, three hundred thousand dead/missing). The dysfunction of the Haiti government made the situation even worse. In response, Habitat started emergency relief, such as the distribution of shelter kits to help affected families rebuild. While distributing the kits, Habitat is putting emphasis more on building homes step by step. (by Shintaro Yamamoto of HFH Japan)



Haiti Quake devastated the Capital.

Habitat's Emergency Relief

Three million people, more than a third of the population were quake victims. Many of those affected are living in humble tents made from plastic sheets. In response, Habitat made a structured plan of relief for Haiti. To begin with, Habitat is providing emergency shelter kits and a job creation program, mobilizing local people to remove debris. Also, Habitat is implementing a plan focused on the construction of transitional shelters.

Distribution of Emergency Shelter kits

Habitat is now focusing most on providing emergency shelter kits.

Each kit contains tools such as shovels, hammers and waterproof sheets, to put families to work making immediate repairs and building temporary shelters. In late March, with the cooperation of volunteers from America and the Dominican republic, 8,000 kits arrived in Haiti. Habitat originally planned to provide 10,000 Haitian families with the kits, plans are underway to further increase the scale of distribution.



Receiving Emergency Shelter Kits

been providing aid to Haiti for 26 years, and has built 200 homes in around the capital (2,000 homes across Haiti). Of the 200, only two collapsed due to the quake. Habitat's efforts keep going on to build houses that can save human lives.



Test Build for Transitional Shelters



Tent Village for Quake Victims

Habitat's homes: Still standing!

With the rainy season coming in May and hurricanes likely in August and September, families affected by the earthquake in Haiti need secure shelter. So Habitat started test-build for transitional shelters. Habitat have

◆◆ Donation Report ◆◆

- Haiti: 446,599 yen (Donate now)
- Philippines: 872,317 yen (closed)
- Indonesia: 219,863 yen (closed)

In the end of March, We closed the donation for the Philippines and Indonesia. Thank you for all your kind support. As for Haiti, your continuing support is appreciated. *For more information please check HFH Japan's website.

Japan Update

Build-a-House Workshop@SPRING LOVE (April 3rd-4th)



SPRING LOVE is a festival to promote the importance of peace through familiar cultures like music and art, with participation of various artists and associations. This year, HFH Japan had a booth for the first time to this festival! (by Maki Mizuno of Aoyama Gakuin Univ. CClub & Yoshio Tanioka of Waseda Univ. CClub)

signs, house repairing kits and materials for future house building. Viewing these reality helped many people to feel this workshop as a “real construction site” where they can learn the importance of house and contribute to the activities in a far away country like Haiti.

Directly Feeling the Importance of house

A student staff said, "I was surprised to see how many people want to do something for Haiti even if they aren't usually engaged in volunteerism." It seems that it even helped the staff recognize the significance of their own involvement in the aid work. A total of 115,605 yen raised during the two days will be used to aid the victims in Haiti. Thank you for your contribution.



Laying the wooden blocks



Making earthy blocks



Making a donation

Building a house in Shibuya, Tokyo !?

At Yoyogi park where the cherry trees were in full blossom, the Build-a-House workshop was driven by an initiative to call for support for Haiti quake victims through the construction of a model house and learning the importance of having a house. It was made possible by collaboration with the Natural House Project, a Kunitachi (Tokyo) based group who builds houses with local and natural materials.

Involving kids to adults, the participants experienced "house building" through making earthy blocks and laying blocks - wooden ones to model the real bricks. "It's fun to build a house," many of them shared with the staff.

At HFH Japan's booth, we exhibited photos and reports from Haiti, CG movies of Habitat's house de-

Habi-Bito

Ms. Waeko Kamiyoshi Prudential Real Estate Investors (Japan) K.K.

Ms. Waeko Kamiyoshi is the person who recommends opportunities to volunteer through HFH Japan to the International Christian University where she graduated.

In the summer of 2008, Ms. Kamiyoshi discovered Habitat when she was appointed to join a GV, overseas house building program, as a coordinator of the team grouped by her business colleagues. The team spent 3 days in Thailand. Ms. Kami-

yoshi felt a connection to her career in "Building Houses" as she works in real estate.

Ms. Kamiyoshi joined aid activities in Thailand when she was in university, expecting a change in herself. However, she says, "It came after I started working." Ms. Kamiyoshi realized a social responsibility as a member of society and started to volunteer in a NGO. However, she could not sympathize with the way how they supported people. Ms. Kamiyoshi thinks that GV pro-

motes self-independence and everyone involved can see a change.

Ms. Kamiyoshi regards social contribution as "an unique world" and says with smile, "If you sit back and do nothing, you will never know, but once you step forward, your world will be broaden." (by Mayuko Kuwata of Aoyama Gakuin Univ. CClub)



Japan Update

We are Habitat in KEIO University!!

Ripplus

The birth of Keio Univ. CClub

Q: What was a motivator for organizing Keio Univ. CClub?

Ota: The founder Ms. Itabashi joined Japan Hope Builders* in Thailand in 2009 spring, and it was the starting point of it all. She could not forget the feeling she had from meeting and working with the local people through this trip, even after coming back to Japan. She felt "I want to make a CClub at Keio and join more trips. I want to enjoy volunteer activities with many more people!"
*Collaborative



This spring, Keio Univ. CClub started as the 17th branch in Japan, following the Waseda Univ. CClub. Mr. Shingo Ota (sophomore), who succeeded the presidency from the founder, Ms. Satoko Itabashi (senior), bears the future of Keio CClub named "Ripplus". We interviewed him about the birth and future of this branch. (by Tatsuya Toda & Maki Mizuno of Aoyama Gakuin CClub)

project with "Globe-Trotter (Chikyu-no-Arukikata)".

Spread the ripple waves of plus!

Q: What is the origin of CClub name "Ripplus"?

Ota: It's a word we made up; combining "Ripple" and "Plus (+)," it symbolizes our hopes to "expanding the ripples of positive waves." We want to inspire people who come across our works to get involved in activities like Habitat's.

Q: What would you like to achieve in the future?

Ota: Besides taking GV trips regularly, we would like to do some domestic activities. We just started but have been very active with distributing organization brochure during the



GV program in Malaysia

school festival (Mita sai) and opening flea market in the wake of joining GV in Malaysia in last summer. Now as the CClub, taking advantage of being a member of Habitat, we want to learn a lot from other CC & CClubs, involve in big program beyond university framework through a joint event held by them, and grow!

Looking forward to working with you, too, Ripplus!

Join Us Building Houses!

Japan Hope Builders, teams of volunteers from across Japan, have just returned home after completing their missions in Thailand.

The first group went to Pathumtani located in the suburban Bangkok, and the second group went to Rayong in the east. Each group worked for 8 days under the summer-like blue sky, together with local staffs skilled workers and homeowners. Aside from the work, volunteers paid a visit to orphanage and primary school spending some time with the local children. The participants also got to enjoy sightseeing, and on the last day, the House Dedication ceremony where the homeowners were presented with the key to their new house.

The recruitment for the next trips in this summer will start soon; join us for the house building overseas, working with local people, experiencing foreign culture, and learning about the world today! (by HFH Japan)



A LOT OF MEMORIES AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE ~Habitat CC & CClub, Graduate Event~

More than 160 members of CC & CClubs across Japan graduated this year, and the farewell parties for them were held on Jan 10 in Kanto and Mar 16 in Kansai. It was a great chance for them to spend time with the fellow chapter members and look back all the memories shared together. The participants enjoyed games and a slide show that reminded them of the student life with Habitat. The graduates shared; "I've learnt a difference between giving aid and supporting people for independence.", "I was reminded of the importance of house." and "Experiences got from GV project are priceless." To me, these words represent how great the assets they gained through working with Habitat. We hope these experiences would be a positive drive in their lives. Best wishes for the graduates, and for us to learn from their backs and prosper! (by Haruka Sakai of Waseda Univ. CClub)



@Yokohama



@Kyoto

Japan Update

Young Volunteers@Habitat !!

On February 3rd, six students at Tokyo Jogakkan Middle School visited HFH Japan and volunteered their time as part of their school activity for social responsibility.

These young students first heard of Habitat at the GLOBAL FESTA JAPAN 2009. Approximately 100,000 people gathered at this two day event, and almost 1,000 visitors came to learn about Habitat. 6/1000 of which were those who decided to take step further with HFH Japan. Listening to the stories by volunteer teams who's been on the GV trips and learning how students can participate in this worldwide movement first hand, these students' curiosity led them to join Habitat's work.



Their day started with viewing video on a GV trip, then moved on to filing pictures sent in by the GV volunteers and preparing the organization's quarterly newsletter for shipping. Each task seems to have helped them better understand the work we do. We are looking forward to working with you in the near future. (by HFH Japan)

Event Schedule

“Hiroshi Nakada x Habitat for Humanity Japan” ; Mr. Hiroshi Nakada, the former mayor of Yokohama, and representatives of 1,500 youths who are member of Habitat's student organizations run by themselves will have a talk session. Through the session, we seek what these youth have learnt from supporting people for independence and how such experiences contribute to the future of Japan. (by HFH Japan)

Date : June 6th (Sun), 2010
Place: JICA Global Plaza (at Hiroo, Shibuya-ku), Seminar Room 301
 *Detailed time schedule will be updated on HFH Japan's website soon.



LIST OF DONATIONS AND GRANTS (2010.1.1-3.31)

| | | |
|------|--------------------------------|--------|
| 1/8 | 横浜ユニオン教会 | 59,000 |
| 1/12 | タイレストラン Siam | 8,330 |
| 1/19 | 川崎 耕次 | 2,843 |
| 1/20 | 関東JCC | 27,857 |
| 1/21 | 川辺 悠平 | 1,000 |
| 1/22 | 栗田 真澄 | 2,000 |
| 1/26 | 関西大学 (MusterPeace) | 23,000 |
| 1/27 | 関西国際大学 (KIKA) | 20,000 |
| 2/1 | 関西学院大学 (上ヶ原ハビタット) | 37,096 |
| 2/3 | ユニナイテッドピープル (株) | 1,600 |
| 2/10 | 安保 亮 | 3,000 |
| 2/15 | 関西学院大学 (Eco-Habitat) | 43,601 |
| 2/15 | ホテルニューオータニガーデンチャペル | 36,000 |
| 2/17 | pAiR | 18,987 |
| 2/18 | 関西学院大学 (上ヶ原ハビタット) | 17,326 |
| 2/25 | 神田外語大学 (HFH KUIS) | 52,460 |
| 2/26 | 立命館大学 (Habitat APU) | 63,417 |
| 3/3 | 早稲田大学 (WHABITAT) | 30,986 |
| 3/26 | 京都外国語大学 (Kyoto Gaidai Habitat) | 84,374 |
| 3/31 | チャリティ・プラットフォーム | 4,448 |

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE SUPPORT!

Editor's Note

Following the earthquake occurred in Indonesia last year, there were a series of quakes hit all over the world up to now. Haiti was struck by a massive quake in January and Chile in February, Mexico and Indonesia in this April. Through a series of quakes, it is gradually clarified that the collapses of houses are caused due to man-made disaster. And through these quakes, people start re-considering the importance of a well-constructed house. Since Japan often faces an earthquake, we must keep exploring what role we can play. Thank you for your continuous support. (by HFH Japan)



Since established in 1976, Habitat for Humanity, as an International NGO aiming to build homeowner's dignity and independence through building communities, has built 350,000 houses, without regard to race, religion or personal background. Now, Habitat has activities over 100 countries and regions, and is building a house every 21 minutes in the world.

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