

GFS WORLD PROJECT 2014-2017

Assisting Tsunami survivors, Japan

AIM:

Providing financial assistance to continue the Japanese GFS Outreach Project to the survivors of the great East Japan tsunami disaster.

BACKGROUND:

Three years have passed since a 9.0 magnitude earthquake followed by 39 meter high tsunami struck the north eastern region of Japan. As of March of 2014, the National Police have reported that 12,884 people have died and 2,640 people are still missing. Many survivors are still living in temporary housing that was set up by the government and they are still struggling to get their lives back.

The earthquake also destroyed the 1st Fukushima nuclear plant, causing a meltdown. As a result, about 140,000 people had to leave their homes to escape the ill effects of radiation.

People around the world rallied to support the victims. The Japanese people themselves came together to help. The members of the Girls' Friendly Society in Japan, joined in the outreach effort of the Nippon Sei Ko Kai, the Anglican Church in Japan. The task is so overwhelming that they find themselves praying for guidance every moment of the way.

After careful evaluation of the survivors' needs, GFS/Japan launched two projects.

- 1) They provided sewing machines to women's groups in the affected areas.
- 2) They volunteer monthly at the Tsukishima Kids' Day.

OBJECTIVES for the next 3 years, 2014-17:

- 1) To evaluate the ongoing needs of the Sewing Machine Project and to supply sewing machines, fabric, thread, and other sewing notions where there is a critical need.
- 2) To assist the women of the Sewing Machine Project to market their handiwork.
- 2) To continue to support the monthly Tsukishima Kids' Day with refreshment and activities.

BUDGET: \$US20,000 \$AUD21,420 £11,790 204070 JPY

Sewing machines, large industrial (3 machines) \$4000 USD

Sewing supplies (fabric, thread, etc.) \$6000 USD

Activity supplies for Kids' Day \$2000 USD

Refreshments for Kids' Day \$1000 USD

Travel for Kids' Day \$6000 USD

Communication (flyers, newsletter, postage, et al)\$1000 USD

PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE:

Asako Yonamine, National President GFS Japan

GFS members in Japan are very grateful to the GFS World Council for accepting their proposal for assistance that will help them to continue their Outreach Project to the survivors of the great East Japan tsunami disaster. With your help, they will be able to support the women and children in the Tohoku Region to resume a more normal lifestyle.