

Humanity
Impartiality
Neutrality
Independence
Voluntary service
Unity
Universality



Review of Activities 2013



日本赤十字社
Japanese Red Cross Society

1-3, Shiba Daimon 1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8521, Japan
Tel : +81-3-3437-7087 Fax : +81-3-3435-8509
E-mail : kokusai@jrc.or.jp Web : <http://www.jrc.or.jp>



Our Mission Statement

We protect human's life, health, and dignity even in difficult situations by gathering the wishes to save the people from suffering.



A Message from President

Two and a half years have already passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake that caused unprecedented disaster. The global society devoted its attention to the fatality, and the support amounted to nearly 60 billion yen from the Red Cross Red Crescent family of over 100 countries and communities. I wish to express our deepest gratitude for the generous support.

Unfortunately, we still have a long way ahead for a full-fledged recovery of the disaster-stricken areas. In particular, the influence of the accidents of Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant remains much in evidence in Fukushima Prefecture. There are many displaced victims who were forced to abandon their hometowns, still living in evacuation centres, not even allowed temporary visits to their houses and having no prospects to regain their regular lives.

We must never forget about this disaster, not even for a single second, and take on the responsibility to share the lessons learned with everyone around the world to be prepared for future disasters. Global climate change and other factors are causing increasing incidents of disasters not only in developing countries but in advanced countries as well, and Japan's case is receiving attention in reexamining the process of large-scale international response in developed countries. Needless to say, we will continue to extend ourselves in emergency relief activities to save affected people in survival situations, but looking ahead we must also build a stronger civil society with the capacity to carry out disaster preparedness in the future.

What is more, Japan's population is aging at an unparalleled speed and the country is becoming an unprecedented "super aging" society with one out of every four people aged 65 and over. In such a situation, we are challenged to develop our social services that would supplement the existing public and legal systems, and enable all the people and organizations, including the local residents, volunteers and the government to work in cooperation with each other to create a symbiosis, mutually supportive community. Standing closely to disaster victims, the elderly and other vulnerable people, the network of volunteers is capable of promoting such movement at the grassroots level.

Now is the time to place more emphasis on the capabilities of volunteers and their ability to mobilise the good intents of people on a global scale. To do so, we hope to target the younger generation in our promotion and offer new activities to encourage their participation. I believe that the future of the Red Cross Red Crescent depends on whether we are able to attract volunteers at peace times and to draw out their capabilities at critical moments.

I sincerely hope that this report, "Review of Activities 2013" will be useful to many people for understanding the various humanitarian activities of the Japanese Red Cross Society.



近衛忠輝
Tadateru Konoe

CONTENTS

Review of Activities 2013

- 3 A Message from President
- 4 Earthquake and Tsunami Response
- 6 Thanks Messages from the Affected People
- 8 Domestic Disaster Response
- 10 Medical Services
- 12 Training of Nurses
- 14 Blood Programme
- 16 Safety Services
- 18 Social Welfare Services
- 20 Volunteers
- 21 Junior Red Cross
- 22 International Activities
- 24 Membership
- 25 Organisation
- 26 Finance
- 27 History



Earthquake and Tsunami Response

On 11 March 2011, Japan was struck by a magnitude 9.0 earthquake, depth 24km, with the epicentre off its northeast Pacific coast. It generated a devastating tsunami, with waves estimated to reach a height of 38 metres. Since then, the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS) continues to support the affected people.

1. Emergency Relief

JRCS set up operation centres and deployed a total of 896 medical teams to the affected prefectures. The JRCS network of 92 Red Cross hospitals provided facilities to receive patients and launched their mobile health teams, domestic Emergency Response Units (dERU) and Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT). A total of 295 teams consisting of trained staff provided psychosocial support within the evacuation centres.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Medical teams deployed | 896 teams |
| Psychosocial support teams deployed | 295 teams |
| Essential goods provided to operate evacuation centres | 1,257 items |
| Patients treated in the most affected prefectures | 87,445 people |
| Blankets distributed | 132,510 pieces |
| Emergency relief kits distributed | 30,972 kits |

2. Health Infrastructure and Care

As an integral part of its response to the disaster, JRCS has supported the provision of medical services for vulnerable people through projects focused on health-care and rehabilitation of health infrastructure.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Pneumococcal vaccination for the elderly | 437,856 people |
| Health facilities constructed | 5 facilities |



Administration of pneumococcal vaccine



Onagawa Community Medical Centre (Onagawa, Miyagi Prefecture)



Temporary hospital for secondary medical care (Minamisanriku, Miyagi Prefecture)

3. Assistance for those Affected by the Nuclear Power Plant Accident

Following the Fukushima nuclear accident, the JRCS provided support covering three main areas: provision of machines and equipment; establishment of a Nuclear Disaster Information Centre; and sharing of knowledge on nuclear disaster preparedness.

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Whole Body Counter (WBC) | 1 unit |
| Additional WBC provided to municipalities | 7 units |
| Thyroid Grand Monitors (TGM) | 2 units |
| Food radiation measuring instrument | 106 units |
| Nuclear Disaster Information Centre | 1 facility to be set up |



Measuring radioactivity inside the human body using the whole body counter (Fukushima Red Cross Hospital)
©Nobuyuki Kobayashi

4. Improving the Living Conditions of Affected People

The programme's emphasis has gradually shifted from its initial focus on providing domestic appliances for displaced families to providing psychosocial support and care, often for the elderly, through the building of a sense of community.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Electric household appliance packages distributed | 133,183 sets |
| Winter amenity items distributed | 137,438 items |
| Medical information reassurance kits provided | 57,720 sets |
| Furniture and electric appliances for evacuation centres and community centres provided | 38,005 items |
| Psychosocial care and healthcare & social classes offered | 5,971 participants |
| Nordic style walking | 1,419 participants |
| Home visits in Fukushima conducted | 1,232 people |

Distributed electric household appliance packages to more than 130,000 families



©Nobuyuki Kobayashi

5. Social Welfare Support

Soon after the disaster, JRCS deployed 67 staff to evacuation centres in the affected prefectures to provide psychological care, meals bathing and other necessary assistances to the elderly. This programme gradually shifted to support social welfare institutions including provision of goods and construction of elderly housing.

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Caretakers for evacuation centres dispatched | 67 staff |
| Nursing beds distributed | 959 beds |
| Group home items distributed | 2,239 items |
| Vehicles for social welfare institutions provided | 338 vehicles |
| Elderly housing constructed | 3 facilities |



Nursing bed



Public housing for elderly disaster survivors (Fukushima Prefecture)



Dispatching of caregivers



Donated welfare van (Miyagi Prefecture)

6. Children's Education Support

The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami inflicted major damage on the lives, physical and emotional health of the children. Schools were also severely affected and it took considerable time to resume classes. Initially, JRCS provided assistance to set up temporary gymnasiums at schools, to procure equipment for school infirmaries, and to resume school buses and lunch services. We also offered various programmes to support the healthcare and education of children affected by the disaster, including organising of summer camps in which over 3,400 children got away from the affected areas to freshen up in Hokkaido. Another significant initiative is the mobile indoor-playground project, Smile Park in Fukushima. It provides a space where parents can let their children play freely without being anxious about radiation.

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| School kitchen items provided | 8,933 items |
| School buses donated | 18 buses |
| School infirmary items provided | 1,799 items |
| Participants of Smile Parks 2012 | 40,890 people, including parents |
| Summer Camps (2012) held | 3,451 children, 951 support staff |
| Educational facilities constructed | 5 facilities |
| Nursery schools and after-class centres on-going | 4 facilities |

7. Community Based Disaster Preparedness

JRCS launched this programme to help municipalities in the affected areas to strengthen their disaster preparedness. Since April 2013, JRCS has provided storage shacks and materials for disaster preparedness to 26 municipalities in the most affected prefectures since April 2013. The items distributed are mainly generators, cord reels, floodlights, lanterns, mobile toilet sets and partitions.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Disaster prevention storage and items | 432 sets |
| Secondary batteries | 89 units |
| Water purifiers | 62 units |

8. Capacity Building of JRCS National Disaster Preparedness

With its important role as a designated organization for disaster response under the National Disaster Relief Act, JRCS is working systematically to strengthen its capacity to respond more effectively to future emergencies. JRCS is now working to procure items such as large-size tents, satellite phones, operational vehicles for future disaster response.



A storage of disaster preparedness



Frame Tent



Telecommunication dispatching vehicle (SUV)

9. Evaluation of the Relief and Recovery Programme

An external evaluation commissioned by JRCS and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) was carried out in the first half of 2013, focusing on recovery phase. This evaluation follows the first external evaluation in 2011, which focused on the emergency phase. The findings and lessons learnt from the evaluation will be shared widely among the Movement as well as to the public, as a part of accountability measures on the financial support JRCS received from over 100 Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and other organisations, which was amounted to JPY 60 billion.

Thanks Messages from the Affected People

Two and a half years have already passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. We still have a long way ahead for a full-fledged recovery, but the affected people are encouraged by the sympathy and generosity of the Red Cross Red Crescent family, corporate partners and individuals across the world.

Kan-ichi Sato, resident of temporary housing in Miyagi Prefecture



I was in Tagajo City when the earthquake occurred, and the tsunami swept away the house I was renting. After living in the evacuation center, I moved to this temporary housing in May. The home appliance package was a great gift. It included everything I needed, and I was very grateful.

Although I am living alone, I used to work as a cook at a Chinese restaurant so I have no problem with my own meals. But, when I think about my future... I am healthy now, but I wouldn't know what to do when I become ill. It worries me.

I would say "Hi, how are you?" to my neighbors at the temporary housing, but the fact is, I don't know any of them well. I don't know their names, and we rarely stop and chat.

Because that's how my life is, I really appreciate the cookout and other activities by the Red Cross and other volunteer organizations. It gives the residents the opportunity to get out of the house and meet with each other.

"Thanks to the support of all those people in Japan and abroad, the hospital was beautifully rebuilt. Now we don't have to travel far for our checkups. We are truly grateful."



Yoshiko Sugawara with her husband Norio at Motoyoshi Hospital, a public hospital in Kesenuma City, Miyagi Prefecture.

"Staying in the house all the time makes me depressed, so Nordic walking is a great opportunity to get out. These poles are really dependable," says a participant.



Yoko Kumagai participates regularly in the Nordic walking activity with her neighbours from the prefabricated temporary community in Ofunato City, Iwate Prefecture.

Naoko Abe & Naoto Kimura, City Employees of Onagawa, Miyagi Prefecture

It seems that the people are getting used to living at the temporary houses, but we are also discovering some problems. The biggest challenge is how to build the community.

The evacuees used to live in various regions so they don't know each other. But we still have to make a community in which people can live by helping each other. The city will continue trying to provide as much backup as possible.



Many of the victims lost everything in the tsunami and must start from a point below zero. So everyone was really grateful to find that a full package of necessary home appliances was waiting for them when they moved into the temporary houses. The package enabled them to start a living there immediately. The city was also grateful because we weren't expecting such a generous support. It is certainly the kind of support that cannot be achieved personally or by a single organization, but is made possible with the global network of the Red Cross. The city also received many warm messages, relief supplies and donations from people abroad. We were encouraged to know that we are supported by many people all over the world.

Yoko Sano, Principal of Otsuchi-kita Elementary School in Otsuchi, Iwate Prefecture



During the 1st semester at Kirikiri Elementary School that took us in, we partitioned the gymnasium to set up classrooms, so on rainy days students couldn't attend physical education classes due to lack of space. Also, because children had to take the bus

to go to a more distant school, I think they were having less time to exercise.

That was when the Japanese Red Cross Society sent us a surprising present, the Smile Park indoor playground. We were told that building a full-scale gymnasium at that time was not possible, so we were extremely grateful.

We learned that the construction cost for the gymnasium buildings was covered by donations of people from around the world delivered through the Red Cross societies in various countries. We will make sure that this generous gift from the people around the world is used to overcome the lack of exercise and to increase the physical strength of our children.



"I was keeping my child at home after the disaster, and was worried that he didn't have time with other children of his age. So it was relieving to have the nursery school reopen," says one parent.



The JRCs supported the opening of "Aozora Kodomo-en" nursery school for children evacuating in Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture.

"I experienced the fun of interacting with people and the joy of touching nature."



"I learned how to work as a group and to enjoy nature."

Participants of the Summer Camp in Hokkaido





Domestic Disaster Response

In Japan, an earthquake-prone country which is also often plagued by other natural disasters such as storms and flooding, disaster response in times of emergency is an important mission of the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS).



The JRCS is specified as a “Designated Public Corporation” under the Disaster Countermeasures Basic Act. According to the Disaster Relief Act, the JRCS is obligated to cooperate with the national and prefectural governments in the provision of relief assistance, the details of which are laid out in the agreement signed by the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare and the President of the JRCS. Based on this, the JRCS is developing disaster relief responses according to relief regulations and disaster management plans. Additionally, as a member of the Central Disaster Management Council headed by the Prime Minister, and in collaboration with other organizations, the JRCS is responsible for a part of the country’s overall disaster management.

In times of emergency, the JRCS carries out the activities shown below in support of disaster victims.

Medical Relief

In order to be prepared for disasters, the JRCS has formed 500 medical relief teams (approximately 7,000

people) comprised primarily of doctors and nurses from the 92 Red Cross Hospitals across the nation. At the time of disaster, response teams (6 members per team) and dERU (domestic Emergency Response Units) are dispatched to the affected area and undertake activities such as setting up aid stations, administering medical diagnosis, and providing psychosocial care.

Stockpiling and Distribution of Relief Supplies

On a regular basis the JRCS keeps emergency stores of blankets (approximately 200,000 nationwide), sleeping kits (mats, eye masks, etc., which can be used in evacuation centres to help victims get a better sleep, approximately 30,000 sets), and emergency relief kits (approximately 80,000 sets that contain daily necessities which can be useful in times of emergency).

Provision of Blood Products

In order to smoothly secure and provide blood products required by medical institutions nationwide in

times of emergency, the JRCS maintains a stock of products at each blood centre while also operating a system to regulate blood supplies throughout the country.

Collection of Donations

The JRCS accepts donations for disaster victims and distributes them through donation distribution committees organized by charity organizations and government agencies in the affected areas.

Disaster Volunteer Activities

Disaster volunteers of the JRCS receive training on a regular basis and perform a variety of services during an emergency. The operations include gathering information, administering first aid, preparing hot meals, tracing, transporting and distributing relief supplies, and supporting victims at evacuation centres.

Psychological Care

Disasters can cause great psychological damage to people due to factors such as the loss family members or friends, or being forced to live uncomfortably and inconveniently in evacuation centres. The JRCS works to comfort and relieve the stress of suffering individuals through the provision of psychological care. Domestic disaster response activities of the JRCS are carried out with the main chapter in the affected area acting as the principal agent. If the disaster should be of

a large scale over a wide area, chapters work in mutual support implementing actions such as dispatching necessary personnel and transporting relief supplies to the chapter in the disaster area. The National Headquarters is engaged in gathering information and regulating relief activities nationwide.

The JRCS is specified a “Designated Public Corporation” under the Civil Protection Law which is concerned with measures for safeguarding the nation in the event of an armed attack or similar situation. The JRCS has drawn up an operational plan for protecting citizens in the actual event of an armed attack.

Domestic Disaster Responses in Fiscal 2011

Disastrous rainfall in Niigata and Fukushima Prefectures, July 2011 (Niigata and Fukushima Prefectures); disasters caused by Typhoon Talas of 2011 (Mie, Nara, Wakayama, Tottori, Okayama and other prefectures); disasters caused by Typhoon Roke of 2011.

Domestic Disaster Responses in Fiscal 2012

Damages caused by tornadoes in Ibaraki and other prefectures (Ibaraki and Tochigi Prefectures); damages caused by disastrous rainfall on July 3 (Oita and Fukuoka Prefectures); torrential rain in Northern Kyushu in July 2012 (Oita, Kumamoto and Fukuoka Prefectures); damages caused by disastrous rainfall on August 13 (Shiga, Kyoto and Osaka Prefectures); blizzard on November 27 (Hokkaido); accident at Chuo Highway Sasago Tunnel (Yamanashi Prefecture).

| | Fiscal 2011 | Fiscal 2012 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Medical relief (number of relief teams dispatched) | 2 teams | 7 teams |
| Relief items distributed | Blankets | 10,091 |
| | Emergency relief kits | 4,889 sets |
| | Sleeping kits | 1,200 sets |
| Total donations collected | 443,156,132 yen | 375,065,974 yen |

Voice from Japan

Tokiko Matsumoto Ms.

Deputy Director General of Nursing Department
Community Health Division, Medical Social Work Department
Japanese Red Cross Takamatsu Hospital

The Red Cross emblem in disaster areas can transform anxiety into reassurance and courage



Disasters can cause damages to the lives, health and livelihoods of victims and deprive them of hope. The cityscape changes radically, and people find themselves physically and emotionally hurt and bewildered.

Heading for disaster-stricken areas, I try to envision the devastated

situation from the limited information and simulate my actions in my head over and over again. At the same time, I grow anxious

as I near the site – would we be able to provide enough assistance?

But the moment I find one of the Red Cross emblems on site, my anxiety disappears. I am not alone. It gives me a sense of reassurance and the courage to work together. You can find the Red Cross emblem throughout the affected area, at the evacuation centres and aid stations, on rescue vehicles, the relief crew, Red Cross volunteer corps, volunteers, and even on the relief supplies delivered from all over the nation.

Relief personnel and supplies bearing the Red Cross emblem can heal the bodies and minds of the victims and offer support towards a new living. In return, aid providers are healed and encouraged as they feel the recovery of sufferers. Disaster response is the first step in the process of recovery and revitalization in which the aid receivers and providers work together to overcome difficulties, transform anxiety into reassurance and generate new hopes.



Medical Services

Medical services lay at the very core the Red Cross mission of protecting human life, health and dignity. Based on this mission, the JRCS medical services division is providing safe, proven medical care of the highest quality.



Major Features

As a stand-by arrangement, Red Cross hospitals register their doctors and nurses as relief personnel. Including the mobilization of these resources from Red Cross hospitals around the country, the JRCS is prepared and ready to implement prompt medical relief activities in times of disaster. Additionally, 62 Red Cross hospitals are designated as “Disaster Relief Core Hospitals,” meaning they are outfitted with the equipment and facilities necessary for ensuring the provision of medical services should a disaster strike in their respective regions.

As a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the JRCS is engaged in medical relief operations abroad in times of emergency, and as such designates 5 of its hospitals as “International Medical Relief Core Hospitals.” The JRCS also accepts foreign health-care professionals for training.

There are 86 Red Cross hospitals that are designated as

“Emergency Hospitals,” meaning they are prepared and equipped to accept emergency patients. Thirty hospitals are designated “Medical Emergency and Critical Care Centres,” and are ready to receive seriously ill or injured emergency patients around the clock. Additionally, 4 hospitals are designated as “Advanced Medical Emergency and Critical Care Centres,” and are able to provide advanced medical care of the highest level.

According to their expertise and local contexts, some hospitals are equipped with special advanced medical treatment and diagnostic facilities and wards for cancer and circulatory diseases. Others undertake kidney transplants, marrow transplants and treatments for HIV/AIDS.

Fifteen JRCS hospitals located throughout nation are designated as “Remote Area Medical Care Bases.” These facilities operate mobile clinics that visit mountain villages, secluded areas and remote islands where medical service is often under-resourced, conducting physical examinations and working to prevent diseases.

Nationwide 9 JRCS hospitals are designated as “Comprehensive Maternal and Perinatal Care Centres” offering a range of advanced, specialized and integrated medical care covering pregnancies and deliveries through to treatment and care of newborns. These hospitals can cope with every kind of pregnancy and delivery abnormalities and are on 24-hour standby ready to protect the lives and health of mother and child.

In response to an aging society, the JRCS provides beds for long-term care patients and nursing and rehabilitation facilities for the elderly. It also manages and develops visiting nursing stations and comprehensive regional support centres in order to assist home care and treatment.

The Nuclear Radiation Effects Countermeasure Research Institute, world’s only facility dedicated to investigative research on the aftereffects of atomic bomb survivors, is established within the JRCS Atomic-bomb Survivors Hospitals in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, playing a major role in the treatment of atomic bomb survivors.

History

Charged with a mission of training relief personnel, including registered nurses, the first medical facility of the Japanese Red Cross Society opened in 1886. Under the Medical Care Act of 1951, JRCS hospitals were designated as “Public Medical Institutions” and assumed responsibilities for a part of the health policies being

implemented by the national government such as medical services at disaster, emergency and remote place.

Due to the public service nature of its mission, the medical services of the Japanese Red Cross Society are entitled to a partial tax exemption. Financially, each facility is operated independently.

Japanese Red Cross Medical Facilities

| | |
|--|----|
| Hospitals (20 or more beds) | 92 |
| Clinics (less than 20 beds) | 6 |
| Medical Emergency and Critical Care Centres | 30 |
| Advanced Medical Emergency and Critical Care Centres | 4 |
| Designated Regional Cancer Treatment Centres | 37 |
| Comprehensive Maternal and Perinatal Care Centres | 43 |
| Infant Emergency Care Core Hospitals | 7 |
| Disaster Relief Core Hospitals | 62 |
| Regional Medical Support Hospitals | 48 |
| Remote Area Medical Care Bases | 15 |
| Organ Donation Hospitals | 37 |
| AIDS Treatment Hospitals | 32 |
| AIDS Cooperative Hospitals | 22 |
| Designated Medical Institutions for Class1/ Class2 Infectious Diseases | 32 |
| Nursing Care and Rehabilitation Facilities for the Elderly | 6 |
| Nurse Training and Development Facilities | 25 |

| | Red Cross | Nationwide |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Hospitals (as of Feb. 2013) | 92 | 8,563 |
| Hospitals Beds (as of Feb. 2013) | 37,308 | 1,701,242 |
| Outpatients: Daily Average (FY 2012) | 72,525 | 1,401,669 |
| Inpatients: Daily Average (FY 2012) | 30,974 | 1,299,322 |

Voice from Japan

Michihisa Umetsu Dr.

Surgeon
Japanese Red Cross Ishinomaki Hospital



I aimed to become a doctor to do good for others. As a high school student, I was helping the training of children with gait disorder. It wasn’t something special, but maybe that provided a spark for me. Normally, I perform surgeries and give medical care work as a surgeon. I also treat outpatients and emergency surgical patients. During the aftermath of the 3.11 earthquake, the medical team literally worked without sleep. I was still in my second year of internship, and in that sudden violent tremor I clung on to the severely ill patient on a respirator in front of me. After that, we treated the victims that kept coming

and coming. A seriously bruised patient who survived by jumping the roofs of houses being washed away by the tsunami; a hypothermia patient, finally rescued after being stuck in the water all night under the snow. The stories that those survivors told were simply beyond imagination. I saw the wreck of Ishinomaki when I finally got a chance to step out of the hospital one week after the quake. I bunked down at the hospital and continued working the emergency room, and at the end of March I attended the internship completion ceremony. Under normal conditions the ceremony would be held in one of the rooms, but we had no room to spare so we gathered in the outpatients’ ward corridor. Dr. Iwao Kaneda, now chief of the hospital, gave us the following message: “Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.” — Dale Carnegie These were the words of appreciation, the words that gave us hope in that desperate post-quake situation. The words are still with me and I read them over at difficult times.



Training of Nurses

Securing distinguished aid workers and improving the quality of nurses and other medical personnel is an important task for the Japanese Red Cross Society that allows it to carry out its obligations and it is one of the organization's primary missions.

In recent years, the duties of nursing staff have increased due to factors such as advances in medical technology, changing of disease structures, and the aging of society with dropping birthrates. Along with this, the increase in sophistication and diversification of medical treatment means a higher level of nursing care is required.

Major Features

The Japanese Red Cross Society started training nurses particularly for disaster relief in 1890. Currently, approximately 1,300 registered nurses graduate annually from its 6 nursing colleges (with graduate courses), 17 nursing schools and 1 midwifery school.

JRCS nurse training facilities aim to develop medical personnel with well-rounded characters and wide-ranging competencies related to nursing who are capable of widely contributing to society by engaging in a variety of activities such as health care service, disaster relief and international activities. Additionally, in order to train personnel who are strong advocates of Red Cross ideals, distinctive education based on the Red Cross principles is carried out. In addition to the required subjects for becoming a nurse that have been set forth by the national government, the JRCS has also incorporated into the curriculum subjects such as "Human Rights and the Red Cross," "Disaster Nursing Theory" which is related to medical care during disas-

ters as well as practical training on relief work and foreign languages.

In addition to working at medical and training facilities, graduates of JRCS nursing schools are involved in domestic disaster relief work, and also active in international aid work in disaster and conflict situations overseas, and are highly esteemed globally. Among the approximately 32,600 registered nurses working at Red Cross hospitals around the country, about 40% of them are graduates of JRCS nursing programmes.

The Florence Nightingale Medal is the world's highest honour that can be bestowed upon nurses and nursing aides. It was first awarded in 1920 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Nightingale's birth, and since then has been awarded worldwide every two years to nurses demonstrating outstanding achievements. One hundred and five Japanese nurses had received the award by 2013, the largest number of any nationality in the world.

The Japanese Red Cross Society nurse training facilities also emphasize on disaster nursing education. In recognition of this, "Disaster Nursing" was made a required subject of the Japanese nursing curriculum in 2009, and related problems have been included in the Japanese National Nursing Exam. The JRCS is contributing to disaster nursing training overseas as well. As a part of the reconstruction assistance programme aimed at

aiding those who suffered from the Sumatra earthquake and tsunami in 2005, the JRCS newly established disaster nursing courses at 4 nursing schools in Sumatra.

Aiming to improve the capabilities of nurses and faculty and increase retention of staff at Red Cross facilities, the JRCS has introduced the "Red Cross Facility Career Development Ladder" programme for nursing personnel working at Red Cross hospitals and training facilities nationwide. This self-improvement programme, which sets phased career development goals for nursing staff is composed of four groups: "nurse practitioner," "nursing supervisor," "nursing faculty" and "international relief and development cooperative personnel."

Participants set their own goals and undertake the training and education necessary to attain them. It is used as a tool to help nursing staff improve their professional skills in a phased manner while receiving support from the workplace. Furthermore, by taking advantage of the system, staff members can gain greater job satisfaction; and as a part of human resource development, it promotes exchange of personnel and can be expected to lead to improvements in the overall quality of the Japanese Red Cross Society.

For nurses and other staff who are expected to be active as administrators in the future, the JRCS has established the "Japanese Red Cross Society Executive Nurse Training Centre" to provide high-level, continuous education. It aims to develop skills that will demonstrate the ability to improve relief work, nursing services, and nursing administration of the Japanese

Red Cross Society and to nurture human resources who can play active roles as organizational promoters and reformers with originality and creativity based on the humanitarian principles of Red Cross. In addition to training nurses, the JRCS nursing colleges offer advanced courses to become specialized nurses and certified nurses to support the development of high-level professionals capable of handling highly advanced medical care.

Considering the importance of protecting pregnant women and nurturing healthy infants, the JRCS endeavours to train midwives. Midwifery education is conducted at 1 nursing school, 2 colleges, and 4 college graduate schools, from which 60 midwives are graduated annually. This is roughly equivalent to 0.6% of our country's midwifery training.

The JRCS has medical facilities and educational facilities throughout the nation where the advantages of the Red Cross Society are fully utilized to provide personal capacity building assistance.

Number of Nurse Training Facilities and Nurses as of April 2012

| | Red Cross | Nationwide (Statistics compiled by Japanese Nursing Association Publishing Company) |
|--|-----------|---|
| Nursing Colleges | 6 | 211 |
| Nursing Schools (3-year course) | 17 | 759 |
| Registered Nurses Trained Each Year (3-year course) | 1,360 | 44,686 |
| Registered Nurses | 35,396 | 1,495,572 (as of yearend 2011) |

Voice from Japan

Yukiko Ura Ms.

Enrolled in 2011
Japanese Red Cross Himeji School of Nursing



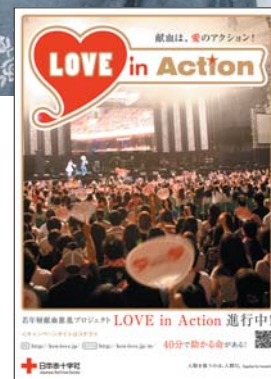
Acting upon my mother's advice, I decided to apply to Himeji Red Cross Nursing School. Since my enrollment – through volunteer activities or at the Nightingale festival – there have been many opportunities to "feel" the Red Cross mission. At school, in late May, we explored the hospital in one of the practical training classes. The purpose was to learn about the functions of the hospital and the collaboration between nurses and hospital staffs, and we went around Japanese Red Cross Himeji Hospital and watched various jobs. What impressed me the most was the GCU. It stands for "Growing Care Unit," and it is

where continuous care is given to babies who have stabilized after being treated at the NICU (neonatal intensive care unit). Next to the names of the babies, there were plates that said "prone position" or "lateral position." The chief nurse told us that the most comfortable body position for each baby is determined based on the conditions. I asked about the risk of SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome) in prone position. The answer was that "each baby is monitored with an alarm that signals any abnormality in heartbeat or breathing, and we watch them closely at all times." Even with the monitoring device, there are many abnormalities that machines cannot detect, so it is really important to observe them carefully. I was moved by how small the babies were, but that they were living with all their might. Everything I saw was very new to me, and I became filled with many questions and curiosity. I look forward to gaining a better grasp of the impressions I got through this experience, finding answers to my questions, and developing a better understanding of the areas that interested me.



Blood Programme

Blood transfusion plays an important live-saving function in the treatment of malignant neoplasms (cancer), haematological diseases and other disorders.



Blood, which is essential for preserving human life, cannot be manufactured through artificial processes. Blood collected by way of voluntary, non-remunerated donations from healthy individuals is helping to save the lives of countless patients on a daily basis. Through the generous cooperation of approximately 5.25 million people (total blood donors from April 2012 thru March 2013), the Japanese Red Cross Society is securing required quantities of blood products and delivering them to medical institutions across the country.

Major Features

In a society with a low birth rate and aging population, it is expected that demand for blood for transfusions will continue to increase in the future, and as such, ensuring a stable supply of blood donors has become a major challenge. In order to gain extensive cooperation and understanding on blood donation and increase donors, especially among youths who will form an important pillar of the future blood donation movement, the JRCS is working on various measures, including measures to secure blood donors among youth, measures aimed at increasing the number of companies and organizations cooperating with group blood donations, and measures aimed at increasing the number of people who provide multiple donations. Taking into consideration the safety and convenience

of donors, the JRCS is establishing blood donation rooms that leverage the special characteristics of local communities such as donation rooms with waiting space for kids to provide better access for parents with children, while also endeavouring to further improve our services and create an environment in which even more people can safely donate blood. Furthermore, the JRCS have also implemented measures to safeguard blood donors. In 2006, a relief system for blood donors who have had their health adversely affected as a result of donating blood was started. Should a donor need to undergo a medical examination at a medical institution as a result of subcutaneous haemorrhaging, nerve damage, or other injuries to their well-being (secondary effects from giving blood) caused during the donation process, they will be entitled to receive compensation in a fixed amount.

In order to ensure the safety of blood products, the JRCS implements a variety of safety measures. Examples of primary safety measures implemented to date include identification of the donor, retrospective studies, retaining deposits of fresh frozen plasma, improving the accuracy of nucleic acid amplification testing (NAT), and the removal of leukocytes and diversion of first drawn blood prior to storage. Additionally, the JRCS is currently considering the introduction of techniques aimed at reducing infectious agents, and measures for

preventing transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI), a serious post-transfusion adverse reaction.

Going forward, the JRCS will continue its efforts to improve the safety of blood product and secure a stable blood supply. In order to build an efficient and rational business structure for the future and to carry out continuous and stable programme operations, the JRCS has initiated a wide-area supply and demand management system that goes beyond prefectural boundaries and centralized its finance as of April 2013.

History

The JRCS is the only organization in Japan collecting and supplying blood for use in transfusions. In 1952 the Japanese Red Cross Society Tokyo Blood Bank was established and blood programme operations commenced; primarily a blood deposit system that gave consideration to the donors of the blood (donors would be given priority for blood transfusions in the future). However, the concept of non-remunerated blood donations was far from common at the time, and the practice of paid blood donations initiated by private blood banks was widespread. As a result, there were numerous occurrences of patients developing post-transfusion hepatitis after being infected by blood products collected from paid donors who had unhealthy lifestyle practices. Blood collected from paid blood donors developed into a social problem known as “yellow blood.”

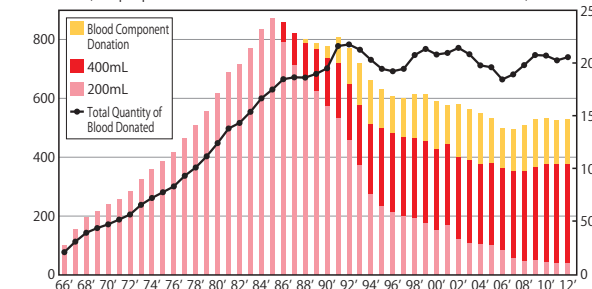
Against this backdrop, the JRCS, in cooperation with the

national and local governments, has been working to maintain facilities for receiving blood donations and endeavouring to spread and popularize the concept of donating blood. In 1982, based on the principle of voluntary and unpaid blood donation, a transition to a genuine blood donation system was carried out. Today, the blood programme is carried out reliably and properly by collection and distribution entities in strict compliance with related laws such as the “Law on Securing a Stable Supply of Safe Blood Products” and the “Pharmaceutical Affairs Act”.

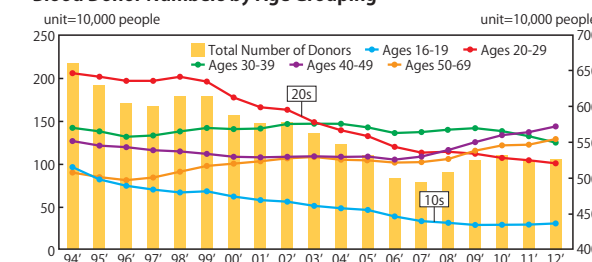
Number of Facilities

| | |
|--|-----|
| Testing facilities | 10 |
| Formulation facilities | 27 |
| Blood collection facilities / blood donation rooms | 116 |

Total Quantity of Blood Donated and Number of Donors by Type



Blood Donor Numbers by Age Grouping



Voice from Japan

Yumi Miura Ms.

Graduate School of Arts
Iwate University



I loved to draw and paint since I was a child, so I majored in arts at my junior and senior high schools and college. The blood donation room “Merci” located on the main street of Morioka City asked us to do a portrait sketch booth as part of the 20th anniversary event, so I participated with two other friends from the same art course and drew portraits of blood donors.

Our booth was very popular, and we sketched more than 30 portraits on weekends. It also gave us a chance to communicate with a lot of people. One donor said, “Today I’m donating for the

100th time,” and I was so inspired that I decided to try donating myself.

My first donation was blood constituent donation. At first, I was very nervous and worried whether my blood was really useable. I was surprised that they were going to extract only the platelets from my blood and returning the rest back into my body. Both the device and the human body are full of miracles!

It hurts a little when inserting the needle at the beginning and pulling it out at end, but knowing that my blood can save other people’s lives gives me a feeling of fullness.

I hope to continue donating blood at about once a month. The portrait sketch booth was so popular that we have agreed to do it on a regular basis, so, we still draw many smiling faces once a month.

I wish to become an arts teacher, and the experience that I gained and the people I met through the sketching of portraits are valuable gifts that I will carry into my future.



Safety Services

The Japanese Red Cross Society conducts a variety of courses nationwide that are in line with people's life stages.



Major Features

Training for each course is conducted face-to-face in a classroom environment by qualified instructors who are able to impart proper and relevant skill and knowledge. A qualifying exam designed to test practical skill and knowledge of course content is carried out at the end of the course. Participants passing the exam can receive an official certification from the Japanese Red Cross Society.

The qualifications are valid for three years. Excluding individuals who have only acquired a qualification in the basic course of first aid, qualification holders can extend the validity of their qualification for another three years by taking a four hour "Continuing Qualification Training" course two years or more but less than three after they first obtained their original certification. By acquiring each certificate in stages, participants will be allowed to take a training course for instructors designed to develop competent teaching personnel. Many instructors are volunteers belong to the Red Cross

Volunteer Corps, and the training programme is supported by the work of volunteers.

Concerning course fees, the only fees collected from participants are those which are needed for textbooks and other materials used in the lessons. The majority of operating costs such as instructor and venue fees are covered by membership fees.

The presence of volunteers and members allows the JRCS to offer and conduct low-cost, high-quality training programmes nationwide.



The JRCS conducts training in the following five subjects.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| First Aid | <p>Basic Course [4 hours]: Participants will learn the most basic lifesaving measures such as cardiac massage, artificial respiration (CPR), and how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED). Standard Course [12hours]: In addition to learning about accident prevention and treatments for sudden illnesses, bleeding, bone fractures, and other misfortunes that may occur in daily life, participants will also gain knowledge in other areas such as dealing with disasters.</p> | |
| Child Safety | <p>Standard Course [14 hours]: Participants will learn how to prevent and treat accidents that occur easily among children, and also how to deal with common illnesses. Furthermore, cardiac massage for children, artificial respiration, and AED usage will be taught.</p> | |
| Healthy Life Course | <p>Standard Course [12 hours]: Participants will learn how to care for the elderly living at home, correct procedures for using a wheelchair, how to assist with meals, and other care-giving procedures and techniques. Participants will also acquire knowledge and skills that will enable the participants themselves to lead healthy and productive senior lives.</p> | |
| Water Safety | <p>Standard Course [14 hours]: Participants will become intimate with water, learning how to protect themselves and others from water accidents. Basic swimming techniques, accident prevention, pool lifeguard techniques, and a method for taking care of a drowning person will be taught. Advanced Course [12 hours]: Following on from the above, rescue and surveillance techniques for use at rivers and the sea will be taught.</p> | |
| Snow Safety | <p>Standard Course [14 hours]: In addition to learning how to have fun in the snow, ski hill accident prevention and relevant rescue and care procedures will be taught. Advanced Course [12 hours]: Following on from the above, ski patrol technique will be taught.</p> | |

Besides the above, the JRCS also conducts "Short Courses" of two to three hours, dispatching instructors to schools and offices at their request.

Voice from Japan

Takenobu Nakano Mr.

Deputy Director, Operations Divisions
Japanese Red Cross Kagoshima Chapter



Since 2004, the Japanese Red Cross Society has been supporting the initiatives of its sister Red Cross societies in the Asia Pacific region to promote safety services. We currently work with the Red Cross societies in East Timor, Cambodia and Myanmar, providing financial aids and supports in the aspect of hardware such as materials and equipment and also in the software aspects by dispatching first aid instructors and conducting technical instructions. We began offering our support to the Cambodian Red Cross Society in 2008 and by 2011 six of our staff members were dispatched. In 2012, I was selected one of the two first

aid instructors and visited Cambodia with a volunteer from the Fukuoka Chapter.

The purpose of our visit was to participate in a training session for first aid instructors of the Cambodian Red Cross Society to offer advices on how to teach other people and to introduce some of the new first aid procedures. The 4-day training session was held in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia starting on August 7. Since the participants were people bearing central functions in promoting safety services in their country, they were all eager to absorb the new knowledge and techniques. On the final day of the session, participants leaned forward to watch and listen as we demonstrated how to use the AED which was still new to Cambodia. That was particularly impressive. We learned also through our discussions with the participants that Cambodia still faces the danger of many land mines remaining so that the types of safety services needed in Cambodia are different from what we have in Japan. Despite the cultural and environmental differences between Cambodia and Japan, we became respectful of each other and shared a valuable experience of discussing how we could each do our best.



Social Welfare Services

Japan's population is aging at an unparalleled speed and the country is becoming an unprecedented "super aging" society with one out of every four people aged 65 and over.



There is also a serious need for child support programs to resolve issues related to child-raising anxieties and child abuse. In such a situation, we are challenged to develop our social services that would supplement the existing public and legal systems, and enable all the people and organizations, including the local residents, volunteers, welfare service providers and the government, to work in cooperation with each other to create symbiosis, mutually supportive communities.

Major Features

The Japanese Red Cross Society offers social welfare services nationwide in order to assist people who are in need of social welfare support, live humanly and independently while maintaining dignity. Our undertakings consist of the operation of welfare facilities for children, elderly and people with disabilities. With these facilities acting as a base, we offer both overnight and day use services, and are working to provide support that will

aid the users of these facilities in improving their daily lives. Furthermore, we are striving to fulfill a local welfare office function by offering high-level services that make use of the characteristics of the Red Cross, and coordinating the work of volunteers such as the Red Cross Volunteer Corps, local communities, Japanese Red Cross Society chapters, Red Cross Hospitals, and other welfare organizations. At each welfare institution we are also offering community-based support services that make use of the care knowledge and expertise that we have accumulated to date. These services include support for raising children, home care nursing support, and support for independent living and societal participation for the disabled.

The importance of offering assistance for raising children is increasing due to the actualization of problems such as child abuse and childcare-related anxiety among some parents. To address these problems, the JRCS, with its chapters and child welfare facilities play-

ing key roles, is promoting support projects such as child safety courses, parenting courses and child-care consultations in order to support the safety and security of children in the community. In welfare institutions for the elderly, the level of care needed by the facility users is increasing in severity. The number of dementia sufferers is growing as are medical treatment needs and such matters are causing major changes in the care for the aged environment. At JRCS's special care nursing homes for the elderly, we are working to improve the quality of our staff, enhance facility services, and offer high level specialist care, with the aim to contribute extensively to the local communities. As welfare institutions for people with disabilities, the JRCS runs one rehabilitation facility for people with physical disabilities, 2 information service facilities for people with visual or hearing disabilities, and a manufacturing facility for prosthetics.

Aiming to provide a model for a new urban type district that can offer comprehensive medical and welfare services, the JRCS developed a care facility complex around the existing Japanese Red Cross Medical Centre and the Japanese Red Cross College of Nursing in the Hiroo district in Tokyo. Completed in April 2012, ReCross Hiroo serves as a base for welfare services for the elderly, consisting of a special care nursing home, a rehabilitation institution for the elderly, a group home for people with dementia, and a rehabilitation facility for people with physical disabilities. The complex aims to take on the functions of the core centre of JRCS' social welfare network in offering all kinds of services

for health care and nursing needs and providing training on the latest nursing care techniques.

Social Welfare Facilities of Red Cross (2013)

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Care facility complex for people with disabilities and the elderly | ReCross Hiroo | 1 |
| Child welfare facilities | Home for infants | 8 |
| | Children's home | 1 |
| | Day-care centres | 3 |
| | Facilities for children with motional disabilities | 3 |
| | Hospital-home for children with severe mental & physical disabilities | 1 |
| Welfare facilities for the elderly | Special nursing homes for the elderly | 8 |
| Welfare facilities for people with disabilities | Rehabilitation facility for people with physical disabilities | 1 |
| | Information service facilities for people with visual or hearing disabilities | 2 |
| | Prosthetic manufacturing facility | 1 |



Voice from Japan

Airi Okamura Ms.

Care Worker
Special Nursing Home Nisseki Oumeisou



For 5 years, I have been working as a care worker at Nisseki Oumeisou, a special nursing home. My job is to provide support for the users, assisting them with their meals, bathing, toilet support and recreational

The board shown in the photo is a collage of all the staff members at Oumeisou!

activities. The staff members try to understand the individual needs of each the users and help them enhance their quality of life so that they can enjoy their lives and feel happy.

At the time of the 3.11 earthquake in 2011, I participated in disaster relief at a social welfare facility in the devastated area as member of the 2nd nursing care team and substituted the disaster-stricken staff members in assisting the meals and bathing of the facility users. Relief personnel from the Red Cross social welfare facilities and hospitals all over Japan gathered and worked together to offer support, and I felt a strong sense of unity. Keeping in mind the seven fundamental principles – humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality – I hope to continue my career with the Red Cross.



Volunteers

The Red Cross Volunteer Corps is a volunteer group bringing together people who are willing to carry out humanitarian activities which form the core of the Red Cross mission.

The beginning of these Red Cross volunteer activities can be traced back to 1887 with the establishment of Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association.

The current Red Cross Volunteer Corps was established in 1948 with the assistance of an advisory body sent to Japan by the American Red Cross after the Second World War.

Due to rapid social change in recent years, the needs and values of communities are diversifying and rela-

tionships in local communities are weakening. Therefore, we confront challenges in various fields such as childcare, nursing care, disaster prevention, and the environment concerns. There are great expectations for the approximately 3,000 Red Cross Volunteer Corps developing community-based activities, however, we are also experiencing problems such as disparities in activities between corps and decreasing members due to aging.

In order to revitalize the activities of the Red Cross volunteers in light of these circumstances, we have been strengthening our training systems, developing volunteer leaders and enhancing their qualifications. We continue to nurture volunteers who are at the base of the Red Cross movement, and focus on increasing publications through our website and other media to make our activities more visible as we promote the assistance for the elderly, the sound development of youth, disaster relief and prevention, dissemination of the Red Cross principles and ideas and fund-raising activities and prevention and enlightenment activities of HIV/AIDS. Additionally, we are addressing the activation of their activities so that in cooperation with the government and other organizations they can flexibly respond to the diversifying needs of local communities.

Number of Cross Volunteers and corps(2013)

| | People | Corps |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Community volunteers | 2,159,441 | 2,237 |
| Specialized volunteers | 36,647 | 654 |
| Youth volunteers | 7,057 | 157 |
| Individual volunteers | 3,635 | — |
| Registered disaster relief volunteers | 38,126 | — |

As of March 31, 2013 (Number of registered disaster relief volunteers as of March 31, 2012)

Voice from Japan

Shuntetsu Kawagoe Mr.

Member of the Fukushima Shirouto Rakugo-kai (Amateur Rakugo Group)



I have been performing "Rakugo", which is a traditional Japanese Comical Story Telling performance performed by a single performer kneeling on stage, as a member of Red Cross Volunteer

group in Fukushima since 2006. Normally, we put on 3 or 4 periodic vaudeville shows every year at the prefecture's cultural centers. But after the 3.11 earthquake, we wanted to bring laughter to the enduring victims in disaster-affected areas, so we held a charity vaudeville show on April 30, 2011 at a recreation facility

in Fukushima City. Our regular rakugo performance scheduled in May was cancelled due to the post-quake disaster, and we were looking for an opportunity to show the benefits of our preparation to make people smile.

Fortunately, the house was fully booked. I performed on stage with a stage name "Miso-ya-Shoyuu" (miso bean paste and soy sauce). There was an intensity 3 aftershock when my colleague was performing. Built in 1927 the building shook and squeaked, but she shouted, "We're on shaky grounds, but we're going to fine!" and her improvisation changed this unanticipated event into laughter.

A JRCS member wearing a rescue crew uniform also came on stage and talked about the anecdote of the Red Cross founding and JRCS responses to the 3.11 disaster and there was a big applause from the audience.

There are still many people who feel the blues due to the earthquake and nuclear power plant accident. With the power of rakugo, I wish to continue delivering laughter to as many people.



Junior Red Cross

The Junior Red Cross has been developing various activities in school education with a goal for implementing "the education concerning with the importance of life" and "the education cultivating mind".



Major Features

Through practical activities in daily life, students learn the importance of life and health and the importance of respecting human dignity. Acting with school teachers as sponsors, the Junior Red Cross is organized in kindergartens, nursery schools, elementary schools, junior and senior high schools, and schools for children with special needs and carries out its programmes in the course of early childhood or regular school education. "Notice, think and act" is the attitude that the Junior Red Cross members aim to acquire through activities based on the three areas of "protection of life and health", "volunteer services" and "international understanding and friendship" which are carried out according to youth developmental stages inside and outside the schools.

History

The Junior Red Cross was established in 1922 for the purpose of enabling young people to build a desirable personality and spirit through daily life so that they can contribute to world peace and the welfare of mankind by properly understanding the Red Cross prin-

ciples and ideas and participating actively in its movement.

Number of Junior Red Cross Schools and members(2013)

| | Number of Schools | Number of Members |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Kindergartens / Nursery Schools | 1,523 | 138,028 |
| Elementary Schools | 6,541 | 1,754,173 |
| Junior High Schools | 3,191 | 929,080 |
| Senior High Schools | 1,840 | 237,604 |
| Schools for Children with Special Needs | 99 | 6,491 |
| Total | 13,194 | 3,065,376 |

As of March 31, 2013





International Activities

The recent international situation reveals that armed conflicts caused by ethnic and religious strife around the world are producing a large number of refugees and internally displaced persons. A great many people are also being affected by natural disasters, and the number of people dying because of food insecurity and infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS is not decreasing. Against such a backdrop, expectations are ever increasing that the Red Cross, with its global network, will fulfill its many roles.

In cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the Japanese Red Cross Society is engaged in a wide range of international activities.

Emergency Relief

Whenever a large-scale disaster or conflict occurs, it is first and foremost imperative to provide emergency relief to the affected in the form of medical care and relief items such as food, clothing and shelter. The JRCS, as a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (Movement), considers it its primary responsibility to provide support for relief activities by its sister societies in affected areas, and stands ready to fund any emergency appeals launched by the ICRC or IFRC. In fiscal 2012, the JRCS funded 37 emergency appeals contributing 297 million yen in total.

Leveraging the capabilities of its 92 medical facilities nationwide, the JRCS is prepared to dispatch highly professional medical and healthcare staff immediately whenever requested by IFRC and ICRC. In addition to deploying human resources, it maintains the necessary materials and equipment for such emergency activities. The JRCS dispatches its Basic Healthcare Emergency Response Unit (ERU) in coordination with the IFRC mainly in the case of natural disasters, and participates in the Rapid Deployment mechanism (Primary Health Care field), conducting relief activities under the direc-

tion of the ICRC in the event of emergency in countries and regions in conflict situations.

Thus, the JRCS maintains necessary equipment and conducts trainings for its personnel in peacetime. Additionally, in order for the JRCS to effectively respond to frequent occurrence of disasters in the Asian and Oceanian region, the JRCS maintains a stockpile of disaster relief supplies for 10,000 households in a warehouse in Malaysia, which includes 10 relief goods such as blankets and family-size tents. It also supports the procurement of relief materials and equipment and training of relief personnel in the fields of water supply and sanitary services to enhance the emergency response capabilities of disaster-prone countries.

Recovery Assistance

From emergency relief to recovery assistance, the JRCS has adapted a seamless, all-encompassing set of processes for aiding in the recovery of disaster-stricken areas. It provides recovery assistance not only for aiding in the restoration and recovery of areas suffering direct damage due to a disaster, but also for helping those affected by disasters deal with illness and other misfortunes to which they are traditionally vulnerable. Additionally, we are making efforts in other areas as well such as working to help those affected by disaster rebuild their lives, and striving to improve the managerial capacity of the red cross societies in countries affected by disasters.

In specific, the JRCS not only supports restoration

efforts from damages such as the reconstruction of disaster-affected houses and medical care facilities, but also conducts stockpiling of relief supplies and training of volunteers at the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of affected countries, as well as enlightenment activities to promote disaster preparedness in local communities. By supporting the local people and communities, the JRCS aims to support the development of communities and regions that can deal with disasters efficiently.

Community-based Disaster Preparedness

In many developing countries, local communities have been not sufficiently prepared against natural disasters, and therefore many people have been affected by droughts, floods etc. The Japanese Red Cross Society has been actively involved in various grass-roots disaster preparedness projects at peacetimes to enhance the local capacities to deal with disasters (resistance and resilience) and to minimize disaster-related risks. To date, the JRCS took on disaster preparedness projects through mangrove afforestation and disaster management training in the Asia region. In coordination with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, we are committed to provide support, particularly focusing on the Asia-Pacific region which is the most disaster-affected area in the world.

Healthcare Support

Around the world, many people are losing their lives without receiving health and medical services due to lack of adequate access to basic social services provided by the government. The JRCS is implementing various

projects, mostly with the cooperation of volunteer residents, to prevent diseases, secure safe water, and develop toilets and other sanitary facilities. We are focusing particularly on the African region, where health and medical situations are the most serious in the world, emphasizing on the 3 areas of reducing infant mortality rates, maternal and child health, and protection against infections.

Restoring Family Links

Restoring family links involves activities to maintain and restore bonds between family members who have become separated due to misfortunes such as conflicts, disasters or the severing of diplomatic relations. The Japanese Red Cross Society engages in supportive measures aimed at restoring family links through enquiries and investigations while taking into consideration the emotions and feelings of the subject. Furthermore, the JRCS, in close cooperation with the Fire and Disaster Management Agency (FDMA), has established a system for investigating safety in accordance with the Civil Protection Act. Currently, it is also in negotiation with bodies concerned in establishing a system for investigating safety in the event of large-scale natural disasters in Japan.

| | FY 2011 | FY 2012 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Number of personnel dispatched to overseas locations | 14 countries, 59 people | 14 countries, 48 people |
| Total amount of international assistance provided | 4,032,170,000 yen | 1,991,060,000 yen |

Voice from Japan

Mitsuhiro Fujimaki Mr.

JRCS programme coordinator in Nepal
(Regional Disaster Preparedness Activities)



I work as a programme coordinator for the Regional Disaster Preparedness Activities programme that JRCS began to support just recently. I am responsible for a wide range of activities, which

includes managing of the overall programme, and communicating and coordinating with the Japan office.

Nepal has one of the most highest disaster risks in Asia. In Katmandu, where I usually live, the infrastructure development

cannot keep up with the rapid increase in population. Constant power shortfall plagues people with blackouts and water shortage. Moreover, once the monsoon season starts, the increase in river volume causes floods and landslides all over the place, threatening people's lives. People having to walk to the next town because the roads are blocked; children having to swim to school because the river volume exceeded capacity; people having to live in homes where the annual floods will wash away everything. Many people need the support to live a better life in a disaster-resistant environment.

Backed by the strong bonds between Japan and Nepal, we wish to make this new Regional Disaster Preparedness Activities a memorable initiative. We hope that the Nepal Red Cross Society can leverage their grassroots network in promoting awareness, knowledge and facilities necessary for disaster preparedness among the people in order to empower people in difficulty with the capability to respond to and revitalize from the disasters.



Membership

Members are the foundation of the Japanese Red Cross Society.

The Japanese Red Cross Law sets forth that “the Society is organized by its own members”, and that “no members or their rights and obligations shall be subjected to discrimination based on race, nationality, faith, gender or social standing.”

Membership is comprised of individuals and corporations who endorse the Society’s activities and pay an annual membership fee of 500 yen or more. As of March 31, 2013, the JRCS is supported by a total of approximately 9.52 million individual members and 126,000 corporate members.

Members take part in the deliberation of and decisions on basic policies and important matters such as the election of president, vice- presidents, auditors and governors, project planning, budgeting and account settlements through the Board of Representatives, the JRCS’s highest governing body. The members of the JRCS have the following rights:

- To vote to elect or to be elected as members of the Board of Representatives and executive officers of the Japanese Red Cross Society. (Corporate members do not have the right to be voted.)
- To receive reports on the annual activity and finance

of the Society. (Reports can be substituted by public notices.)

- To express opinions regarding the management of the Society through members of the Board of Representatives elected in their regions.

Members not only support the Red Cross operations financially through their membership fees; they are also responsible for determining the overall direction of the operation including its budgets and project planning.

The primary source of funding for the Japanese Red Cross Society, in addition to fees collected from the membership, are the donations which have been collected to fund project costs. These membership fees and donations make the Red Cross projects possible. Reflecting the harsh social and economic conditions of recent years, the JRCS membership has been decreasing. In order to increase its members again, the JRCS is diligently working to recruit new members through a variety of undertakings such as making its projects more widely known, developing varied fund-raising methods, and soliciting corporate membership by engaging in a variety of partnership projects through company CSR (corporate social responsibility) activities.

Organisation

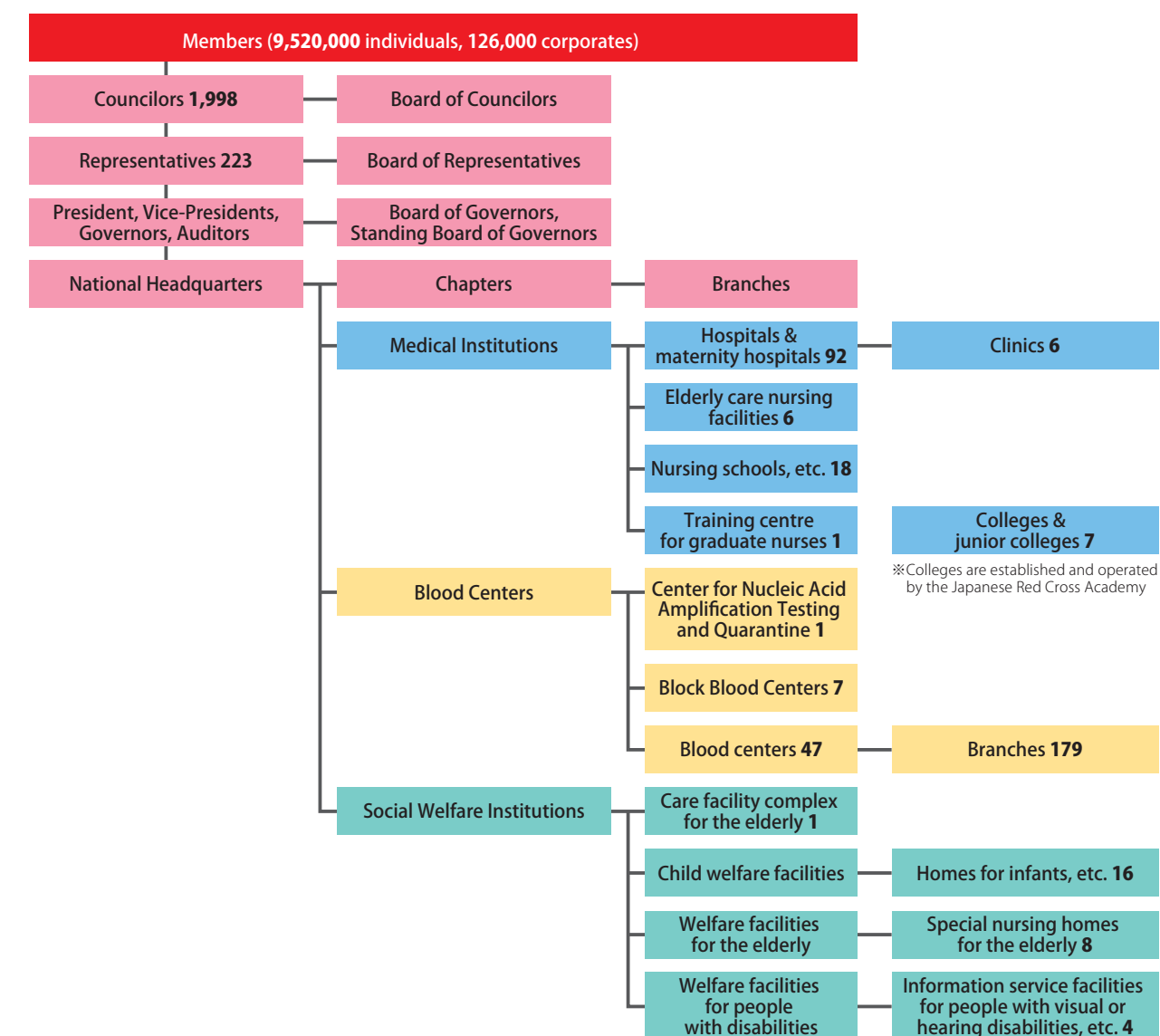
The headquarters for the Japanese Red Cross Society is located in Tokyo, and it is primarily involved in carrying out comprehensive project planning, guidance, and coordination functions for the entire organisation. Prefectural chapters, comprised of executive offices and other facilities that have been established according to the needs of local circumstances, work to implement Red Cross operations.

Municipal level branches operate under the prefectural chapters, and it is here that front line activities for the Red Cross are being respectively carried out.

The Japanese Red Cross Society operates 104 medical

institutions, 19 facilities for training nurses and other personnel, 234 blood programme establishments, and 29 social welfare facilities. A total of 63,000 staff are employed at these facilities, where they carry out work according to policies established by the Society’s Board of Representatives.

Additionally, the Japanese Red Cross Academy, an educational corporation established by the Japanese Red Cross Society, operates six colleges of nursing and one junior college where it is committed to providing the nurses it trains with wide-ranging knowledge and advanced technical capabilities.



Finance

The Japanese Red Cross Society has 1 general account and 3 special accounts, independent of each other.

While the general account is related to the activities at the JRCS Headquarters and chapters, mainly financed by membership fees and contributions, the special accounts are mainly covered by the compensation for the services by the JRCS institutions (medical services

by medical fees paid by patients and the National Health Insurance Programme, blood services by proceeds from blood and blood-product sales, and social welfare services by care benefit incomes).



FY2011

General Account

| | Income | | Expenditure | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------|--|----------------------|
| | Item | Amount (million yen) | Item | Amount (million yen) |
| Headquarters | Membership fees and contributions | 94,294 | Expenses for domestic disaster relief activities | 387,529 |
| | Income from delegated activities | 128 | Expenses for social activities | 1,215 |
| | Grants | 1,214 | Expenses for international activities | |
| | Income from disaster relief donation deposits | 314,618 | | 4,307 |
| | Deferred income | 7,295 | Expenses for organisational development | 504 |
| | Income from repayment of debts | 820 | Expenses for infrastructure | 948 |
| | Others | 1,351 | Reserve fund | 23,039 |
| | Balance brought forward from the previous year | 3,225 | Administrative expenses | 1,584 |
| | | | Others | 1,191 |
| | Total | 422,947 | Total | 420,320 |
| Chapters | Membership fees and contributions | 16,211 | Expenses for domestic disaster relief activities | 2,966 |
| | Income from delegated activities | 123 | Expenses for social activities | 2,818 |
| | Grants | 520 | Expenses for international activities | |
| | Income from disaster relief donation deposits | 437 | | 105 |
| | Deferred income | 1,066 | Expenses for other activities of chapters | 708 |
| | | | Grants for branches | 2,150 |
| | Others | 1,936 | Expenses for organisational development | 1,854 |
| | Balance brought forward from the previous year | 1,861 | Expenses for infrastructure | 1,210 |
| | | | Cash transferred to the Headquarters | 2,252 |
| | | | Reserve fund | 2,039 |
| | | Administrative expenses | 2,736 | |
| | | Others | 1,300 | |
| Total | 22,159 | Total | 20,144 | |
| Grand total | 445,106 | Grand total | 440,464 | |

Special Account for Medical Institutions

| | Income | | Expenditure | | |
|---------------------|--|----------------------|----------------------|---|---------|
| | Item | Amount (million yen) | Item | Amount (million yen) | |
| Headquarters | Other income | 567 | Headquarters | Expenses for medical services | 143 |
| | | | | Other expenses | 575 |
| | Total | 567 | Total | 718 | |
| Hospitals | Income from medical services | 884,984 | Medical Institutions | Expenses for medical services | 870,042 |
| | Other income | 34,280 | | Other expenses | 23,067 |
| | Income from prevention and health services | 1,088 | | Expenses for prevention and health services | 6,649 |
| | Income from nursing schools | 9,617 | | Expenses for nursing schools | 10,664 |
| | Extraordinary income | 2,742 | | Extraordinary expense | 5,965 |
| | Total | 932,714 | Total | 916,389 | |
| Grand Total | 932,729 | Grand Total | 916,556 | | |

Special Account for Blood Programme

| | Income | | Expenditure | |
|---|----------------|--|----------------|----------------------|
| | Item | Amount (million yen) | Item | Amount (million yen) |
| Income from the supply of blood | 160,318 | Expenses for the supply of blood | 157,724 | |
| Other income | 4,886 | Other expenses | 6,854 | |
| Income from activities related to blood service | 1,026 | Expenses for activities related to blood service | 1,187 | |
| Extraordinary income | 674 | Extraordinary expenses | 370 | |
| Total | 166,905 | Total | 166,137 | |

Special Account for Social Welfare Facilities

| | Income | | Expenditure | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|---------------|----------------------|
| | Item | Amount (million yen) | Item | Amount (million yen) |
| Income from Social Welfare Services | 11,070 | Expenditure for Social Welfare Services | 10,163 | |
| Income of Headquarters | 29 | Expenditure of Headquarters | 831 | |
| Others | 10,058 | Others | 5,891 | |
| Total | 21,162 | Total | 16,888 | |

History

| | |
|------|--|
| 1877 | The Society was founded by Count Tsunetami Sano, as the Philanthropic Society, during the battles of the Southwestern Rebellion. |
| 1886 | The Japanese Government pledged to adhere to the Geneva Convention of 1864. The Society's first hospital was established in Tokyo. |
| 1887 | The Philanthropic Society changed its name to the Japanese Red Cross Society and was recognised as such by the International Committee of the Red Cross on 2 September 1887. |
| 1888 | In July the Society first engaged in disaster relief by assisting victims of the Mt. Bandai eruption. |
| 1890 | Training of nurses began at the Red Cross Hospital in Tokyo. |
| 1900 | The San Francisco earthquake and fire in April gave the Society its first opportunity to extend relief to a foreign country. The Society collected US\$146,000 for the American Red Cross. |
| 1912 | On the occasion of the 9th International Conference of the Red Cross in Washington, D.C., Empress Shoken contributed 100,000 yen to the International Red Cross to encourage its peacetime activities and established the Empress Shoken Fund. |
| 1919 | The Society was one of the five National Societies that took the initiative in establishing the League of Red Cross Societies. |
| 1920 | The first Florence Nightingale medals were awarded to three JRCS nurses. |
| 1922 | The Junior Red Cross was established at a school in Shiga Prefecture. |
| 1923 | A major earthquake hit the Tokyo area, causing 140,000 dead and missing, and the JRCS conducted relief activities for the victims. The American and Chinese Red Cross Societies sent relief teams to Japan. |
| 1926 | The Society hosted the 2nd Oriental Red Cross Regional Conference. |
| 1934 | The Society hosted the 15th International Conference of the Red Cross. |
| 1947 | The Society created Home Nursing, First Aid, and Water Safety programmes similar to those of the American Red Cross. |
| 1952 | New Japanese Red Cross Law came into effect on 14 August, and new statutes of the Japanese Red Cross were implemented on 31 October. |
| 1953 | Japan became the 24th state to be party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949. |
| 1964 | The Government Cabinet decision to promote blood donations, in place of blood sales and deposits, contributed to the rapid expansion of the Society's blood programme, which had started on a modest scale in 1952. |
| 1970 | The Society hosted the Konnichiwa 70 Technical Seminar for the Southeast Asian and Pan-Pacific regions concerning Red Cross Youth activities. |
| 1977 | In commemoration of its centenary, the Society hosted the 4th Asia and West Pacific Seminar on the Red Cross Blood Programme. |
| 1983 | The NHK International Helping Hand Campaign was launched as a joint event with the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) and became an annual campaign from then on. |
| 1985 | A Japan Airlines jumbo jet crashed in Gunma Prefecture, killing 520 people. The Society conducted relief activities for the victims. |
| 1986 | As a measure to help prevent HIV/AIDS from spreading, the Society began screening for HIV antibodies at every blood centre starting in November. |
| 1995 | The Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake struck the Kobe area on 17 January, claiming more than 6,000 lives, and the JRCS conducted relief activities for the victims. |
| 1999 | The International Humanitarian Law Forum was held in Tokyo on 12 August to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Geneva Conventions of 1949. |
| 2004 | Japan became a party to the 1977 Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions. The Society hosted the 3rd International Red Cross and Red Crescent Donor Forum in Gotemba, Japan. |
| 2005 | The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement participated in the EXPO AICHI JAPAN 2005. |
| 2009 | President Kono was elected as the President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. |
| 2011 | Japan was struck by an earthquake of a M9.0, which generated a devastating tsunami and nuclear power plant accident and the Society conducted relief activities for the victims. |

