

(Headline)

Nodamura Daycare, Iwate Prefecture.
As you climb the gentle slope, you hear the children.

(Body Copy)

These are the children of Nodamura Daycare in Iwate Prefecture. On the day of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the children, led by their teachers, walked 2 km and climbed a slope to reach the higher ground that enabled them to survive the tsunami that followed. Thanks to a monthly evacuation drill, the children and daycare staff were safe that day. But the daycare facility was washed away.

For the sake of the children – and for their parents, who need a safe place to leave their children while they work toward the recovery of their community – rebuilding the daycare facility became an urgent need.

With relief funds from the Yamato Welfare Foundation, a new daycare facility was completed at the end of October last year. According to the teachers, the facility stands on high ground where it is safe from tsunami and the spacious grounds provide an ideal environment for children. This is a significant part of the life that the people of Nodamura (Noda Village) have worked together to reclaim.

It will soon be one year and ten months since March 11, 2011. Time has passed in different ways for those who were affected that day and in the days since. At Yamato Group, we conducted a yearlong program that began the month following the earthquake. Ten yen was collected for each parcel we delivered and was donated to help restore the infrastructure and marine and agricultural industries of the affected areas. This was done in gratitude to the people of the Tohoku area who helped our delivery service grow. Funds collected from all parts of Japan reached ¥14,236,081,360 (US\$171.95 million*). Together with donations sent directly to the Foundation, the grand total amounted to ¥14,284,480,751. We are sincerely grateful to each and every customer who used our delivery service as well as to all those who supported the program.

The Yamato Welfare Foundation administers relief funds directed to the affected areas, and various projects are steadily taking shape. Included are 11 projects in Iwate Prefecture, eight in Miyagi Prefecture and 12 in Fukushima Prefecture. The rebuilding of Nodamura Daycare was one of those projects.

The decision to initiate this program was inspired by our employees. After the tsunami, they immediately began to work in ways that could only be accomplished by those who shared the same painful experience and who knew the areas and people well. Their example continues to inspire nearly 180,000 Yamato Group employees throughout the country, and shows what can be accomplished when employees are closely connected to the places they work.

The damage caused by the great earthquake was extensive. It will be a long and difficult road to recovery. Each and every employee, throughout the country, will continue to focus on the communities in which they work and seek out ways to help as they carry out their daily jobs.

Details about the 31 projects and their progress can be viewed in the monthly report posted on the Yamato Holdings web site.

※Based on the exchange rate of US\$ 1.00 = ¥ 82.79 as at March 30,2012