Practical Build Back Better Efforts, and the Course of Action Hereafter

November 26, 2017

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Executive Director of Personal Support Center (PSC)
(General Incorporated Association)
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1. Introduction: Personal Support Center (PSC)

**Purpose of Personal Support Center (Articles of Incorporation)**

This Association aims to support the livelihood of socially needy people including the homeless, the disabled, DV victims, single-parent households, NEET (people not engaged in education, employment or training), stay-at-home and people difficult to work, and to promote the dissemination, development and systemization of personal support activities to implement escorting job assistance for independence, thus to lead to the realization of their independent livelihood with stability.

**Goals of Personal Support Center (Articles 13 and 25 of the Constitution)**

Article 13: All of the people shall be respected as individuals. Their right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness shall, to the extent that it does not interfere with the public welfare, be the supreme consideration in legislation and in other governmental affairs.

Article 25: All people shall have the right to maintain the minimum standards of wholesome and cultured living.

1. In all spheres of life, the State shall use its endeavors for the promotion and extension of social welfare and security, and of public health.

**Structure of the Center**

- **Two Divisions** (Community Good Neighbor Division, Independence Consultation and Support Division), and indirect sector; 64 staff members in total
- Representative Director: Koji Niisato, (Lawyer, Ex-Vice President of Japan Federation of Bar Associations)
- Number of collaborated and cooperated organizations: 15 (*: NPO)
  1. Japan Community Life Support Center*
  2. Sendai Miyagi NPO Center*
  3. Sendai Night Patrol Group*
  4. Child Line Miyagi*
  5. Anti-poverty Miyagi Network
  6. Hoyu*
  7. POSSE*
  8. Hoppu no Mori*
  9. Foundation for Cooperative Community Creation (Public interest incorporated foundation)
  10. MIYAGI Child Network*
  11. One Family Sendai*
  12. ASUIKU
  13. Miyagi Life Cooperative Organization
  14. Food Bank TOHOKU AGAIN
1. Introduction: Personal Support Center (PSC)

**Total Image of Support Activities by PSC (As of November 2017)**

- **Jun. 2011**: Security Watch Collaboration Project (Escorting Livelihood Support Project) (Watch and welfare support for residents of temporary housing)
- **Nov. 2011**: Community Work Salon “Engawa” (Site of meaningful work for residents of temporary housing)
- **Jun. 2012**: Job Assistance Consultation Center “Wak-Work” (Job matching for needy people affected by disaster)
- **Dec. 2012**: Intermediate Job Assistance “Café Kuone” (Job training for needy people affected by disaster)
- **Jul. 2013**: Job Preparation Support Center “Workshop” (Job preparation for needy people)
- **Nov. 2013**: Intermediate Job Assistance Work salon for senior and youth “Collabo”
- **Oct. 2013**: Job Preparation Support Center “Workshop” (Job preparation for needy people)
- **Oct. 2014**: Lifetime Meaningful Work Support Center (Job assistance for people aged 65 and over)
- **Apr. 2014**: Support for independence of needy people 2015: Sendai City Livelihood Independence / Job Consultation Center
  • Southern part of Miyagi Prefecture (Sendai Health and Welfare Area, and Sennan Health and Welfare Area)
  • Tagajo City
- **Oct. 2015**: Sendai City Housing and Livelihood Reconstruction Support Center
- **Jul. 2015**: Miyagi Prefecture Removal Support Center for Disaster Victims
- **Oct. 2015**: Northern Miyagi Prefecture Removal Support Center
- **Oct. 2016**: Tomiya City
- **Oct. 2016**: Support for Kumamoto Earthquake
- **Apr. 2016**: Employment transfer support
- **May 2015**: Rokuchonome Nishimachi Community
- **Apr. 2017**: Employment transfer support

**Support for independence of needy people**
- **Apr. 2014**: Sendai City Livelihood Independence / Job Consultation Center
- **Oct. 2016**: Northern Miyagi Prefecture Removal Support Center

**Total Support**
2. Support Project for Disaster Victims

Background of Implementation of Relocation Supporting Project (Survey on Residents of Temporary Housing)

- Implementation of survey on actual livelihood at one year from the occurrence of disaster
- Understanding of actual state of areas which cannot be seen from the watch activity of temporary housing
- Understanding of needs of disaster victims that can be objectively known from the survey, which are not their voice heard in the watch activity, and reflection of such voice in the subsequent measures
- Similar survey was also implemented in 2014.
2. Support Project for Disaster Victims

Survey implemented in February 2012. Questionnaire was distributed to the residents of temporary housing in Sendai City (2,581 households of deemed temporary housing and 2,199 households of pre-fabricated temporary housing). We asked the heads of households to answer. Answers were received from 1,369 households of deemed temporary housing and 569 households of pre-fabricated housing.

The fundamental problem of Sendai City is the reconstruction of livelihood of households in deemed temporary housing. Nevertheless, the result showed that those living in pre-fabricated temporary housing are more difficult to reconstruct their livelihood.

(i) Annual income (FY2011)
   Deemed temporary housing: 2.91 million yen
   (The income was less than 2.5 million yen at more than half of these households.)
   Pre-fabricated temporary housing: 2.2 million yen
   (The income was less than 2 million yen at more than half of these households)

   The results showed the annual income decreased by approximately 0.3 million yen from that of FY2010.

(ii) Ratio of having any family member holding Identification Booklet for the Disabled (physically, intellectually, or mentally)
   Deemed temporary housing: 142 households among 1,300 effective answers (10.4%)
   Pre-fabricated temporary housing: 99 households among 485 effective answers (20.4%)
   For your reference, the answer to the question if there is anyone certified for requirement of nursing care to those living in pre-fabricated housing was as follows:
   84 households among 510 effective answered Yes (15.7%)

   There may be double-counted households, however, simply stated, 30% of the entire households seem to have some handicap. This result corresponded to what we have felt in some vague way through our watch visit, and expresses our findings in a numeral form.
2. Support Project for Disaster Victims

(iii) **Average monthly rent of deemed temporary housing: 60,255 yen**

Question: How many percent of the current rent can you afford?
Number of effective answers: 813

- Cannot continue to live if any burden is charged: 304 households (37.4%)
- Can continue to live with a burden of up to 20%: 136 households (16.7%)

The sum of those who answered that they can pay up to 20% and they cannot bear any burden exceeded 54.1%.

(iv) Question on working status - Number of effective answers: 1,167

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Working Status</th>
<th>Number of Households</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Working</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>66.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not working</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking for employment (completed to receive employment insurance)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking for employment (Receiving employment insurance)</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking for employment (Have not yet received employment insurance)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeking for employment (Not qualified for receiving employment insurance)</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total households seeking for employment: 109 (11% of the whole)
*We have heard that the result was similar in the survey of Sendai City.*
What is important in supporting the reconstruction of livelihood?
2. Support Project for Disaster Victims

Implementation of Regular Case Meetings with Administration, PSC, Collaborating Organizations, etc.

The First Liaison and Coordination Meeting on Support of People Disaster Victims.

Date: Monday, April 22, 2013

Agenda
Implementation of individual visit toward independence

Summary of Process
Monday, March 18, 2013
- Liaison and Coordination Meeting on support of Disaster Victims, Kick-off Meeting
  Implementation of livelihood reconstruction support project for disaster victims (Aoba-ku)

Wednesday, April 10, 2013
- Working Group, the First meeting
  Examination on the way of proceeding the project

Thursday, April 18, 2013
- Working Group, the Second Meeting
  Information sharing, and confirmation of visit

List of those related to the Livelihood Reconstruction Support Project for Disaster Victims (Aoba-ku) FY2013

- Liaison and Coordination Meeting
- Working Group
  City of Sendai, Sendai City Social Welfare Council – Core Mutual Support Center, Personal Support Center, etc.
2. Support Project for Disaster Victims

We participate in the Livelihood Reconstruction Support Working Group for People Affected by Disaster through Support Program for Disaster Victims to Resume Normal Lives, and implement the support in collaboration with the City.

### Summary of Support Program for Disaster Victims to Resume Normal Lives

We participate in the Livelihood Reconstruction Support Working Group for People Affected by Disaster through Support Program for Disaster Victims to Resume Normal Lives, and implement the support in collaboration with the City.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Further Challenges</th>
<th>Support Measures and Responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Households able to independently recover in terms of housing and daily life</td>
<td>Improvement of consultation support concerning housing reconstruction for households that changed their reconstruction policy due to various circumstances</td>
<td>• Continuous survey of circumstances&lt;br&gt;• Support for removal to municipal housing&lt;br&gt;• Consultation support on housing reconstruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Households in need of daily-life support</td>
<td>Continuation of health and welfare service at the place of reconstruction for households for which influence of change of living environment on physical and mental health is concerned.</td>
<td>• Implementation of individual visit&lt;br&gt;• Health support&lt;br&gt;• Watch and consultation on livelihood&lt;br&gt;• Support by Community Health Welfare Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Households in need of housing support</td>
<td>Individual support, etc. for households that cannot decide to reconstruct the housing due to various circumstances, including those who are difficult to act by themselves</td>
<td>• Implementation of individual visit&lt;br&gt;• Promotion of job assistance&lt;br&gt;• Escorting support for removal to privately-rented housing&lt;br&gt;• Support based on individual support plan&lt;br&gt;• Health support&lt;br&gt;• Support by Community Health Welfare Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Households in need of both housing and daily-life support</td>
<td>Collaboration with a wide range of supporters and proactive engagement to achieve the solution of problems and the reconstruction within a limited period of time&lt;br&gt;• Necessary advice by experts, including lawyers, for support to the households that require professional knowledge, etc. for solution of problems</td>
<td>• Support based on individual support plan&lt;br&gt;• Implementation of individual visit&lt;br&gt;• Watch and consultation on livelihood&lt;br&gt;• Support by Community Health Welfare Service&lt;br&gt;• New Escorting support for removal to private housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households that once moved to the temporary housing in the city, but we cannot contact at present</td>
<td>Early understanding of reconstruction policy and necessity of support</td>
<td>• Survey by individual visit&lt;br&gt;• Recommendation of withdrawal to the households that are not actually live in the temporary housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household that was affected by disaster in the city, and resides in temporary housing outside of the city</td>
<td>Collaboration with, and provision of information to the local governments to disaster victims</td>
<td>Information provision/consultation support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Collaboration in the Livelihood Reconstruction Support Working Group for Disaster Victims

Measures implemented by PSC
2. Support Project for Disaster Victims

Sendai City Support Program for Disaster Victims to Resume Normal Lives

Escorting Support Project for Relocation to Private Housing
(Sendai City Housing and Livelihood Reconstruction Support Center)

● Those who live in emergency temporary housing, etc. provided by Sendai City
● Those who wish to move to private housing but are difficult to find, by themselves, such housing where they will reconstruct their livelihood

◆ Advice on how to seek for housing
◆ Escorting support to real estate agency
◆ Support of various procedures related to removal

Sendai City Housing and Livelihood Reconstruction Support Center
3. Challenges Hereafter

(i) How to deploy support projects for disaster victims in the ordinary support activities

(ii) Establishment of disaster case management

We need to establish a system of “Disaster Case Management” to implement support such as escorting counseling, etc. in response to the situation of each person, by revising the actual Act on Special Financial Support to Deal with the Designated Disaster of Extreme Severity, which responds mainly to recovery of infrastructure, and by increasing the national subsidy rate on the support programs, such as welfare at the time of disaster.