

28th Volunteer Activity Supporting Restoration and Recovery



Date	Saturday, October 5 through Sunday, October 6, 2013
Activity site	Fukushima-shi and Minamisoma-shi, Fukushima
Participants	15 (7 men, 4 women, 4 administration office staff)

● Activity Details



Our activities on the afternoon of the first day comprised organizing a fair in the assembly hall of a foster-care facility in Fukushima City in Fukushima Prefecture. When we arrived at the hall, we immediately started preparing the fair. We numbered 11 volunteers and although for 10 of us it was our first time to do volunteer work, we managed to get everything done smoothly.

By the time the fair began, the facility's staff had brought about 30 infants and elementary school children into the hall. We opened the fair by giving everyone presents of sweets and the book *The Bouquet of Children's Stories* published by JX Holdings. Then the fun started and the children were very happy as they played to their heart's content at such activities as yo-yo balloon fishing and hoopla game.



On the second day, we traveled to Minamisoma City in Fukushima Prefecture and participated in the "Minamisoma reconstruction citizen's tree-planting ceremony" which had been jointly organized by Minamisoma City and the Great Forest Wall Project. The ceremony was attended by about 3,000 people, and it opened with greetings from various administrators and former Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, followed by an explanation of the tree-planting method.

The entire tree-planting area had been divided into 47 sections. Though it started to drizzle, we volunteers and some other participants worked at planting trees in one of the sections.

some of the volunteers said things like, "It was good that we were able to make these Fukushima children happy," and "I think doing these sort of activities is very meaningful and worthwhile."