

Emergency Appeal for Kumamoto, Japan

Revised Version

Earthquake in Japan



Dear YMCA friends,

April 25, 2016

A powerful earthquake (magnitude of 6.4) hit at 9:26 p.m on April 14 near Kumamoto City. And at 01:25 on Sunday, 28 hours later, a magnitude-7.3 quake hit South Aso Village. The earthquake caused extensive damage to people, buildings, infrastructure roads and bridges, as well as causing landslides banks of rivers, dams and farms. Now more than 92,000 people are forced to stay at emergency shelters and fear frequent big aftershocks. As the disaster-stricken area is widespread, all Japan YMCAs need to cooperate and integrate our capacity to bring relief to suffering people. There are 14 YMCA branches in Kumamoto, including 2 sports centers commissioned by the government. Now the YMCA is managing big shelters with the government at these sports centers. One of shelters is full with more than 1200 evacuees, many of whom are elderly people and children. We have already provided them with emergency relief water, food and sanitary goods through contributions from all over Japan.

Kumamoto YMCA has suffered serious damage and we are asking your help to raise money for long term relief work.

We really appreciate your support and solidarity.

Shigeru Shimada
General Secretary
The National Council of YMCAs of Japan,

Contributions can be sent directly to YMCA Japan. Early in May, contributions can be made through the YMCA Japan website. Thank you!



Evacuees receive relief food at shelter



Kumamoto YMCA office



Evacuees and teaching stress care exercise at the shelter by YMCA staff.