

# Annual Report 2024 - 2025



人間を救うのは、人間だ。

## MISSION STATEMENT

### Mission of the Japanese Red Cross Society

**Aiming to save people who are suffering,  
we protect human life,  
health and dignity under any circumstances.**

### Our Fundamental Principles

**Our work is guided by the seven fundamental principles of the  
International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.**

Humanity:	Under any circumstances, we strive to prevent and reduce people's suffering.
Impartiality:	We give priority to those most in need, without any discrimination.
Neutrality:	To obtain the trust from everyone, we do not take sides in any conflict.
Independence:	We work in accordance with the laws of each country and cooperate with other humanitarian organizations but we always follow the fundamental principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to maintain our independence.
Voluntary service:	We voluntarily act to save people without seeking profits.
Unity:	As a sole organization of the Red Cross in a country, we conduct activities that are open to everyone.
Universality:	Utilizing the worldwide Red Cross and Red Crescent network, we take actions by cooperating with each other among ourselves.

### Our Determination

**We, as a component of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement,  
fight against self-interest and indifference,  
pay attention to people's plight or agony and act always with  
imagination in order to realize humanity.**



"The Revelation of Solferino" by Seiji Togo  
(owned by the Japanese Red Cross Society)

### The Birth of the Red Cross

In 1859, a Swiss man named Henry Dunant encountered about 40 thousand soldiers killed or wounded and left behind in Solferino, the bloodiest battlefield in the Austro-Sardinian War.

Dunant devoted himself to providing aid to such soldiers with the cooperation of villagers on the basis of his belief, "Those wounded soldiers are no longer soldiers; they are human beings. We must save their precious lives." He wrote about his experience in a book entitled "A Memory of Solferino" and stressed the following needs;

- ① Give aid to those wounded and ill at battlefields irrespective of friend or foe.
- ② Establish relief organizations to this end in each country, even in times of peace.
- ③ Formulate an international treaty to this end.

This philosophy reverberated in European countries. It led to the signing of the Geneva Conventions, designed to protect and save the victims of war and the founding of the Red Cross in 1864. The Japanese Red Cross Society, as a component of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, carries out activities in partnership with other Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in 191 countries/territories around the world, all operating under the same shared philosophies and principles.

## CONTENTS

01	Mission Statement
03	Message from the President
05	Special Feature 1: Humanitarian Crisis in the Middle East
09	Special Feature 2: Response to the Myanmar Earthquake
11	Special Feature 3: September 2024 Noto Peninsula Torrential Rain Disaster
15	Special Feature 4-1: Addressing Climate Change
16	Special Feature 4-2: Towards the 150th Anniversary
17	Special Feature 5: EXPO 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan
19	Activity Report FY 2024
21	1. Domestic Disaster Response
23	Topic: 30 Years since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake
27	2. Social Activities
29	3. Junior Red Cross
31	4. International Activities
33	5-1. Strengthening the Movement's Foundation: Membership and Donations
35	Partnerships with Companies and Organizations
39	5-2. Strengthening the Movement's Foundation: Red Cross Volunteers
41	6. Social Welfare Services
43	7. Medical Services
45	8. Training of Nurses
47	9. Blood Services
49	Enhancing Organizational Functions
53	Pickup: The Red Cross and Myself
55	Deep Dive into the Activities of the Chapters
57	Overview of Financial Reports for FY 2024
61	How the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Works
62	Overview of the Japanese Red Cross Society
63	Board Members of the Japanese Red Cross Society
65	Audit Report
66	Red Cross Across the Country

This report is based on the outcomes of activities conducted in FY 2024 (April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025).

Cover photo: Children become safety captains in the Japanese Red Cross Society's disaster preparedness education program "Spot the Differences: Discover the Dangers!" as they search for dangerous locations during an earthquake (Saga Prefecture)



As we approach our 150th anniversary, we commit ourselves to advancing reforms that bring our founding philosophy into the future.

President, Japanese Red Cross Society

清 家 篤

The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has been able to move forward thanks to the broad support and cooperation of everyone. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for your support.

A Magnitude 7.6 earthquake struck the Noto Peninsula on New Year's Day 2024 and the heavy rain disaster in September, caused significant damage to people and property, particularly in Ishikawa Prefecture. Immediately after the disasters, the Japanese Red Cross Society dispatched medical relief teams to the affected area and worked tirelessly to support those affected. Additionally, many Red Cross volunteers have devoted their energies to supporting those affected in their recovery efforts.

Furthermore, heavy rain hit the prefectures of Akita and Yamagata in July 2024, and Typhoon No. 10 hit western Japan in August.

To enhance our ability to respond to such disasters, we are improving the practical skills of our medical relief workers, promoting Red Cross disaster preparedness seminars, training programs, and working to raise awareness of the humanitarian challenges caused by climate change.

Looking around the world, we find no end in sight to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, Palestine, and in other regions. Disseminating and observing International Humanitarian Law is becoming increasingly important. At the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent held in Geneva, Switzerland, in October 2024, discussions focused on fostering a culture of compliance with International Humanitarian Law. The Japanese Red Cross Society and the Japanese government have made joint pledge: education is an essential part of disseminating and strengthening International Humanitarian Law. I hope that each and every one of you, as members of the international community, will cultivate a culture of non-violence and respect for human rights, guided by the principles of International Humanitarian Law — the collective wisdom of humankind — and continue to seek lasting peace.

The Japanese Red Cross Society hosted the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Pavilion at the 2025 World Expo in Osaka, which opened in April 2025. Tsunetami Sano, the founder of the Japanese Red Cross Society, first encountered the Red Cross at an exhibit at the 1867 World Expo in Paris, France. More than 150 years have passed since then, and we are honoured to present our pavilion at the World Expo in Japan. We hope that all of you involved in Red Cross activities will learn about our shared philosophy, and that you will feel the Red Cross in your heart.

The founding philosophy of the Japanese Red Cross Society will never waver. However, the circumstances surrounding the Society have greatly changed over time, including demographic changes, accelerated technological evolution, division within the international community and global climate change.

As individual values diversify and local communities are transforming, we must remain true to our enduring mission. To achieve this, we must not be constrained by existing framework; instead, we must strengthen the role and the foundations of the Japanese Red Cross Society, embracing diverse perspectives and flexible ideas. On our 150th anniversary, we commit ourselves to advancing reforms that bring our founding philosophy into the future.

Since the foundation, our activities have been supported by many people, including members, volunteers and blood donors who share the Red Cross philosophy. To fulfil our mission of “protecting human life, health and dignity”, we strive to respond to humanitarian crises both in Japan and abroad, and to expand the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. We deeply appreciate your continued support and guidance.

Long-term Vision and Strategy of the Japanese Red Cross Society: Toward the 150th Anniversary

- Creating societies where people are protected from disasters and conflicts
- Developing communities which support people's health and welfare
- Creating societies where people care, help, and respect each other

Our vision

The Red Cross, being the pivot of humanitarian action both in Japan and world-wide, fulfilling core function in community health service and blood service in the country

Operational Strategy

- To support people affected by disasters and conflicts in Japan and beyond and strengthen the resilience
- To pursue healthy and safe communities in a society with a low birthrate and an aging population
- To expand the humanitarian network in a diversified society

Strategy for Strengthening the Foundation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

- To encourage member participation in the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement
- To promote the volunteer-centered activities
- To promote the collaboration with Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners

## Special Feature 1

# Humanitarian Crisis in the Middle East



Situation in Gaza (November 2023) ©Pascal Hundt/ ICRC

## Uncertain Future of the Middle East

The wave of the Arab Spring (a pro-democracy movement) that began in late 2010 escalated into a civil war in Syria, forcing millions to flee to neighboring countries such as Lebanon, Turkey, and Jordan, while many others became internally displaced. As the situation in Syria and neighboring countries continues to evolve, as of February 2025, the number of Syrians seeking refuge abroad reached 6.2 million, and the number of people displaced within Syria reached 7.2 million, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). With limited infrastructure and uncertainty about their future in host communities, some people take perilous risks of moving to Europe and other countries.

The Middle East is also plagued by the historical issues between Palestine and Israel. People in Palestine who were forced to flee their homes more than 75 years ago are in difficult situation in countries and regions where they live now for four generations. According to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), there were 5.93 million registered refugees as of 2023, but their status and social standing are always unstable due to the political situation in each country.

Since October 2023, the armed conflict between Israel and Gaza has intensified, severely impacting many civilians and deteriorating the humanitarian situation. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the total number of those affected on both sides exceeded 52,000 as of April 22, 2025. The impact spread to surrounding countries, with Lebanon experiencing significant damage that began in the southern areas near the border with Israel and quickly spread across the whole country.



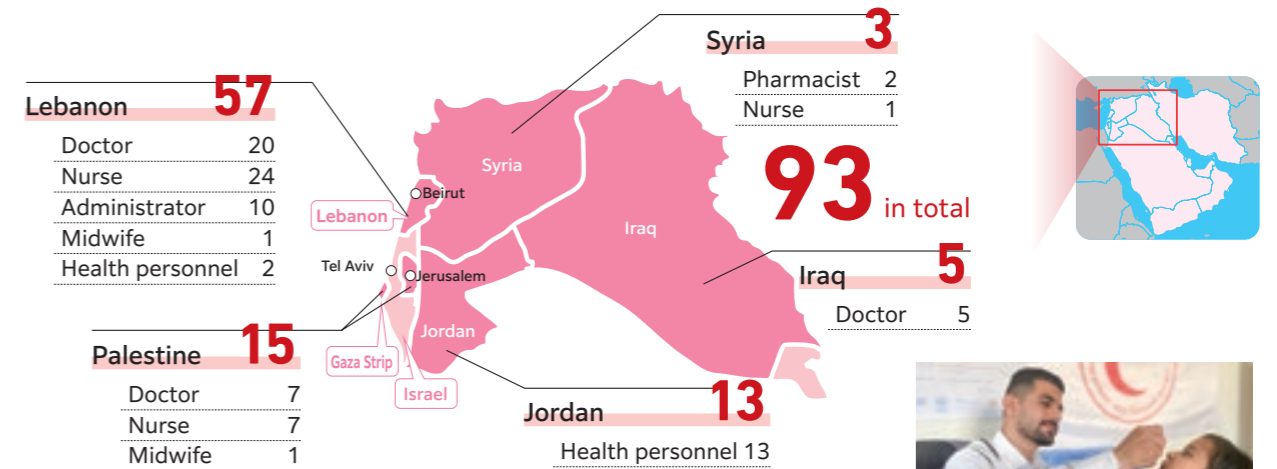
Living conditions in Rafah, southern Gaza (February 2024) ©Kunlawat Note Chittarat/ICRC



Residents in Gaza heading towards their hometowns ©Ahmed Al Waheidi/ICRC

## Support for the Middle East

Since 2015, the Japanese Red Cross Society has been working to alleviate suffering of people in the Middle East in partnership with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the Middle East. In the same year, a representative office of the Japanese Red Cross Society in the Middle East was set up in Beirut, Lebanon, to assess local needs, implement projects, and strengthen cooperative relationships with other components of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Since 2015, the Japanese Red Cross Society has dispatched a total of 93 staff, including doctors, to Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan, and other countries to support humanitarian activities in the Middle East. The total amount of support provided has exceeded 1.5 billion Japanese yen as of February 2023.



## The Ongoing Humanitarian Crisis in the Middle East

### Humanitarian Crisis in Israel and Gaza

With regard to the humanitarian crisis in Israel and Gaza, the ceasefire agreement came into effect in January 2025, 15 months after the escalation of armed conflict in October 2023. However, with the resumption of hostilities, people are once again suffering. In Gaza, many people have been displaced, and movement of goods and transportation have been severely restricted, resulting in shortage of food, water, and medicine. The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has been providing health and medical care, daily necessities, and repairing infrastructure. In May 2024, the ICRC, in cooperation with 12 Red Cross National Societies including the Japanese Red Cross Society, set up a field hospital in Rafah; south of Gaza. In Gaza, where a polio outbreak was confirmed, the local Ministry of Health, together with the World Health Organization (WHO), and other partners, conducted polio vaccination campaigns in September and October 2024. The Palestinian Red Crescent Society also supported the vaccination for children at its clinics and field hospitals.

In Israel, armed clashes have caused many people displaced, and many families have expressed anxiety and grief over their desire for the release of all hostages. The Magen David Adom (Red Cross in Israel) transported the injured and secured blood for transfusions.

The ICRC, as a neutral humanitarian organization, supports the safe transfer of hostages and detainees and accordingly provides medical care by specialists, including doctors. The ICRC has transferred 24 hostages from Gaza to Israel and 985 Palestinian detainees from Israel to the Occupied Palestinian Territories as of February 15, 2025.

From October 17, 2023 to March 31, 2025, the Japanese Red Cross Society conducted a fundraising campaign for the 2023 Israel-Gaza Humanitarian Crisis. Donations received are allocated to relief and reconstruction activities, including responses in neighboring countries, carried out by the ICRC, Magen David Adom, the Palestine Red Crescent Society, the IFRC, and the Japanese Red Cross Society.



Polio vaccination efforts in Gaza ©PRCS



Palestinian Red Crescent Society ambulance targeted by attacks in January 2024



First baby born in a field hospital in Gaza ©ICRC



Transportation of the wounded in Israel ©MDA

Amount Received: **659,472,081** JPY (as of March 31, 2025)

## ■ Humanitarian Crisis in Lebanon

The humanitarian crisis in Israel and Gaza has affected neighboring countries, and armed conflict has intensified in Lebanon in September 2024. According to the Lebanese Ministry of Health, more than 4,200 people lost their lives and more than 17,500 people were injured between October 2023 and February 2025. During this period, the number of people who were forced to flee their homes rapidly increased. According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), the number of those displaced exceeded 1.3 million as of November 2024, of which 870,000 are displaced in Lebanon and more than 510,000 are crossing borders to Syria and other countries.

The Lebanese Red Cross immediately dispatched emergency teams to conduct search and rescue operations, visited shelters, installed and repaired showers and water supplies, and distributed relief supplies. The Palestinian Red Crescent Society Lebanon Branch, which supports Palestinian refugees in Lebanon, strengthened its emergency response teams and transported the injured to medical facilities to ensure prompt first aid and treatment on the spot. Some Palestinian medical personnel were themselves displaced from camps in southern Lebanon and the southern suburbs of Beirut, yet they continued relief and medical activities despite facing difficult personal circumstances.

The Japanese Red Cross Society organized a fundraising campaign for the Lebanon Humanitarian Crisis from October 15, 2024, to March 31, 2025. Donations collected are allocated to support relief and recovery activities conducted by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the Lebanese Red Cross, the Japanese Red Cross Society, and so forth. These activities are taking place within Lebanon, as well as in neighboring countries such as Syria which are hosting displaced persons from Lebanon.



Emergency Team of Lebanese Red Cross ©LRC



The Palestinian Red Crescent Society Lebanon Branch first aid team conducting relief operations in southern Lebanon ©PRCS

The Syrian Red Crescent Society volunteers assisting the evacuees ©SARC

Amount Received: **11,848,590** JPY (as of March 31, 2025)

## ■ Major Medium- and Long-term Support Projects

### ■ Projects with the Palestinian Red Crescent Society Lebanon Branch

Aiming to improve the quality of medical services for Palestinian refugees and local residents in Lebanon, the Japanese Red Cross Society has implemented medical support projects since 2018 for five hospitals operated by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in Lebanon. These projects have focused on: (a) standardizing medical quality, (b) enhancing infectious disease response, (c) establishing systems capable of handling mass casualties, (d) improving physicians' diagnostic capabilities, and (e) enhancing the quality of nursing practice.

Since the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon beginning in September 2024, the Society has been conducting training programs for doctors and nurses in collaboration with local universities.



A doctor of the Japanese Red Cross Society checking how to use an echo with local doctors



A nurse of the Japanese Red Cross Society confirming the importance of correctly recording medical records with local staff



Participants checking echo interpretation at a training session organized by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society with a local university ©PRCS

### ■ Projects with the Palestinian Red Crescent Society Gaza Branch

Ongoing regional tensions have made it difficult for Palestinian people in Gaza to transfer severely ill patients to advanced hospitals in Israel, necessitating the provision of advanced medical care within the Gaza Strip. At the same time, movement restrictions have limited opportunities for local medical professionals to stay updated on advancement in medical technology. Since October 2019, the Japanese Red Cross Society has provided support to hospitals operated by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in Gaza. During the COVID-19 pandemic, this support was provided remotely. In July 2023, the Japanese Red Cross Society resumed on-site activities to improve nursing practice and strengthen newborn care. However, due to the intensification of the conflict, these non-emergency support activities have been suspended since October 2023.



A nurse from the Japanese Red Cross Society providing support online ©PRCS



A nurse from the Japanese Red Cross Society checks with local staff to improve nursing skills



A midwife from the Japanese Red Cross Society checks methods of neonatal care in the NICU

### ■ Projects with the Lebanese Red Cross

Lebanon hosts not only Palestinian refugees but also Syrian refugees who fled after the outbreak of the Syrian conflict in 2011, making the country with the highest number of refugees per capita in the world. Due to the recent economic crisis, prices of daily necessities such as medicines have skyrocketed, and this has had a serious impact on both refugees and the people of Lebanon. The Lebanese Red Cross operates clinics in Lebanon to support the healthy lives of people in need, with assistance from the Japanese Red Cross Society.



The conference room (left) was converted into two consultation rooms to accommodate the increasing number of patients (middle, right)



Staff of the Japanese Red Cross Society checking format of prescription linked to improvement of management system of patient information, etc.

### Voice from the Delegation in the Middle East

#### Sumika Aoyama, Deputy Head of Delegation in the Middle East Japanese Red Cross Society

Armed conflict has continued in the Middle East for many years. In particular in October 2023, the humanitarian crisis in Israel and Gaza has affected neighboring countries such as Lebanon and Syria, and it threatened lives of people significantly. Many people lost their lives, families, and homes, along with jobs, educational opportunities, access to healthcare, clean water, sanitation, peace of mind, and their daily life. Syria experienced an earthquake two years ago followed by a change in government, yet the situation remains unstable. Even as external forces bring changes, local people continue to support each other in their daily lives.

National Societies across the Middle East continue to strive in numerous emergency responses, including protecting human rights, providing healthcare, supplying food and essential items, and repairing infrastructure. Japanese Red Cross Society supports these emergency responses. Even before the intensification of armed conflict, we have continuously supported the Lebanese Red Cross's clinics and the activities of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society Lebanon Branch to improve the quality of healthcare in Palestinian refugee camps. To ensure the sentiments of our supporters reach those in need, we continue our activities, listening to local needs and never forgetting the spirit of standing alongside them.



Ms. Aoyama (far right) visits a Palestinian Red Crescent site for monitoring.

#### Sachiko Kawase, Nurse, Japanese Red Cross Osaka Hospital

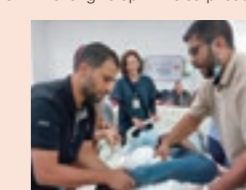
While I was engaged in medical support including training for local nurses at Al-Quds Hospital of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society in Gaza, I was forced to evacuate due to the intensifying conflict after October 7, 2023. Despite the continuous violent attacks and fear for safety, Red Cross and Red Crescent have remained steadfast, saying, "Now is time to continue our humanitarian support." Witnessing this unwavering commitment, I made efforts to do everything what I could as a nurse.

Attacks and fuel shortages have caused many hospitals to lose their functions. Ambulances have also been attacked, and paramedics have been killed in the line of duty. Many lives and functions protected under International Humanitarian Law continue to be lost.

As attacks intensify throughout the Gaza Strip, I received heartbreaking messages from local staff, "The days of fear have begun again." Under such circumstances, asking people about hope seems impossible. However, I received messages from people in Gaza saying "We will never give up". This surprised me a lot, and I was deeply moved.

I reinforce my own determination to never give up and continue providing whatever support I can offer in Japan.

I remain committed to connecting lives, hoping that a day will come when people in conflict areas will sleep peacefully without doubt that tomorrow will come.



Ms. Kawase (center) organizes a workshop at Al-Quds Hospital

## Special Feature 2

# Response to the Myanmar Earthquake











Staff members of Myanmar Red Cross Society conducting search and rescue operations for missing persons, providing first aid to the injured, and transporting them to nearby hospitals immediately after the disaster struck. ©MRCS

## A Magnitude 7.7 Earthquake Hit Myanmar

On March 28, 2025, a powerful earthquake with a magnitude of 7.7 struck central Myanmar. Approximately 10 minutes later, another earthquake measuring 6.7 struck the same area. According to the Myanmar authorities, more than 3,700 people died, and more than 5,100 people were injured. Many buildings collapsed in Mandalay, Myanmar's second largest city with a population of approximately 1.5 million, which was close to the epicenter. The tremors also affected neighboring Thailand, causing damage in Bangkok and the northern part of the country. According to the Thai authorities, 58 people died, and 38 people were injured. (As of April 22, 2025)

Immediately after the earthquake, the Myanmar Red Cross Society provided first aid and transported the injured to hospitals, distributed relief supplies and provided psychosocial support. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) launched an Emergency Appeal and coordinated support activities within and beyond the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) helped reunite separated families and recover bodies. Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, including the Japanese Red Cross Society, provided financial assistance, goods, and dispatched staff.

	560 volunteers from the Myanmar Red Cross Society worked on the frontline.
	3 teams of mobile clinics continue providing treatment to over 4,700 people.
	Provided services such as first aid, transportation to hospitals, and search and rescue operations to over 1,000 people.
	Provided psychosocial support to 538 people.
	Provided water supply services to more than 100,000 people, ensuring access to safe water.
	Distributed relief supplies to more than 37,700 people.
	Provided cash assistance to 21,265 people (5,075 households).
	Dispatched a total of more than 35 emergency response personnel from Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies around the world, including the Japanese Red Cross Society. Provided more than 250 tons of relief goods.

Main activities of the IFRC and Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (as of May 3, 2025)

## One Month After the Disaster, Needs Are Still Enormous

The earthquake damaged more than 50,000 homes and more than 600 medical facilities. More than 200,000 people have been forced to live outdoors with limited access to safe water and medical care. The Myanmar Red Cross Society has been engaged in a wide range of activities, including search and rescue operation, distribution of relief items, provision of medical services by mobile clinics, and support for water supply and sanitation, such as the installation of temporary toilets and water purification systems. To date, more than 150,000 people in Sagaing, Mandalay, Naypyidaw, Bago, and southern Shan State have received support from the Myanmar Red Cross Society. At the same time, with the arrival of the long rainy season, which is expected to continue until around October, there is a great need to secure safe shelter and respond to the worsening sanitary environment. (As of May 3, 2025)

## Response of the Japanese Red Cross Society

### Financial Contribution

The IFRC launched an Emergency Appeal, requesting international assistance both within and beyond the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. In response, the Japanese Red Cross Society contributed 30 million Japanese yen. Along with the IFRC, the ICRC also requested financial assistance to its operation in Myanmar, and the Japanese Red Cross Society responded by providing 10 million Japanese yen. (As of April 28, 2025)

### Fundraising Campaign

The Japanese Red Cross Society began the fundraising campaign for the 2025 Myanmar Earthquake on April 1, 2025. Donations received will be used for the activities of the Myanmar Red Cross Society and the Thai Red Cross Society, as well as relief and reconstruction support activities, disaster prevention and mitigation activities conducted by the IFRC, the ICRC, and the Japanese Red Cross Society.

Amount received: **409,300,905** JPY (as of April 30, 2025)

### In-kind Support

The Japanese Red Cross Society donated relief goods valued at 59 million Japanese yen, including tarpaulin sheets, family tents, hygiene kits, cotton blankets, and house repair kits.

These relief goods, previously stockpiled at the IFRC's warehouse in Malaysia, have begun arriving from April 11, 2025 and onward, and have been distributed to the affected people.

### Dispatch of Experts from Japanese Red Cross Society

The Japanese Red Cross Society has dispatched experts to Myanmar to coordinate various activities with the Myanmar Red Cross Society which is at the frontline of the response.

On April 1, 2025, a liaison and coordination staff was dispatched to Myanmar to share information with the Myanmar Red Cross Society, the IFRC, and other partner National Societies in Myanmar, and to coordinate the immediate dispatch of Japanese Red Cross medical staff members.

In light of significant health needs, including reports of diarrhea and dysentery at evacuation centers and other locations in Myanmar, and concerns over further spread of infectious diseases, Japanese Red Cross nurses were dispatched on April 14.

Furthermore, an Emergency Response Unit (ERU), consisting of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and logistics personnel specializing in infectious diseases, has been dispatched to support the Myanmar Red Cross Society in providing medical care mainly in Sagaing.

The dispatched doctors and nurses have accompanied the Myanmar Red Cross Society on its mobile clinic since immediately after the disaster, providing advice and suggestions on medical examination procedures and the use of medical examination equipment, as well as providing necessary equipment and medicines, and making recommendations on the implementation of health promotion and hygiene education. In addition, pharmacists and logistics personnel have continued to support the Myanmar Red Cross Society to strengthen its activities from various perspectives, such as sharing the methods of the Japanese Red Cross Society with regard to inventory and quality control at its drug warehouses. (As of May 9, 2025)



A Japanese Red Cross nurse joining the Myanmar Red Cross Society mobile clinic (left in center of photo) ©MRCS/IFRC



A pharmacist of the Japanese Red Cross Society discussing on the storage status of pharmaceuticals at a warehouse adjacent to the Myanmar Red Cross, Mandalay Branch ©JRCS/MRCS/IFRC



Special Feature 3

# September 2024 Noto Peninsula Torrential Rain Disaster

Japanese Red Cross Ishikawa Chapter Medical Relief Team and the Ishikawa Judo Therapist Association Red Cross Volunteer Corps discussing the details of their activities in Wajima City.

Medical Relief Team from the Japanese Red Cross Toyama Chapter conducting relief activities at the Japan Air Self-Defense Force Wajima Sub-base in Wajima City.

## Torrential Rain Struck Noto Peninsula Amid Ongoing Recovery from Earthquake

On September 21, 2024, as the Noto Peninsula continued its recovery from the earthquake that struck on January 1, 2024, a Special Heavy Rain Warning was issued for Wajima City, Suzu City, and Noto Town. The torrential rain resulted in 16 fatalities, 47 injuries, and damage to over 1,000 homes.

In response, the Japanese Red Cross Society promptly dispatched staff to gather information in coordination with relevant agencies in Ishikawa Prefecture, Wajima City, and Suzu City. The Japanese Red Cross Society deployed Disaster Medical Coordination Teams (CoT), Medical Relief Teams, and Psychosocial Support Teams, mainly from Chapters in Tokai and Hokuriku Region, to carry out relief operations in the affected areas.

Activities of Medical Relief Teams and Related Units (as of March 31, 2025)

Medical Relief Teams	5 teams
Japanese Red Cross Disaster Medical Coordination Teams	3 teams
Psychosocial Support Teams	11 teams

## Providing People-Centered Support

In this disaster, many people who were affected by the earthquake in January were also affected by flooding in September. Continued support was required across the areas, including clearing mud and debris from streets and damaged homes, as well as providing financial assistance to help rebuild lives and housing.

Japanese Red Cross Society visited evacuation centers to assess sanitary conditions and visited temporary housing to identify the needs of affected residents. In addition, the Red Cross collaborated with various organizations to provide psychosocial support to evacuees and shelter operators, including the establishment of refreshment rooms.

Furthermore, in Nishibo area of Wajima City, which had become partially isolated, residents were evacuated to the city center by Self-Defense Force helicopters. For those residents, the Red Cross Medical Relief Teams carried out health checks and other activities from the perspective of public health, medical care, and welfare.



Japanese Red Cross Gifu Chapter Medical Relief Team visiting temporary housing (Suzu City)



Japanese Red Cross Ishikawa Chapter Medical Relief Team bringing supplies to evacuation centers (Suzu City)



Psychosocial Support Team of the Japanese Red Cross Fukui Chapter checking the health condition of evacuees at an evacuation center (Wajima City)

# Red Cross Volunteers from Various Regions Provided Support for Affected People in the Noto Peninsula

During the Noto Peninsula Torrential Rain Disaster in September 2024, Red Cross volunteers conducted various activities immediately after the disaster occurred.

Even after residents affected by the January 2024 earthquake moved into temporary housing, continued support was needed to help maintain their health and rebuild community connections.

While coordinating with local municipalities to provide assistance through relaxation activities and health exercises, the torrential rain disaster struck the region in September, compounding the damages. In response, starting in October, the Japanese Red Cross Society continued to provide support through relaxation and health exercise programs at evacuation centers and temporary housing in Wajima City, Shika Town, and Noto Town.

Japanese Red Cross Society remains committed to continuing support activities that stand alongside those affected by the disasters.



## Footbath & Hand Care

On December 21, 2024, volunteers from the Gifu Red Cross Nursing Volunteer Corps provided foot baths and hand care at an evacuation center in Wajima City.

Many evacuees, having already experienced displacement due to the January earthquake, were once again forced into shelter life following the torrential rain disaster. The volunteers carried out their heartfelt activities to help residents relax, even if just a little.

Participants expressed their appreciation with comments such as, "My body feels warm and relaxed."



## Red Cross Volunteers Joining Medical Relief Teams on the Ground

On September 23, 2024, immediately following the torrential rain disaster, Red Cross volunteers from the Ishikawa Chapter of the Japanese Red Cross Society accompanied Medical Relief Teams and chapter staff to carry out support activities in the affected areas.

The volunteers who entered the disaster affected areas assisted with local navigation, information gathering, and activity documentation. They also contributed to improving sanitary conditions at evacuation centers and transporting relief supplies.

Thanks to their knowledge and experience gained through regular training, and their familiarity with the local communities, the presence of these Red Cross volunteers enabled a swift and effective response. Their support was highly appreciated by local communities.



## Soup Kitchen

On December 14, 2024, at the Shika Town Children's Center, volunteers from the Aichi Red Cross Disaster Relief Volunteer Corps, the Aichi Youth Red Cross Volunteer Corps, and the Kahoku City Red Cross Volunteer Corps in Ishikawa Prefecture worked together to provide warm meals using a kitchen car from the Japanese Red Cross Aichi Chapter.

The craft workshop was also led by Youth Red Cross volunteers, with many children participating and enjoying a joyful and relaxing time.



## Footbath & Hand Care

On October 19, 2024, six members of the Fukui Red Cross Relief Volunteer Corps, including first aid instructors, provided foot baths and healing hand care at an evacuation center (Kawarada Community Center) in Wajima City.

A total of 19 evacuees participated, sharing comments such as "My body feels much better" and "Thank you for coming all the way here."



## Mud Removal from Rice Field Ditch

On January 18, 2025, multiple Red Cross volunteer corps from Ishikawa Prefecture jointly carried out mud removal work on irrigation channels in rice fields in Wajima City, which had been buried by sediment due to the torrential rain.

A local resident, who had been worried that rice cultivation would be impossible this year if the situation remained unchanged, expressed joy upon seeing the cleared water channels.



## Relaxation Salon

On October 26, 2024, four volunteers from Japanese Red Cross Toyota College of Nursing hosted a relaxation salon at the community center of the temporary housing site in the Yanagida area of Noto Town. The salon included light exercise sessions and a tea gathering.

In temporary housing, residents often face challenges such as a sense of isolation from being separated from their familiar communities. This activity provided a place of comfort and contributed to community building within the temporary housing environment.



## Health Exercise & Recreation

On January 25, 2025, at the community center of the temporary housing site in Noto Town, the Nara Red Cross First Aid Instructor Volunteer Corps conducted activities such as health exercises and recreational programs, aiming at promoting health and fostering community connections. These efforts supported residents who tended to stay indoors due to changes in their living environment and the severe cold.

Participants shared positive feedback, saying, "I have not had any contact with my neighbors, so I hope there will be more opportunities like this," and "It was fun." Even after the program ended, cheerful conversations continued among the attendees.

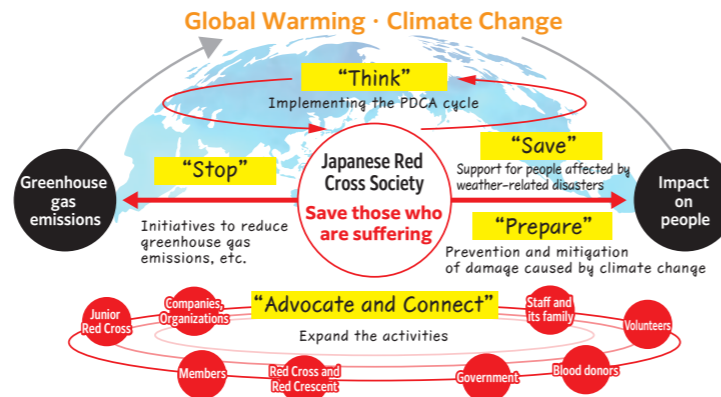
## Special Feature 4-1

# Addressing Climate Change

The Japanese Red Cross Society, as a humanitarian organization, signed the “Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations” in March 2022 to address climate change with the full commitment of the entire organization. In November 2023, it formulated the Japanese Red Cross Society Basic Policy on Climate Change Response.

In December 2024, the Japanese Red Cross Society Action Plan on Climate Change Response was developed, defining how we will address climate change.

To achieve the following goals, we will advance concrete activities aligned with the five pillars of our Basic Policy on Climate Change Response: Save (support for people affected by weather-related disasters), Prepare (prevention and mitigation of damage caused by climate change), Stop (initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, etc.), Advocate and Connect (expand the activities), and Think (implementing the PDCA cycle).



## Japanese Red Cross Society Action Plan on Climate Change Response

**Objective** Based on our Basic Policy on Climate Change Response, the Japanese Red Cross Society will respond to urgent humanitarian needs by enhancing the disaster relief and training programs that it has long been involved in. In addition, by conducting our operations in an environmentally friendly manner, we aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 1% or more per year by FY2030, starting from FY2022, with a view to reaching the Japanese government's carbon neutrality target (by 2050).

### Save (Support for people affected by weather-related disasters)

- In response to increasingly frequent heavy rain disasters in recent years, we strengthen our traditional medical relief efforts while also expanding activities that address diverse needs of disaster-affected people.
- By collaborating with governments, NGOs and other organizations, we provide support activities that respond to the increasingly diverse forms of evacuation seen during recent disasters.
- As a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent network, we provide support for urgent humanitarian crises around the world caused by the impacts of climate change.
- We systematically conduct training and drills based on a nationwide unified relief personnel development system, thereby improving our practical capacity for relief including responses to weather-related disasters.
- We support Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies around the world in strengthening their capacities to address humanitarian challenges such as disasters and infectious diseases that are increasing due to the effects of climate change.

### Prepare (Prevention and mitigation of damage caused by climate change)

- We continuously provide training programs on preventing health impacts such as heatstroke under hot environments as well as courses on preventing the growing number of water-related accidents.
- During disasters occurring under hot conditions, we promote activities to prevent heatstroke for both volunteers and disaster-affected people.
- We conduct Red Cross training courses and disaster preparedness seminars to equip community members with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect their own lives in the event of weather-related disasters.
- Through Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in countries exposed to the threats of climate change, we support the development of resilient communities that can withstand disasters, infectious diseases and other risks.
- We also provide Red Cross training courses and disaster preparedness seminars for vulnerable people so that they can acquire the knowledge and skills needed to take action to protect their own lives in the event of weather-related disasters.

### Stop (Initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, etc.)

- When procuring new official vehicles, electric vehicles(EVs), fuel cell vehicles(FCVs), plug-in hybrid vehicles(PHVs) or hybrid vehicles(HVs) shall be selected to the extent that it does not hinder the implementation of operations.
- To improve the energy efficiency of buildings and equipment, efforts will be made to monitor energy usage, enhance operational efficiency, and introduce energy-efficient facilities and equipment when upgrading or replacing existing ones.
- The following measures will be implemented to the extent that they do not interfere with the execution of duties:
  - Operate air conditioning systems appropriately.
  - Promote “Cool Biz” and “Warm Biz” initiatives.
  - Actively utilize web conferencing systems.

### Advocate and Connect

#### (Expanding the Circle of Activities)

- We conduct annual campaigns to raise awareness of climate change and environmental issues, thereby encouraging action at both individual and organizational levels.
- We conduct Red Cross training courses and disaster preparedness seminars to equip community members with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect their own lives in the event of climate-related disasters. (Reiterated)
- We promote initiatives that contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation through collaboration with other companies and organizations.
- We share information, knowledge and experiences with Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in other countries, jointly advancing efforts to address climate change.

### Think

#### (Implementing the PDCA Cycle)

- We disseminate accumulated knowledge on disaster preparedness and mitigation and establish networks with experts in areas such as climate change and disaster risk reduction in order to enhance future initiatives. We also foster academic professionals who can contribute to these fields.
- We develop volunteer trainers and leaders to ensure the continued implementation of Red Cross training courses and disaster preparedness seminars, which enable local residents to protect their own lives in the event of weather-related disasters.
- We cultivate personnel such as Clinic and Hospital Emergency Response Unit (ERU) members, Japanese Red Cross disaster medical coordinators and staff as well as Red Cross training trainers and disaster preparedness seminar leaders to maintain the sustainable implementation of the above initiatives in preparation for meteorological disasters both in Japan and abroad.

## Special Feature 4-2

# Toward the 150th Anniversary

## Japanese Red Cross Society's 150th Anniversary Project Begins

The Japanese Red Cross Society will celebrate its 150th anniversary on May 1, 2027.

On May 1, 1877, during the Satsuma Rebellion, Hakuaisha (Philanthropic Society), predecessor of the Japanese Red Cross Society, was established with the purpose of providing medical relief to the wounded and ill without distinction between the government and Satsuma forces. Since then, the Society has continued its activities with the mission of putting humanity into practice.

The Society opened the Hakuaisha Hospital in 1886 to train relief personnel, and in response to the 1888 eruption of Mount Bandai in Fukushima Prefecture, carried out one of the world's earliest disaster relief operations. It subsequently undertook large-scale relief activities amid a series of wars. After the World War II, the Society rebuilt its structure and expanded its work to the nine major activities it implements today, including training programs and blood services, continually addressing humanitarian challenges in order to uphold the principles and fulfill the mission of the Red Cross.

Today, the Japanese Red Cross Society faces significant changes in its surrounding environment: demographic shifts, transformations in local communities, rapid technological advancement, fragmentation within the international community, and increasingly diverse values. In addition, the intensification of natural disasters caused by climate changes has brought about new humanitarian challenges, including issues previously unrecognized by society.

Amid these unprecedented changes, it is essential for the Japanese Red Cross Society to reaffirm its role and commitment to protect human life, health, and dignity with diverse perspectives and flexible thinking, free from existing frameworks under all circumstances.

To mark the milestone of its 150th anniversary, the Society launched the 150th Anniversary Project in 2024. Looking ahead to the future beyond this milestone, the Society aims to create a “Red Cross for a new era” with all Red Cross supporters.

## Structure of the 150th Anniversary Project

### Formulation of a Future Vision

An organization-wide future vision aimed at establishing a “Red Cross for a new era,” looking beyond the 150th anniversary toward the decades to come.

### Commemorative Projects

Launch new initiatives inspired by the 150th anniversary to realize the future vision. Carry out projects and activities that can be implemented in the near term to achieve early results.

### PR and Events

Communicate the principles and activities of the Red Cross to gain public empathy and unite society's shared desire to help those in need.

## 150th Anniversary Commemorative Logo Created

As expressed in the slogan “The Power of Humanity”, the mission of the Japanese Red Cross Society can only be fulfilled through the cooperation and unity of all those who resonate with the principles of the Red Cross and participate in its activities. This collective effort becomes the strength behind our work.

The logo represents people joining hands and cooperating with one another, forming overlapping circles of humanity that expand toward the future, symbolizing the limitless power of human beings. The circles of humanity also represent the blooming of a large flower of peace.



# Special Feature 5

## EXPO 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan

The 2025 Japan International Exposition (commonly known as the Osaka-Kansai Expo), themed “Designing Future Society for Our Lives,” opened in April 2025.

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Pavilion, which conveys the ideals of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, is also exhibited there.

### Inspiring Empathy for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Sparking Humanitarian Action

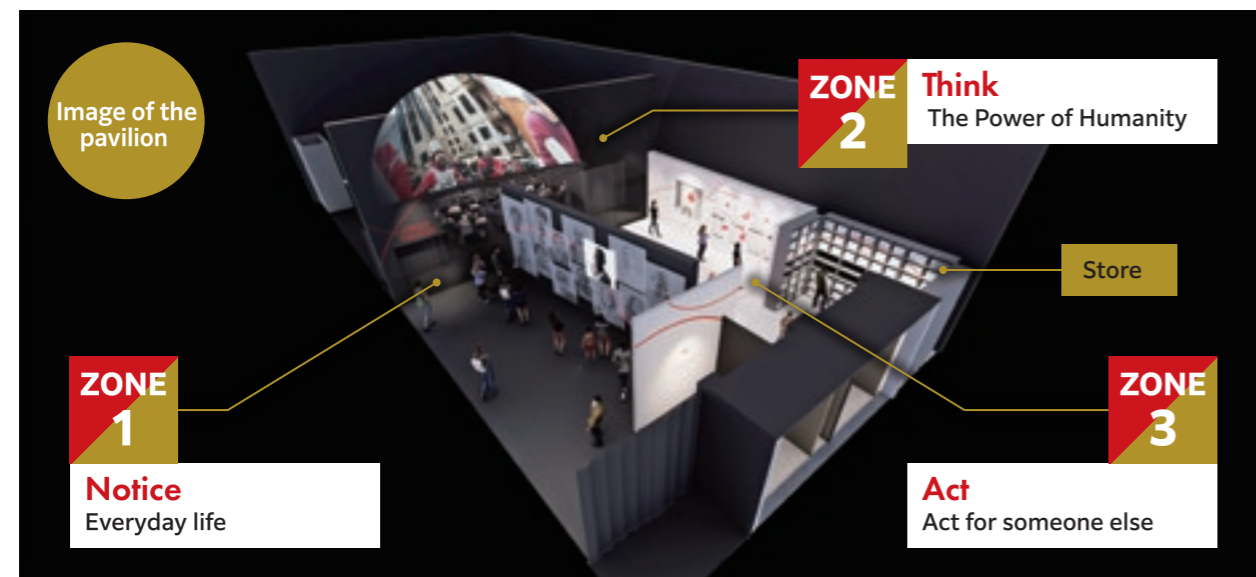
The pavilion, for which the Japanese Red Cross Society serves as the secretariat, is officially named the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Pavilion. It embodies the humanitarian principles advocated in 1862 by Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross, who called for helping the wounded without distinction between friend and foe.

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – comprising the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies worldwide, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) – carries on this legacy.

The pavilion’s slogan is “The Power of Humanity.” It offers a space where visitors can deepen their understanding of and empathy for the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and where they are inspired to take humanitarian action.

### Experience the Red Cross and Red Crescent Worldview Across Three Zones

The Movement Pavilion divides its 300-square-meter (25m x 12m) space into three zones – ZONE 1, 2, and 3 – each themed around the Junior Red Cross’s attitude goals: Notice, Think, Act. Each zone offers experiences aligned with its specific theme.



### ZONE 1 Notice

Recognizing the Preciousness of the Everyday Life We Take for Granted

A space unfolds with a visual installation offering glimpses into the ordinary daily lives of people around the world. Through everyday scenes familiar to us, shown alongside the people who live them, the installation invites visitors to rediscover the value of the peaceful days we so often take for granted.



### ZONE 2 Think

A Hemispheric Dome Theater That Brings Today’s Global Humanitarian Crises and Relief Efforts

At the heart of the pavilion is the dome theater, where we screen a human-centered story portraying the reality of humanitarian crises around the world—such as disasters and conflicts—and the people who confront these challenges and rise again. Through the authentic testimonies of individuals who have faced humanitarian crises, visitors can experience firsthand the mission of the Red Cross and Red Crescent as well as the power of humanity.



### ZONE 3 Act

A Message Wall Connecting Personal Thoughts to the World, and an Activity Wall Showcasing Diverse Humanitarian Efforts

From the experiences of “notice” and “think,” visitors can share the thoughts they developed during their visit and have them projected onto a large screen. This creates opportunities for more people to view global humanitarian crises as personally relevant, passing on a chain of awareness from one visitor to the next.



In addition, a full-wall display introduces the wide range of Red Cross humanitarian activities carried out both in Japan and around the world. This space allows visitors to discover efforts they may not have been aware of and to feel closer to global humanitarian needs and to the work of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

**Pavilion Operations through the Collaboration of Red Cross Volunteers and Staff**

The pavilion is operated by Red Cross volunteers and Japanese Red Cross Society staff from all over Japan, from guiding visitors to selling products in a shop. More than 1,200 staff members and volunteers are expected to work at the pavilion during the exhibition.



Mr. Akihiko Saito,  
Osaka/Kansai World EXPO  
2025 Promotion Office,  
Public Relations Office

#### A place for mind reset inside the spectacular Expo site

The year before I joined the Japanese Red Cross Society, I visited the Red Cross and Red Crescent Pavilion at the Expo 2005 Aichi. Now, standing on the side of creating the content myself, I went through countless rounds of selection and trial and error to develop something that would truly stay in people’s hearts – and that is the pavilion we present today. In ZONE 1, the daily lives of people of diverse races, nationalities, and religions are depicted. In fact, many of these scenes were filmed in areas where the Red Cross and Red Crescent are working. In other words, they show people living in places where some form of assistance is needed. Amid the overwhelming flow of information at the Expo, I hope this space will prompt visitors to reflect on their own everyday lives and, as portrayed in ZONE 2, consider how they might act when their lives are suddenly shattered.

## HISTORY The Origins of the Japanese Red Cross Society Are Rooted in the World Expos

Four years after the birth of the Red Cross, the 1867 Paris Exposition featured numerous exhibits of medical and relief equipment for war casualties, aimed at promoting the Geneva Convention and the Red Cross. It was here that the idea and practice of providing aid without distinction between friend and foe were first shared widely with the world. Tsunetami Sano, the founder of the Japanese Red Cross Society, encountered the Red Cross for the first time at this Expo and was profoundly moved. At the Vienna Exposition of 1873, he witnessed how quickly the Red Cross had spread across many nations in just six years, which strengthened his determination to establish a Red Cross Society in Japan. Upon his return, he founded the Hakuaisha in 1877. Following Japan’s accession to the Geneva Convention in 1885, the organization was renamed the Japanese Red Cross Society in 1886. The spirit of “Saving lives,” first communicated to the world at the Expos, was taken to heart in Japan and ultimately led to the birth of the Japanese Red Cross Society. Across time, the World Expos and the Red Cross remain connected by this enduring humanitarian impulse.

**Red Cross Information Plaza – Special Exhibition**  
**“World Expos and the Red Cross: The Origins of the Japanese Red Cross Society Rooted in the Expos”**  
**Dates: October 1, 2024 – October 30, 2025**  
**Open to the Public: By reservation only, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays**  
**10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

Web museum is held at the same time.  
<https://jrc.or.jp/webmuseum>



web museum

# FY 2024 Activity Report

Activity Report / 2024-2025

## 1. Domestic Disaster Response

In the event of disasters such as earthquake, typhoon, or other major accident, we dispatch medical relief teams as well as distribute relief items, provide psychosocial care, and coordinates volunteer activities.



## 2. Social Activities

In response to the diverse needs of society and various life stages, we conduct Red Cross disaster preparedness seminars and training programs on first aid methods. In addition, we promote regional activities through collaboration and partnerships with other organizations in order to contribute to community development in a society experiencing an aging population, declining birthrate, and increasing diversity.



## 3. Junior Red Cross

Based on the spirit of the Red Cross, we conduct a variety of activities at educational sites throughout the country, from kindergartens to high schools, with the practical goals of health and safety, voluntary service, and international understanding and goodwill.



## 4. International Activities

In order to deliver assistance to people in conflict, disaster, disease and other humanitarian crises around the world, we work with the network of 191 Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.



## 5. Strengthening the Movement's Foundation

We are working to increase the number of Red Cross members who understand the purpose of the Red Cross activities and then participate in its operation, and to strengthen the support system for the Red Cross volunteers.

## 6. Social Welfare Services

We provide support at welfare facilities so that the elderly, children, and people with disabilities who need a variety of support in their daily lives can live independently and with individual dignity. By cooperating with the various Red Cross programs, we are operating facilities by taking advantage of the unique characteristics of the Red Cross.



## 7. Medical Services

As the public medical institutions, the 91 Red Cross hospitals nationwide respond to the diversifying needs of local medical care. They also provide emergency medical care, advanced medical care such as cancer treatment, remote medical care, and home nursing services.

## 8. Training of Nurses

We train nurses through educational programs learning about healthcare, disaster response, international relief and other fields. They acquire the spirit and skills of the Red Cross as nurses and professionals, and demonstrate their abilities not only in clinical practice in Japan, but also during disasters overseas, embodying the humanitarian philosophy of the Red Cross.



## 9. Blood Services

This program is a series of services that recruit blood donors and deliver blood products to medical institutions. Blood Donation Rooms and Bloodmobiles are used to recruit people for blood donations. After the donation, the blood is processed into safe blood products through advanced testing and delivered to medical institutions around the country 24 hours a day.

# Domestic Disaster Response



Red Cross Medical Relief Team supporting people affected by the September 2024 Noto Peninsula Torrential Rain Disaster (Ishikawa Prefecture)

## Review of the Large-scale Earthquake Response Plan and Improvement of the Practical Skill of Relief Team Based on the New Training System

### Review of the large-scale earthquake response plan

Japanese Red Cross Society has developed dedicated response plans for each major earthquake anticipated in the near future, including the Nankai Trough, the Japan Trench and Chishima trench regions, and a possible Tokyo inland earthquake. These plans are designed to ensure that relief activities – from preparedness before a disaster, immediate emergency response, to recovery and reconstruction – can be conducted swiftly and in an organized manner in areas expected to suffer significant damage.

In FY 2024, we conducted relief training in regions projected to face severe damage in the event of a Nankai Trough earthquake or similar disasters, in coordination with local governments and relevant organizations.

Going forward, we will review the outcomes of these trainings, take into account updates to national and local damage estimates, and revise the response plans as necessary.



Joint disaster relief drill to strengthen coordination with relevant organizations (Hokkaido Prefecture)

### Establishing and Implementing New Training System for Medical Relief Teams

To respond promptly and effectively to large-scale disasters, it is essential to further enhance the educational environment for relief personnel, including conducting relief training and programs based on a nationally unified relief personnel development system.

In FY 2024, we developed training programs targeting medical relief team and disaster response headquarters personnel. At each chapter and facility, continuous medical relief training based on the personnel development system was carried out to further improve the skills of relief personnel and secure new members. These efforts contributed to enhancing the nationwide operational capability in disaster relief.

### Expanding Activities to Support People Affected by Disasters

In recent years, preventing disaster-related deaths – which can result from deteriorating health during evacuation – and addressing the diversifying forms of evacuation, such as remaining in their own homes or vehicles, have become urgent challenges.

To tackle these issues, we are expanding its support activities beyond our scope of operations to provide relief that closely addresses the evacuation experiences of each affected individual. In doing so, we are strengthening its activities in collaboration with various support organizations.



Japanese Red Cross Society staff talking to evacuees at home (Ishikawa Prefecture)

### Strengthening Response to Heavy Rain Disasters

The Japanese Red Cross Society has long played a central role in the field of health and medical care through the deployment of medical relief teams during disasters. In recent years, however, the increasing frequency of heavy rain disasters has led to more diverse needs among affected populations, highlighting the need to particularly strengthen activities in the health and welfare sectors.

Going forward, we will review and prioritize relief and social activities that require further reinforcement based on the characteristics of each disaster, and continue to enhance its operations from a comprehensive perspective encompassing health, medical care, and welfare.



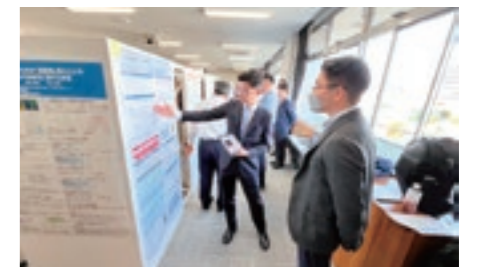
Japanese Red Cross Society staff checking sanitation conditions at an evacuation center (Ishikawa Prefecture)

### Research and Development of Effective Activities (Mitigation and Adaptation) on Climate Change

Due to climate change and other factors, heavy rainfall exceeding 80 mm per hour has become more frequent, leading to increasingly widespread river flooding and landslides. This makes it critically important to encourage appropriate evacuation behavior among local residents.

The Japanese Red Cross Society raises awareness of the characteristics of different types of disasters and corresponding countermeasures through its Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Seminars. In addition, we disseminate knowledge gained from past activities to communities by presenting on disaster preparedness education at various academic conferences.

Furthermore, with the advice and cooperation of external experts, we are developing new curriculum and conducting research on effective ways to communicate appropriate evacuation behavior.



Japanese Red Cross Society staff presenting on disaster preparedness education at an academic conference (Shizuoka Prefecture)

## Voices of Volunteers “Contribution to the community in times of disaster”

Mr. Yasuo Ishii, Leader of Sakata City Red Cross Volunteer Corps

All members of the Sakata City Red Cross Volunteer Corps, who also serve on the Welfare Commissioners and Child Welfare Commissioners, regularly check in on and visit households in need of support, including elderly people living alone.

During the heavy rain disaster that struck Yamagata Prefecture on July 25, 2024, our hometown of Sakata City was severely affected by overflowing rivers, landslides, and other damage. Amid the tense situation at the time, we were among the first to call on elderly residents and others to evacuate even before the official evacuation order was issued. We also supported the operation of evacuation centers, acting as a voice for those unable to speak up, and helping with food distribution and other assistance. After the disaster, we visited households that had relocated, and many expressed their gratitude with warm words of “Thank you.”



Cooperation with the reception desk at the Disaster Volunteer Center

## ..... 30 years since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake .....



Medical Relief Team at the disaster-stricken site

### > Overview of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

At 5:46 a.m. on January 17, 1995, a massive earthquake with a magnitude of 7.3 struck off the northern coast of Awaji Island in Hyogo Prefecture, with its epicenter located in the Akashi Strait. The tremor reached a Japanese seismic intensity of 7 in areas such as Sannomiya in Kobe City and Hokudan Town on Awaji Island.

The disaster caused extensive damage, primarily in Hyogo Prefecture, but also severely affected Osaka and Kyoto prefectures. According to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, the earthquake resulted in 6,434 deaths (including disaster-related deaths), 3 missing persons, and 43,792 injuries as of May 2006. In terms of housing damage, 104,906 buildings were completely destroyed, and 144,274 were partially damaged.

In densely populated areas with older wooden houses, the destruction was exacerbated by building collapses that led to deaths due to structural collapse and large-scale fires.

### > Back to the Basics of Disaster Relief

The lessons learned and reflections from this disaster led to the creation of many new systems for disaster relief in Japan.

For example, the establishment of the Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) was directly inspired by the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. Additionally, the Disaster Base Hospitals, now located throughout the country, were also introduced in response to this earthquake.

Furthermore, the triage tags used to prioritize treatment based on the severity of patients' conditions were previously designed differently by each organization, such as the fire department and the Japanese Red Cross Society. Following the disaster, these formats were standardized.

In this way, it is no exaggeration to say that the foundations of Japan's current disaster relief system were shaped by this earthquake.

### > Volunteers Played an Active Role

The remarkable efforts of people who rushed to provide support from across the country led to the year being referred to as "the First Year of Volunteerism" in Japan.

As a large number of individuals expressed their desire to volunteer, challenges emerged in managing reception desks, assigning personnel, and coordinating activities. These experiences have since contributed to the development of Japan's current disaster support framework.

### > Importance of Psychosocial Support

This disaster brought increased attention to mental health issues, and people began to understand that the reactions shown by those affected were actually normal responses to abnormal situations. Early on, the Japanese Red Cross Society's medical relief team noted the need to address disaster-related neurosis in their logs, reflecting a growing awareness of the importance of caring for the psychological stress caused by disasters.

### > Relief Activities by the Japanese Red Cross Society

In response to the disaster, the Japanese Red Cross Society deployed a total of 981 medical relief teams from Red Cross hospitals across Japan to the affected areas. These teams provided emergency care to individuals injured by collapsed buildings and fires. In addition to medical support, the Japanese Red Cross Society distributed essential relief supplies to those impacted, including 66,995 blankets, 39,894 sets of daily necessities, and 10,686 care packages. These efforts reflect a comprehensive mobilization of the Society's resources.

In recent years, the Japanese Red Cross Society has continued to carry out relief operations in response to large-scale disasters such as the Mid Niigata prefecture Earthquake in 2004, the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in 2011, and the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake, as well as increasingly frequent events caused by heavy rainfall. The current systems for coordinating the dispatch of medical relief teams, providing psychosocial support, and organizing volunteer activities are all rooted in the coordination challenges first encountered during the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, which occurred 30 years ago.

The extended deployment of medical relief teams during the Noto Peninsula Earthquake in 2024, along with the ongoing health support provided to residents in temporary housing, demonstrates how lessons learned from past large-scale disasters continue to influence current practices.

Looking ahead, the Japanese Red Cross Society remains committed to strengthening its relief operations by proactively addressing the challenges that arise in the field and continuously improving its response framework.



Red Cross volunteers distributing relief supplies



Red Cross volunteer corps providing hot meals immediately after the disaster



The nurse of the Japanese Red Cross Society conducting mobile medical services at evacuation centers

## Marking 30 Years Since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake

Reflections from Japanese Red Cross staff members who got involved in relief efforts from the very beginning

### “The importance of obtaining accurate information to identify next steps”

**Daisuke Shirasaka, Head of the Department of Gastroenterology, Japanese Red Cross Kobe Hospital**

When the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake struck, I was working at Japanese Red Cross Suma Hospital as a second-year internal medicine resident. On the evening of January 17, a patient who had been rescued from under the rubble was brought to our hospital. Since there were no obvious external injuries, I gave the usual treatment orders and moved on to care for other patients.

A few hours later, I returned to check on the patient and was stunned by the blood test results. The kidneys had completely shut down, and the liver had suffered serious damage. That’s when it hit me – this is the crush syndrome.

When a heavy object remains on the body for an extended period, muscle tissue begins to break down, causing myoglobin and potassium to accumulate. Once the object is removed and blood flow resumes, these substances rapidly circulate throughout the body, potentially leading to kidney failure or fatal arrhythmias. This condition is known as crush syndrome. Today, those patients would likely be transferred to a facility equipped for dialysis using a wide-area medical transport system and helicopters, coordinated via the internet. But at that time, we didn’t know who to contact or where to send the patient. We were isolated. Despite providing intensive care, including mechanical ventilation, the patient passed away a few days later. Even now, the memory of that experience fills me with deep regret.

30 years have passed since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, and I firmly believe that dedicating myself to the Japanese Red Cross Society’s relief efforts is my mission. I had the opportunity to be on the ground during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in 2011, the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake, and most recently, the Noto Peninsula Earthquake.

In each of these situations, I was reminded of the importance of obtaining accurate information to identify the next steps. Sharing that information with others and avoiding isolation proved to be critical. From here in Kobe, where we experienced the Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake firsthand, I sincerely hope that the Japanese Red Cross Society’s relief activities will continue to grow and evolve.



### “Volunteer activities to help people in need”

**Masaaki Doi, Director, Disaster Management and Social Welfare Department, Operations Sector, Japanese Red Cross Society**

30 years ago, when the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake struck, I was a university student living in Okayama Prefecture, which borders Hyogo prefecture. Although I was a member of the Red Cross Youth Volunteer Corps at the time, I had no knowledge or experience in disaster-related volunteer activities. Watching the scenes unfold on television, I was struck by the magnitude of the disaster and found myself thinking, “Something terrible has happened – there must be something I can do.”

After initial discussions within the Red Cross Youth Volunteer Corps, we began street fundraising activities. Soon after, a staff member from the Japanese Red Cross Okayama Chapter approached us with a request: “We would like to dispatch disaster risk reduction volunteers to the affected areas. Could you help manage the volunteer registration desk at the Okayama Chapter?”

At the time, unlike today, the disaster volunteer centers were not yet common, and the internet had not yet become widely accessible. Our only method of recruiting volunteers was through subtitles on television broadcasts that read, “Japanese Red Cross Society is recruiting volunteers.” Whenever that message appeared on TV, the Okayama Chapter would be inundated with phone calls almost instantly.

I handled a large volume of phone calls, explained the volunteer registration procedures, and coordinated individuals who would travel to the disaster affected area via volunteer buses. I remember how chaotic it was, especially given that mobile phones were not yet widely available. This activity continued for about three months. Looking back, I now realize that what we were doing was a behind-the-scenes support – coordinating volunteers from outside the disaster affected area.

In the three decades since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, the landscape of disaster volunteerism has evolved significantly. Yet, the role of the Red Cross in channeling the collective desire to “Help Kobe” and “Save those who are suffering” into visible, organized volunteer efforts remains just as vital today as it was then.



### “Learning from the earthquake and preparing for the future”

**Tsunemitsu Izumi, Deputy Secretary General, Japanese Red Cross Hyogo Chapter**

On January 18, the day after the disaster, I made my way to the Hyogo Chapter (former office building), passing through the Japanese Red Cross Suma Hospital. As I approached Kobe city before dawn, I was confronted with streets shrouded in darkness, the pervasive smell of burning lingering in the air. The entire city was blanketed with collapsed buildings and piles of rubble. Amidst the severe cold, I saw people wrapped in blankets, wandering the streets, with nowhere to go. Upon arriving at the Hyogo Chapter office, I sought instructions for our relief activities. Of the 23 staff members, only 12 were able to report for duty; despite being affected by the disaster themselves, they were diligently fulfilling their roles as Red Cross personnel. When we set out as a medical relief team, our vehicle was not equipped with emergency lights, so we could not travel as an emergency vehicle. A city office staff member joined us as a guide, and we navigated through the rubble, aiming for locations where community centers and public halls once stood.

At one point, we tried to pass under the collapsed pillars of the Hanshin Expressway to reach the seaside, but there was no way through. When we finally arrived in the Nagata district, we were confronted by swirling flames – like a firestorm – emanating from a chemical shoe factory. I still vividly remember the searing heat on my cheeks and the sense of mortal danger.

During the disaster response at Kobe City Center West Hospital and Kobe City Hall, a phenomenon known as the “pancake collapse” occurred, crushing the mid-level floors of buildings. Our first-response medical relief team worked alongside Self-Defense Force personnel to remove debris and search for hospitalized patients.

Initially, I felt uncomfortable entering private homes with my shoes on. However, as I witnessed the scale of the disaster firsthand, my mindset shifted toward prioritizing human life and rescuing residents. I began calling out loudly at each house, conducting relief efforts with urgency and compassion. While conducting patrols, I asked, “Is anyone injured or feeling unwell?” Often, residents responded, “We’re fine here – please go help others.” These exchanges brought a sense of relief, knowing that no medical intervention was needed.

Looking back, I believe the spontaneous emergence of community support – such as food distribution by neighborhood associations, women’s groups, and volunteer teams – was a natural expression of mutual aid. This spirit of cooperation led to what is now referred to as the “first year of volunteerism” in Japan.

I wonder if the city office staff member who sat beside me in the passenger seat, navigating our route during those days, still shares the same sentiments as we mark the 30th anniversary of that experience.



### “Everything leads to relief”

**Norio Kadokura, Director General for Nursing Administration, Healthcare Service Headquarters, Japanese Red Cross Society**

At the time of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake – which was then considered the worst natural disaster in Japan since World War II – the Japanese Red Cross Society headquarters faced the crisis through trial and error. Despite the challenges, the organization gradually developed an internal structure that closely resembles today’s red-level disaster relief system and began its relief operations.

Although there had long been a general policy that all departments within headquarters would mobilize for a large-scale response in the event of a major disaster, there were no clearly defined roles or procedures for each department. Specialized equipment was also lacking. At the time, our disaster response training consisted mainly of scripted exercises, where staff would read through predetermined scenarios. Few personnel had hands-on experience in actual disaster operations, making the situation especially challenging when the earthquake struck.

With the exception of the Disaster Relief Division, most departments at headquarters were not accustomed to incorporating disaster response into their daily routines. As a result, when the earthquake struck, staff had to navigate the situation without clear guidance – often through trial and error, and at times with intense disagreements. With these challenges, a disaster relief framework gradually took shape.

Looking back, disaster relief is clearly a core mission of the organization, and it may seem like something we should have been prepared for. But even in the confusion of the crisis, it was the strong sense of humanitarian commitment – shared by every staff member and reflected in their actions – that made it possible to carry out our mission.

The Japanese Red Cross Society is an organization where every role – regardless of department – is ultimately connected to disaster relief. Even though staff are often focused on their daily responsibilities, when a disaster strikes, everyone instinctively steps into the role of a relief personnel. This was a powerful realization during the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

As the organization responded to the crisis, the Japanese Red Cross Society confronted with numerous challenges: the need to formalize a wide-area support system, improve equipment such as communication tools, establish clear procedures for accepting and distributing donations, expand psychosocial support, and strengthen training programs.

Since then, the Japanese Red Cross Society has continued to respond to successive disasters, adapting to the times and steadily improving its systems and practices. Backed by 150 years of history, the Society remains committed to carrying out its humanitarian mission well into the future.



# 2

## Social Activities



Students participate in disaster imagination game (DIG), identifying potential hazards and local disaster prevention resources in their communities (Okinawa Prefecture)

### Promotion of Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Seminars and Training Programs in Collaboration with Partner Organizations

Japanese Red Cross Society has been conducting disaster preparedness seminars centered around group work, with the aim of strengthening the capacity for self-help and mutual help within local communities, as well as fostering opportunities for interaction among residents.

In FY 2024, many chapters implemented collaborative initiatives with external organizations. These include enhancing program content in cooperation with local meteorological offices, and co-hosting events and seminars with local newspapers and companies.

As a result of these efforts, there has been growing interest in hosting disaster preparedness seminars from various community groups, such as senior citizen salons, community and child welfare commissioners, voluntary disaster prevention organizations, and fire brigades. Japanese Red Cross Society remains committed to advancing disaster preparedness education initiatives in partnership with local communities.

Japanese Red Cross Society offers five distinct training programs designed to meet the diverse needs of society and various life stages.

The programs include:

- First Aid: Covers accident prevention and rescue methods for the injured or ill.
- Water Safety and Snow Safety: Provide essential safety techniques for aquatic and snowy environments.
- Healthy Life Course: Offers knowledge to promote health and well-being, particularly for older adults.
- Child Safety: Focuses on caregiving, accident prevention, and emergency response for children.

Through the implementation of these programs, the Society contributes to strengthening mutual support systems within local communities.



Participants of the Red Cross disaster preparedness seminar discuss challenges related to life in evacuation shelters (Hyogo Prefecture)

### Promoting the Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Training Programs

In FY 2024, the Japanese Red Cross Society completed the development of online learning materials and the digitization of textbooks for the Basic First Aid Course. Starting in FY 2025, participants will be able to choose online learning for the theoretical part of the course. Some of these online learning materials incorporate video content to enhance learning efficiency for participants.

In addition, the Japanese Red Cross Society is advancing the systemization of administrative processes related to training programs. These efforts aim to improve convenience for participants, reduce the administrative burden on instructors, and enhance overall operational efficiency.

The promotion of ICT in training programs has also proven effective in ensuring business continuity during the spread of emerging infectious diseases. The Japanese Red Cross Society will continue to advance ICT integration in its training initiatives to build a more resilient and accessible learning environment.

### Community Development in Response to an Aging and Diversifying Society

Japanese Red Cross Society is committed to creating inclusive learning environments by reviewing and updating existing curricula for disaster preparedness seminars and training programs. These efforts aim to ensure accessibility for all, in response to the evolving needs of a society characterized by a declining birthrate, an aging population, and a growing embrace of diversity.

As part of its efforts to ensure that individuals can take life-saving action in times of emergency with the knowledge and skills acquired through Red Cross training programs such as first aid, the Japanese Red Cross Kanagawa Chapter conducted a specialized training session for participants with visual impairments.

The Japanese Red Cross Tokyo Metropolitan Chapter is helping its instructors learn "simple Japanese" to make Red Cross training programs and disaster preparedness seminars more accessible and beneficial for non-native Japanese speakers.

To help create a society where everyone can live with peace of mind, the Japanese Red Cross Society is working in partnership with local governments and companies across the country. These efforts include organizing health education classes, promoting awareness and prevention of frailty and dementia, and supporting foreign nationals living in Japan.

By respecting the unique characteristics, diversity, and multicultural makeup of each community, the Society aims to foster environments where people of all backgrounds can lead healthy lives together.



Participants with visual impairment practices chest compressions during a Red Cross training session (Kanagawa Prefecture)



A Red Cross hospital doctor conducts health checkups at a school for foreign nationals (Aichi Prefecture)



### Voices of Volunteers Valuing everyday mutual support: Strengthening neighborhood connections

Ms. Hideko Mizuide, Leader of Disaster Preparedness Education Service, Japanese Red Cross Nagano Chapter

During the Kamishiro Fault Earthquake in Nagano Prefecture in November 2014, Hakuba Village – where the damage was most severe – saw 26 residents trapped in collapsed houses. Thanks to the cooperation of nearby residents, no lives were lost. This remarkable outcome has come to be known as “the Miracle of Hakuba.”

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the earthquake. In commemoration, a disaster preparedness class was held at a junior high school to raise awareness of disaster risk reduction. Together with the students, the importance of self-help and everyday mutual help – referred to as gokinjo-ryoku (neighborhood connection) – was explored and discussed.

In recent years, Japan has experienced a series of frequent and severe natural disasters across the country, leading to a heightened public awareness of disaster preparedness. Recognizing that disasters can occur anytime and anywhere, I would like to promote life-saving knowledge and practices by expanding disaster preparedness efforts within local communities and schools.



# 3

## Junior Red Cross



After the Noto Peninsula Earthquake, students at many Junior Red Cross (JRC) member schools voluntarily raised funds (Nagano Prefecture)

### Overview of the Junior Red Cross

In the current educational settings, there is a growing emphasis on integrating independent, interactive, and in-depth learning approaches to help students discover and solve problems in alignment with the curriculum.

With a history of over 100 years, the Junior Red Cross (JRC) has been nurturing children who can think and act with the behavioral goal: "Notice, think and act" and the practical goals of "health and safety," "voluntary services," and "international understanding and friendship." Currently, there are approximately 3.35 million Junior Red Cross members and 270,000 instructors active within the 14,000 member schools. In FY 2024, a variety of activities were conducted at each school by the children themselves. In order to further expand the circle of humanity, a number of projects were initiated with the objective of developing leaders and fostering children's leadership skills.

### Training of Junior Red Cross Instructors

Given that Junior Red Cross activities are conducted as part of school education, it is essential that instructors are selected from among teachers who have a clear understanding of the Red Cross principles and the objectives of Junior Red Cross initiatives.

In FY 2024, in addition to the annual regular training programs, a Central Training Seminar was organized for the first time in four years. This seminar targeted instructors from various prefectures who are expected to play a central role in future Junior Red Cross activities. The purpose of the seminar was to deepen participants' understanding of Junior Red Cross initiatives and to equip them with strategies for further dissemination of its values and practices.

A total of 39 instructors from across Japan attended the seminar. Participants shared their regular initiatives and engaged in group discussions on how to effectively communicate humanitarian values to children in a more accessible and impactful manner. The seminar concluded with each group presenting the outcomes of their discussions.

Although the seminar was held over the course of a single day, participants expressed positive impressions, noting that the session provided valuable ideas for effectively conveying Junior Red Cross activities to children.

Moving forward, participants are expected to apply the insights gained during the seminar to actively promote the values and appeal of the Junior Red Cross within their respective communities.



Teachers from across Japan actively discuss how to convey humanitarian values to children, inspired by Red Cross activities (Tokyo)

### Launch of a New International Youth Cooperation Project (IYCP)

Junior Red Cross carries out international projects – formally known as the International Youth Cooperation Project (IYCP) – using funds collected through the "One-Yen Coin Donation" campaign. This initiative was launched by children themselves, who called on their peers to contribute amounts they could afford from their own allowances.

In FY 2024, the Junior Red Cross reassessed its previous support programs and initiated a new project in rural areas in Rwanda. This effort focuses on improving sanitation, with a particular emphasis on addressing the shortage of school toilets.

Through this project, improvements in the school environment and the dissemination of sanitation knowledge are expected to reduce illness among children and enhance overall hygiene conditions.

Together with the ongoing disaster preparedness education initiative in Vanuatu, the launch of this new project in Rwanda – and the accompanying call for support – aims to inspire Japanese children to take action for others and spark their interest in global issues.



Children in Rwanda express high hopes for the new project during the pre-launch field survey (Rwanda)

### Voices of Volunteers I would like to help kids be kind hearted and leave no one behind when someone's in trouble

Mr. Katsumi Ishina, Chair of the National Junior Red Cross Leadership Council, Principal of Tateiwa Minami Elementary School, Iwami-cho, Tottori Prefecture

Our school incorporates the three action goals of the Junior Red Cross (JRC) – Health and Safety, Voluntary Service, and International Understanding and Friendship – into everyday educational activities and overall school management.

In addition, we place the attitude goal of "Notice, Think, and Act" at the foundation of our educational approach, striving to nurture independent and compassionate students.

In November 2024, in my role as a Chair of the National Junior Red Cross Leadership Council, I visited and conducted surveys at two schools in Rwanda that will soon receive support from IYCP. After returning to Japan, I shared the situation in Rwanda with the pupils at my school. They showed great interest in Africa, and the JRC committee started a fundraising campaign.

I feel that interest in international education is waning in schools these days, but I hope that IYCP will provide an opportunity for Japanese children to think about humanity and look at the world.



# 4

## International Activities



Physiotherapist from the Japanese Red Cross Society (center) providing technical support to local staff in Ukraine

### Response to Humanitarian Crisis in Ukraine

Since the onset of the humanitarian crisis, the Japanese Red Cross Society has been actively supporting Ukrainian Red Cross Society through multiple channels. These efforts include dispatching staff to the field, providing financial assistance to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and delivering direct support via the Japanese Red Cross Society Delegation in Ukraine. Through the delegation, the Japanese Red Cross Society has contributed to mobile clinic operations and to the expansion and renovation of rehabilitation departments operated by the Ukrainian Red Cross Society.

In FY 2024, the Japanese Red Cross Society dispatched three physiotherapists to Ukraine to support the Ukrainian Red Cross Society's newly launched home-visit rehabilitation program. These experts provided technical guidance and conducted training sessions for local physiotherapists and related staff. Moving forward, the Japanese Red Cross Society remains committed to continuing its support based on local needs, with a focus on medium- to long-term assistance.

### Hualien Earthquake in Taiwan

On April 3, 2024, a magnitude 7.4 earthquake struck off the eastern coast of Taiwan. As of November 2024, the disaster has resulted in 18 confirmed fatalities, 2 missing persons, and over 1,000 injuries. In addition, more than 1,900 households – primarily in Hualien City – suffered structural damage to their homes.

In order to support the relief activities of the Taiwan Red Cross Organization, the Japanese Red Cross Society launched the fundraising campaign for 2024 Hualien Earthquake and provided approximately 2.8 billion Japanese yen in financial assistance (as of the end of March 2025). In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, the Taiwan Red Cross Organization conducted rescue operations for individuals trapped in buildings. Subsequently, the Organization implemented support measures such as cash distribution. In July 2024, the Japanese Red Cross Society dispatched staff to Taiwan to assess local needs and held discussions with the Taiwan Red Cross Organization regarding future recovery support plans. Following these consultations, support will be provided for the construction of social infrastructure facilities, including emergency shelters. Japanese Red Cross Society will continue to support efforts aimed at building more disaster-resilient communities.



Disaster Response Team from the Hualien Branch of the Taiwan Red Cross Organization heading to rescue individuals trapped in Taroko Gorge, Hualien ©Taiwan Red Cross Organization

### Strengthening Resilience in Rwanda

Rwanda, located in East Africa, faces a range of interconnected challenges, including rural poverty, limited access to safe water and sanitation, infectious diseases, and natural disasters linked to climate change. In response, the Japanese Red Cross Society has been implementing a project for empowering vulnerable communities towards their resilience in Rwanda in collaboration with the Rwanda Red Cross. Centered in Gisagara District, the project has been driven by Red Cross volunteers who have led various support activities. In FY 2024, a long-awaited water supply system was installed in the village, providing safe water to approximately 4,600 residents.

The burden of water collection – particularly for women and children – has been significantly reduced, and the water supply point is being carefully maintained by local residents. In addition, the introduction of home gardens and savings groups has contributed to improved nutrition and school attendance among children affected by poverty. Going forward, Red Cross volunteers will continue working alongside community members to build villages that are resilient to poverty and disasters.



Residents waiting in line at the newly installed village water supply point

### Contributing to Enhance the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

In October 2024, three statutory meetings of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement were held in Geneva, Switzerland: the General Assembly of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. These events brought together representatives from States Parties to the Geneva Conventions, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the IFRC, and National Societies from around the world.

During the International Conference, resolutions were adopted, such as Building a universal culture of compliance with international humanitarian law, and Enabling local leadership, capacity and delivery in principled humanitarian action and strengthening resilience.

Based on the resolutions related to international humanitarian law, the Japanese Red Cross Society announced a joint pledge with the Government of Japan to strengthen the dissemination of international humanitarian law. During the conference period, bilateral meetings were also held with various National Societies to exchange views on future cooperation and mutual development.



President Seike making intervention at the IFRC General Assembly

### Voices of Volunteers Glad to be a community volunteer

Ms. Jasmine, a community volunteer of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

I'm so glad to become a community volunteer. When I first started, people didn't have the habit of washing their hands and often relieved themselves outdoors instead of using toilets. Nowadays, everyone uses toilets as a matter of course and washes their hands properly. Recently, I've been working hard to encourage people to quit smoking. Lots of people are smoking less often, and more people have successfully quit. My aim is to help get rid of illness in the community so that everyone can enjoy good health. Recently, I've become someone that neighbours turn to for advice. I always tell them to get in touch if they're unsure about anything, and I want to live up to that.



# 5<sub>-1</sub>

## Strengthening the Movement's Foundation: Membership and Donations

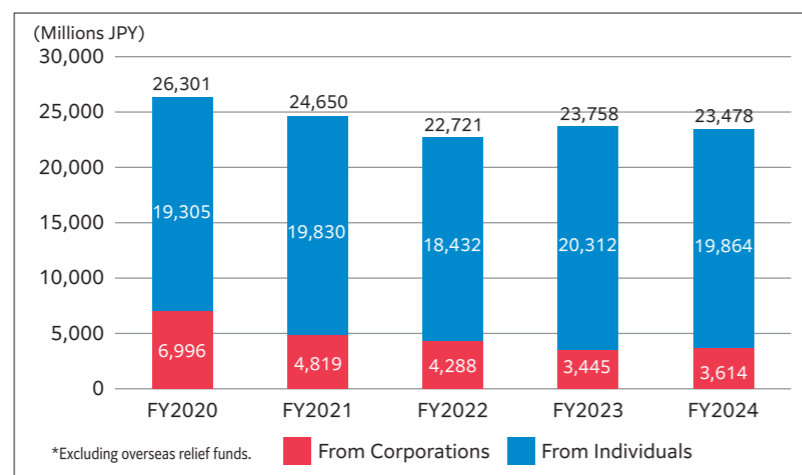


Red Cross volunteer corps recruiting members (Miyagi Prefecture)

### Membership Fee and Donations

Although the income from membership fee and donations varies every year, maintaining financial sustainability is essential for ongoing Red Cross activities in response to growing needs caused by the recent large-scale disasters, frequent earthquakes, and torrential rains.

In order to continue to fulfil our missions, we ensure stable income from membership fee and donations, which are the source of our activities.



Total amount of membership fee and donations over the past 5 years (FY 2020 - FY 2024)

\*As less than 1 million Japanese yen is rounded down, the total amounts shown for corporations and individuals do not match the total amounts shown.

### Efforts to Expand Membership

#### Membership drive in Red Cross Movement month

World Red Cross Day is celebrated on May 8, the birthday of the founder of the Red Cross, Henry Dunant. Efforts are made around the world to promote the mission and activities of the Red Cross. In Japan, since May 1 is the anniversary of the founding of the Japanese Red Cross Society, we are designating May as Red Cross Movement Month, commemorating these significant and historic days, and inviting people to join and continue their Red Cross membership.

In order to continuously fulfil the mission of the Red Cross, we seek the understanding and cooperation of as many people as possible to develop activities that meet the changing needs of society and the expectations of local communities.

#### Various methods of financial cooperation

Our main way of raising funds is through communities, such as town councils and neighborhood organizations. However, to broaden our base of supporters, we are also promoting a contactless donation method that takes into account the convenience of donors, such as automatic debit of membership fees from bank accounts and credit cards, and smartphone payment applications.

#### Revitalizing communication with Red Cross members

In July 2021, we issued the first edition of "Cross Com-BOOK", a national membership magazine, to provide information regularly to Red Cross members on how the membership fees and donations are used and what activities the Red Cross has undertaken to solve social problems. We enclose pre-addressed postcards to the Japanese Red Cross Society in the magazine to gather members' feedback.

Approximately 270,000 Red Cross members are the foundation of the Japanese Red Cross Society. We aim to use the magazine as a communication tool that connects Red Cross members with the Japanese Red Cross Society, and to lead to greater understanding and cooperation among members in Red Cross activities.

### Fundraising Efforts for International Activities

#### The NHK International Helping Hand Campaign

To promote the Japanese Red Cross Society's international activities, in December of each year we run the NHK International Helping Hand Campaign in cooperation with NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation). In addition to NHK television and radio broadcasts, we also use direct mailing and online fundraising to reach a wide range of people for donations. In FY 2024, 78,462 donations totaling approximately 725 million Japanese yen were received.

#### Fundraising campaign for international emergencies

A separate fundraising campaign is set up when major disasters occur overseas, and it is difficult for the affected Red Cross or Red Crescent Society to respond by itself, and when an emergency appeal is launched by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) or the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The funds raised are used to provide emergency relief and help people rebuild their lives. The fundraising campaigns we have organized in FY 2024 are as follows.



A nurse measuring a baby's blood oxygen level©JRCS

Fundraising campaign for Middle East Humanitarian Crisis	JPY 10,103,658
Fundraising campaign for Displaced Persons in Southern Bangladesh	JPY 10,954,934
Fundraising campaign for Afghanistan Humanitarian Crisis	JPY 12,087,689
Fundraising campaign for Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis	JPY 333,354,177
Fundraising campaign for Israel and Gaza Humanitarian Crisis	JPY 128,619,567
Fundraising campaign for Lebanon Humanitarian Crisis	JPY 11,848,590
Fundraising campaign for 2024 Hualien Earthquake in Taiwan	JPY 2,898,256,045



Distributing vouchers to households with serious building damage caused by the earthquake for the purchase of household items© Taiwan Red Cross Organization

# Partnerships with Companies and Organizations

Ten years since the establishment of the donation program, which contributes one Japanese yen per customer visit

## Yudetaro Systems Co., Ltd.



Yudetaro System Co., Ltd., which franchises the Japanese soba noodle chain 'Yudetaro' nationwide, has been continuing a groundbreaking initiative since 2016 whereby it donates one Japanese yen per customer to the Japanese Red Cross Society for its activities. January 2026 marks the 10th year anniversary of the initiative.

The cumulative donations to this initiative, named 'Yudetaro Dream Fund', have now reached 174 million Japanese yen (as of 31 March 2025). While the company had previously made donations, such as to areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, it established this fund driven by the desire to embed donations as the corporate culture and commitment, not as a one-off gesture.

This fund is utilized broadly for the Japanese Red Cross Society's disaster preparedness activities, disaster relief, and social welfare services. Moving forward, the two parties continue to collaborate, aiming towards a society that 'protects lives and nurtures smiles'.

### We will not stop our social contribution activities even if we incur losses

Our support activities have continued uninterrupted since the fund's establishment. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, when sales dropped significantly and we temporarily operated at a loss, I remained determined to continue our social contribution efforts and never stopped our donations.

As a restaurant, our primary social contribution is to nourish our customers and help them live healthy daily lives. However, we also wish to make positive impact beyond Yudetaro's clientele.

That is why we donate to the Japanese Red Cross Society. I have complete trust in their work and fully support their mission. I always tell them, "Please use it as you see fit".

**Mr. Tomoaki Ikeda, President, Yudetaro Systems Co., Ltd.**



The Japanese Red Cross Society seeks companies and organizations who are sympathetic to its mission to "protect human life, health and dignity" and committed to realizing this mission through partnerships. These partnerships include partnership agreements, product sales with donations, and donations through shareholder benefits and loyalty programs that utilize corporate resources.

Activities to expand the circle of social contribution through characters

## Sanrio Co., Ltd.



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Sanrio Co., Ltd. implements the 'Sanrio Nakayoku Project', a social contribution initiative delivering smiles worldwide under its corporate philosophy of 'Everyone Getting Along'. As part of this, Hello Kitty visits hospitals, facilities, and disaster-affected areas globally through the 'Sanrio Character Aid' program, bringing smiles to as many people as possible, including children with illnesses or disabilities. To date, visits have been made to the Japanese Red Cross Medical Centre and Japanese Red Cross Karatsu Hospital. Additionally, the company promotes employee participation in blood donation.

Furthermore, alongside corporate donations, since 2021, the member service 'Sanrio+' has introduced point donations, conveying members' goodwill to the Japanese Red Cross Society. In recognition of these efforts, the company received a Letter of Appreciation from the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare in 2024.

This multifaceted approach to social contribution is underpinned by the founding principle that 'no one can live alone'. It deeply resonates with the Japanese Red Cross Society's slogan: 'Power of Humanity.'

Moving forward, as a global enterprise, we continue collaborating with various partners, including the Japanese Red Cross Society, to address social challenges both domestically and internationally.

### The Sanrio Nakayoku Project

Sanrio values kindness and friendship. More than 20 years, Hello Kitty has visited hospitals, facilities, and disaster-stricken areas worldwide over 200 times. As part of her activities to bring smiles to as many people as possible, including children with illnesses or disabilities, she has met over 20,000 people both domestically and internationally.

Furthermore, we share information about the activities of the Japanese Red Cross Society with our 'Sanrio+' members, creating opportunities for everyone to easily take part in humanitarian actions through donations. Through these activities, characteristic of Sanrio, we continue to embody our corporate philosophy: 'Everyone getting along'.

**Mr. Kanji Tokuda, Global Sustainability Promotion Office, Sanrio Co., Ltd.**



Creating social impact and supporting communities in tackling social issues

## Eli Lilly Japan K.K.



### Supporting blood services and training programs

Eli Lilly Japan K.K. is committed to developing, manufacturing and marketing pharmaceuticals under its mission: 'With compassion, we strive to create innovative medicines that enrich the lives of people worldwide.' Furthermore, working alongside society towards sustainable development, the company undertakes initiatives to resolve and improve social challenges within the communities it engages with, thereby creating a positive social impact.

In September 2024, the company donated to support the Japanese Red Cross Society's blood services and to promote healthy lifestyle support training programs, reinforcing its efforts to protect people's lives and health.



Contributing to society by leveraging our expertise in supporting solutions to social issues

## Owls Consulting Group, Inc.



### Support and cooperation through pro bono activities

Owls Consulting Group, Inc. is a consulting firm specializing in social issue resolution, business and human rights, and sustainability-related fields.

In addition to contributing over 10% of its net profit as support funds to NPOs/NGOs, the company dedicates over 10% of the average annual total working hours of all employees to pro bono activities (social contribution activities providing expertise and skills free of charge) for charitable organizations.

In FY 2024, following the employee's recommendations and voting, donations were made to the Japanese Red Cross Society for supporting the Israel-Gaza Humanitarian Crisis.

Furthermore, as part of pro bono activities, the company carried out a project that delivered research analysis and strategic planning consultancy to help address the challenges faced by the Japanese Red Cross Society.



Social contribution using points

## East Japan Railway Company



### Point donation program

East Japan Railway Company (JR East) has introduced a system that allows 'JRE POINT', which can normally be used to top up "Suica" cards or shop in station buildings, to be donated to the Japanese Red Cross Society. The equivalent monetary value of points contributed by members is donated to the Japanese Red Cross Society, and the JR East continues to support its activities, including various disaster relief efforts.



Calling for social contributions to mark the anniversary

## Alfresa Corporation



### Support for the Japanese Red Cross Society's activities to mark the anniversary

Alfresa Corporation is a pharmaceutical wholesaler aiming to 'deliver happiness and connect happiness' through pharmaceutical distribution. On the occasion of marking its 20th anniversary, Alfresa Corporation called on its stakeholders to donate to the Japanese Red Cross Society, resonating with the Society's mission to 'protect human life, health, and dignity.' Alfresa Corporation continues to further advance our social contributions and contribute to the healthy development of local communities.



Social contribution activities through mutual cooperation and collaboration

## Terumo Corporation



### Supporting disaster preparedness and mitigation initiatives and blood donation promotion activities

Terumo Corporation and the Japanese Red Cross Society concluded a Comprehensive Partnership Agreement in May 2024. This agreement aims to promote social contribution activities through close mutual cooperation and collaboration between Terumo Corporation and the Japanese Red Cross Society, working for improving healthcare and addressing social challenges. Key activities in FY 2024 included donations for medical relief activities (including disaster preparedness and mitigation) during emergencies, and cooperation in promoting and raising awareness of blood donation among employees and their families to ensure a stable blood supply. The two parties continue their ongoing collaboration to advance initiatives addressing social challenges.



# 5<sub>-2</sub>

## Strengthening the Movement's Foundation: Red Cross Volunteers



Students at a Disaster Preparedness Class at Mimori Elementary School in Joetsu City, Niigata Prefecture, were given instruction on how to assemble cardboard beds and experience life in an evacuation shelter (Junior Red Cross Volunteer Corps members, Niigata Prefecture Joetsu City Red Cross Volunteer Corps Sanwa Branch, and Niigata Prefecture disaster relief Red Cross Corps)

### Strengthening Cooperation with Other Organizations

In recent years, meteorological disasters have occurred frequently, causing widespread damage, while the isolation of local residents have become social issues.

The activities of volunteers, such as Red Cross Volunteer Corps, extend beyond the groups' independent efforts; by collaborating with local authorities, educational institutions, and community organizations, they broaden their scope of action and explore new approaches while undertaking their work.

As part of peacetime disaster preparedness activities in Niigata Prefecture, primary school students in Joetsu City experienced life in an evacuation center. Under the guidance of the Joetsu City Red Cross Volunteer Corps and others, they learnt how to assemble cardboard beds as part of their disaster preparedness education.

In Fukushima Prefecture, the first disaster preparedness workshop was held in collaboration with the Fukushima - Sri Lanka Friendship Association. Members of the Koriyama City Red Cross Volunteer Corps prepared meals for disaster situations, while the event also provided an opportunity to learn about each other's cultures and deepen friendship. Efforts are being made to ensure that individuals with foreign backgrounds, who may be particularly vulnerable during disasters, are also well prepared for disasters.



Volunteer corps members conducting a Disaster Preparedness Workshop with Sri Lankan people (Fukushima Prefecture Koriyama City Red Cross volunteer corps and Fukushima-Sri Lanka Friendship Association)

Furthermore, with the aim of preventing isolation and that older people can continue leading fulfilling lives in their familiar communities, the Saitama Prefecture Yoshimi Town Red Cross Volunteer Corps, in collaboration with the local Musashigaoka Junior College, held a social gathering for elderly people living alone. Approximately 70 people attended the gathering. The Volunteer Corps provided boxed lunches, and a college instructor led health exercises. Amidst a warm atmosphere filled with laughter throughout, participants shared their thoughts: 'I'm looking forward to next year. I must live long!'

The social gathering turned to be a community-based activity carried out in collaboration with educational institutions.



Participants enjoying recreational activities at a social gathering (Saitama Prefecture Yoshimi Town Red Cross Volunteer Corps and Musashigaoka Junior College)

### Training Programs for Volunteer Activity

Red Cross volunteers undertake training to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for their activities, including Basic Training Workshops and Leadership Training. In recent years, some workshops focus on preventing frailty and promoting healthy lifestyle.

Japanese Red Cross Akita Chapter, as part of its activities to reduce future risk of requiring long-term care, has trained 246 Frailty Prevention Supporters across Akita prefecture since FY 2023, aiming to contribute to the Integrated Community-Based Care System. One active volunteer, working alongside a Healthy Lifestyle Support Instructor, stating, 'By sharing new knowledge and techniques about diet, exercise, and social participation, I bring joy to local residents and it also benefits my own life.' Furthermore, participants in the frailty prevention activities at the senior citizens' salon shared feedback such as, 'At the salon, I can enjoy a good chat and move my body, which feels wonderful.' Through these activities, the Red Cross continues to contribute to the community to help people live healthy, vibrant lives in their familiar neighborhoods.

\*Frailty refers to a state of physical and mental weakness, positioned between "healthy" and "requiring care", characterized by reduced vitality.



Volunteers attending the Frailty Prevention Supporter Training Course (Akita Prefecture Igawa Town Red Cross Volunteer Corps)

### Promote Participation in Red Cross Volunteering

Amidst significant societal changes such as declining birth rates, an ageing population, and climate change, discussions are progressing within the "Committee for Reviewing the Future of Red Cross Volunteer Corps" to consider the future of volunteer activities including Red Cross Volunteer Corps. Following the implementation of awareness surveys regarding volunteer activities targeting citizens, members, blood donors, and others, and the analysis of the current situation and challenges, discussions were held in FY 2024 concerning "Promoting Participation in Red Cross Volunteering", and countermeasures were compiled.

Furthermore, building upon the strategic concept formulated in FY 2023 to revitalize existing Volunteer Corps activities, efforts are underway to establish a centralized database. This system will consolidate information on various Volunteer Corps activities and makes it accessible online.

### Voices of Volunteers

From the day the disaster struck, we've been in constant contact, helping to set up evacuation centres and preparing meals!

Ms. Kimiko Takagi, Maibara City Ibuki Red Cross Volunteer Corps, Japanese Red Cross Shiga Chapter

We, Maibara City Ibuki Red Cross Volunteer Corps, are one of 49 regional Red Cross Volunteer Corps in Shiga Prefecture. Our regular activities include 'A Word of Friendship Campaign' – checking in on and ensuring the wellbeing of elderly people living at home – soup kitchen, escorting children to and from school, and taking part in community cleaning efforts.

During the landslide disaster that occurred in July 2024, members immediately contacted each other on the day of the incident. We assisted in setting up evacuation centers and began preparations for providing hot meals the following day. For the meal service, we prepared upon noodles and seasoned rice, hoping to offer something warm to eat. We supported people affected, including those evacuating to secondary shelters.

Though the Ibuki team is a small unit of 11 members, this experience gave us a real sense of achievement. Each member considered what we could do right now and acted accordingly, cooperating with the local government and the Social Welfare Council to support people affected. We intend to continue our activities to foster a community where people support one another.

Why not consider starting some volunteer work in your own local area?



# 6

## Social Welfare Services



A woman smiling after receiving makeup from volunteers (Fukuoka Prefecture)

### Ensuring Safe and Reliable Operation of Social Welfare Facilities

Social welfare facilities play an essential role in supporting individuals who require assistance due to various circumstances. Therefore, proper and stable operation is essential.

While welfare needs continue to grow as Japan faces a declining birthrate and aging population, challenges such as nationwide shortages of welfare personnel and the need to improve working conditions remain pressing social issues. Even under such difficult circumstances, social welfare facilities of the Japanese Red Cross Society are committed to maintaining safe and reliable operations. At the same time, we continue to engage in various initiatives as key welfare hubs within local communities.

#### Providing high-quality services

To ensure sustainable operation of social welfare facilities, not only strengthening the management foundation but also improving the quality of services is essential. In FY 2024, staff members actively participated in training programs both inside and outside the facilities to enhance their skills and deepen their understanding of management practices. By sharing what they learned and applying it to their daily work, the facilities worked toward delivering even higher-quality welfare services.



Training on Mental Health Care for Children (Iwate Prefecture)



Training on Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control (Saitama Prefecture)

### Initiatives to improve productivity

To address social challenges such as increasing welfare needs and the shortage of welfare personnel, improving productivity within facilities is essential. By utilizing ICT tools and related digital services tailored to each facility's operational environment, efforts are being made to streamline work processes. These improvements not only help reduce the workload for staff but also contribute to greater peace of mind for service users and their families. In FY 2024, facilities shared examples of ICT implementation with each other and began exploring more effective methods for utilization and operation.



Staff checking monitoring camera screens and notifications (Fukuoka Prefecture)

### Community Engagement Activities

#### Initiatives in child welfare facilities

At infant care facilities, childcare consultations and parenting classes were provided by nursery teachers, nurses, psychologists, dietitians, and family-support specialists. In addition, community parenting circles for parents and children continued to be held regularly. Efforts to promote foster care awareness also continued, and in July 2024, the first Red Cross foster care support center "Matsumoto Red Cross Infant Home Foster Care Support Center Himawari" was established and began operations.

At medical-type residential facilities for children with disabilities, efforts were made in collaboration with municipalities and public health centers, including the development of a "Disaster Response Guidebook" for families requiring home-based medical care and the organization of disaster preparedness day camps. Training programs were also implemented to develop specialized coordinators and nurses to support individuals requiring medical care, contributing to capacity building for workforce.



Training program for nurses supporting children requiring medical care (Tokushima Prefecture)

#### Initiatives in facilities for the elderly and persons with disabilities

At special nursing homes and other elderly care facilities, dementia supporter training and first aid courses were offered at nearby schools to help foster a community that is supportive of older adults and their families. In addition, by accepting trainees aspiring to pursue careers in welfare services, these facilities contributed to nurturing future professionals in the field of social welfare.

Similarly, facilities for persons with disabilities continued consultation and support services aimed at creating a secure environment where individuals with disabilities can live comfortably and independently, while also strengthening support systems that provide individuals opportunities to live as autonomously as possible.



First aid training at a high school (Kagoshima Prefecture)

### Voices of Volunteers Do what we can for our community

#### Musashino City Red Cross Volunteer Corps

We engage in various activities in Musashino city, including promoting blood donation, conducting first aid training, and participating in disaster preparedness drills hosted by the municipal government. We believe regular disaster preparedness training is essential so that children won't feel anxious in an emergency. That's why we participate every year in the soup kitchen drill at Musashino Red Cross Nursery School. Teaching children how to cook rice in a pot using a bag of rice and water left a lasting impression. Their eyes sparkled with excitement as they asked, "You can cook rice in a plastic bag?" and happily tried it themselves.

Looking ahead, we hope to continue our volunteer efforts with a strong focus on local connections, while also introducing new activities such as bocchia, a popular paraspport.



# 7

## Medical Services



Cardiovascular surgery at Yokohama City Minato Red Cross Hospital (Kanagawa Prefecture)

### Promoting Hospital Operations that Contribute to Regional Medical Care

#### Establishing medical service systems based on Regional Medical Care Plans

With the anticipated rapid increase in the elderly population and the decline in the working-age population due to ongoing demographic changes, each prefecture has formulated a Regional Medical Care Plan as part of its medical policy. These plans aim to establish efficient and sustainable healthcare delivery systems that reflect regional needs. As a public medical institution, the Japanese Red Cross Society is working to restructure its medical services in accordance with the regional medical care plans within each designated area. In FY 2024, we developed the basic plan for the new hospital to be established through the integration of Japanese Red Cross Sendai Hospital and Miyagi Cancer Center in Miyagi Prefecture. In addition, discussions progressed regarding the reorganization of hospitals involving Japanese Red Cross Nagahama Hospital, Nagahama City Hospital, and Nagahama City Kohoku Hospital in Shiga Prefecture.

#### Ensuring regional medical care at the time of disaster

As a public medical institution, the Japanese Red Cross Hospitals are committed to minimizing building damage at the time of disaster and maintaining continuous medical care. To this end, all Japanese Red Cross medical facilities have a BCP (Business Continuity Plan), which outlines the institution's protocol to be followed in the event of a disaster. In FY 2024, efforts were made to further enhance the effectiveness of these BCPs by promoting the development of standardized plans that address various risks. Moreover, each hospital's BCP was evaluated using third-party assessment tools to verify the adequacy of their preparedness.

### Providing Safe, Reliable, High-Quality Medical Care

#### Advancing medical DX to improve our services

Medical DX refers to the transformation of society and healthcare delivery through the use of ICT – including digital services and systems – to streamline operations and externalize, standardize, and integrate data management in healthcare settings, ensuring that patients receive higher-quality care. Within the Red Cross hospital group, initiatives are being actively promoted to advance medical DX, including the increased use of the My Number health insurance card system and the introduction of electronic prescriptions. Best practices in medical DX from individual Red Cross hospitals are also shared across the group to further accelerate these efforts.

#### Preparing for the outbreak of emerging infectious diseases

Even after the reclassification of COVID-19 to Category V under the Infectious Diseases Control Law, Red Cross hospitals have continued to provide care for COVID-19 patients while maintaining robust infection prevention measures. To ensure readiness for future outbreaks of emerging infectious diseases, all Red Cross hospitals have concluded medical response agreements with prefectural governments. These agreements include provisions such as securing beds for infectious disease cases and registering medical staff for deployment during outbreaks. In FY 2024, the guidelines for countermeasures against novel influenza and related infectious diseases were revised. Based on these updated guidelines, each Red Cross hospital will proceed with revising its infection control manuals to further strengthen their practical effectiveness.

### Establishing a Sound and Stable Management Base

#### Strengthening management efficiency through group-based operations

The Red Cross hospital group faces several risks, including a projected decrease in the number of patients due to population decline and challenges in maintaining medical services caused by the uneven distribution of physicians and shortages of medical personnel. Looking ahead to 2040, when these risks are expected to become most pronounced, we are developing a new management structure that enables the entire group to address issues that individual hospitals cannot handle on their own.

In FY 2024, each hospital's status and performance were objectively assessed to clarify its role and positioning within the group. Hospitals requiring medium- to long-term management improvement were categorized as Group Supported Hospitals, Group Priority Supported Hospitals, or Headquarters-Managed Hospitals. Under the Management Improvement Plan, strategies are being implemented to strengthen financial soundness. In addition, for other hospitals, monthly budget monitoring was conducted, and tailored improvement measures were implemented for those with significant gaps between target figures and actual results.

Furthermore, to enhance the effective use of funds held across the group, preparations were advanced for the introduction of a new internal fund management system, scheduled to be operational from FY 2025.

Efforts were also made to improve cost efficiency by encouraging joint procurement of major medical equipment across Red Cross hospitals.

### Voices of Volunteers 16 years in the support group, coinciding with the turbulent phase of Japanese Red Cross Kitami Hospital

Mr. Shinji Osaka, Representative, Association for Supporting the Future of Japanese Red Cross Kitami Hospital

In January 2008, all six internal medicine physicians at Japanese Red Cross Kitami Hospital announced their intention to resign at the end of March. This shocking news triggered widespread concern about the future of medical care in Kitami City. In December of the following year, the Association for Supporting the Future of Japanese Red Cross Kitami Hospital was established. I have been involved since its inception and have served as its representative since 2016. I will be handing over the role to a new representative in FY 2025, but during these 16 years, we have carried out a wide range of activities.

To build trust with the hospital, we began by conducting regular discussions and site visits. Amid the instability at that time, we worked side by side with the hospital to secure physicians and to support the opening of a new facility on the former Kitami City Hall site. Over the 16 years since our association was formed, Japanese Red Cross Kitami Hospital has undergone a remarkable transformation.

Today, we continue to focus on public relations activities and serving as supporters of the Red Cross, while promoting volunteer initiatives as part of our mission.



Mr. Osaka receiving a letter of appreciation from Japanese Red Cross Kitami Hospital (left center)

# 8

## Training of Nurses



Students of the Japanese Red Cross Himeji School of Nursing attending a ceremony (Hyogo Prefecture)

### Promoting the Nurse Career Development Ladder at Red Cross Facilities

In a society with a very low birthrate and an aging population, nurses play and are expected an important role in the fields of community health, medical care, and social welfare, including disaster response and infection prevention and control. To train nurses with high nursing skills based on the principles of the Red Cross, the Japanese Red Cross Society introduced the Career Development Ladder for Nurses at Red Cross Facilities in 2006 as a framework for developing nurses' skills. The Career Development Ladder comprises four fields (practitioners, administrators, international activities, and teachers), and as of the end of August 2024, 26,712 nurses, representing 72.1% of the total 37,066 nurses received certification.

As Red Cross nurses also play roles as members of medical relief teams, a dedicated training program has been developed for Red Cross nurses who serve on medical relief teams. The Japanese Red Cross Society remain committed to enhancing its disaster-nursing capabilities through continuous educational and training programs for Red Cross nurses and head nurses who serve as members of medical relief teams.

### Widely Providing Learning Opportunities to Nurses at the Red Cross facilities

The Red Cross educational institutions train nurses at 9 Schools of Nursing and 7 departments at 6 Colleges of Nursing (enrollment capacity for one grade: 1,115 students). Midwives are trained at 1 School of Midwifery (enrollment capacity for one grade: 40 students), 1 department at one of our College of Nursing (enrollment capacity for one grade: 10 students), and 4 Graduate Schools (enrollment capacity for one grade: 38 students). In addition, public health nurses are trained at 6 Colleges of Nursing (annual enrollment capacity: 174 students).

In FY 2024, a total of 1,068 students graduated from the Red Cross educational institutions. Since the start of nursing education in 1890, the number of graduates has reached 125,490. Furthermore, the Red Cross educational institutions for nurses and other medical professionals actively engage in community cooperation and collaboration. They offer recurrent education opportunities (programs for working adults to relearn) for nursing professionals, caregivers, other professionals working in the community, as well as for the general public.

\*The Red Cross educational institutions include colleges of nursing which are operated by the Japanese Red Cross Academy.

\*The number of nurses trained at Red Cross education facilities (enrollment capacity) is as of April 2024.

### Promotion of Training for Red Cross Nurse Manager

The Japanese Red Cross Training Center for Nurse Managers provides advanced education with the aim of fostering nurse managers who can cultivate a rich humanity, based on the Red Cross's humanitarian principles. The Training Center trains nurses to act as promoters and innovators of the organization. In FY 2024, the Training Center conducted its online training programs, including the Red Cross Nurse Manager Training I, II, and III, Red Cross Subjects I and II, and training instructor seminars. The online training, which was adopted following the COVID-19 pandemic, provides a wide range of opportunities for participants, including those who live far away from the training center and those who had previously given up taking the training due to child-rearing or nursing care.

A total of 203 trainees from Red Cross facilities across the country learned from each other and completed their respective courses.

For the Red Cross Nurse Manager Training III in FY 2023, the lectures and debriefing sessions of the Red Cross special course were postponed to FY 2024 due to prioritizing the Noto Peninsula earthquake response. All trainees have since completed the course.

### Voices of Volunteers Do what we can do now: valuing our connection with local communities

Nursing Student Volunteer Corps, Japanese Red Cross Urakawa School of Nursing

We value the connection with local communities.

We regularly open "Urakan Café" at the Community-Based Integrated Support Center, where we offer seasonal handmade sweets and opportunities to connect with local residents. In addition, during local disaster preparedness drills, we share practical skills such as first aid and managing life in evacuation centers to enhance their disaster resilience. Recently, we have received an increasing number of requests from local events and various organizations.



Hand massage for local residents during a local disaster preparedness drill

# 9

# Blood Services



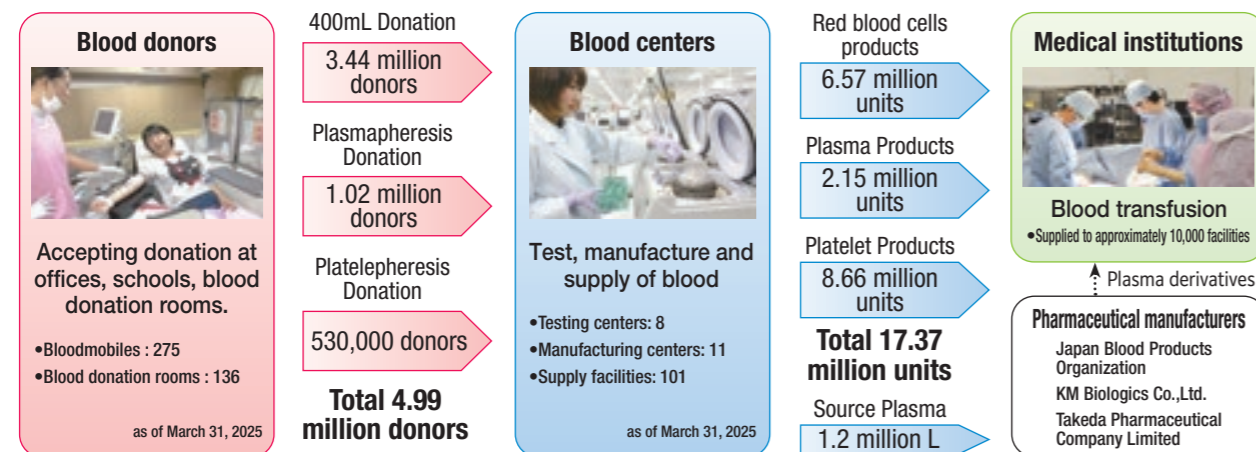
A blood donor in a blood donation room (Tokyo)

## Ensuring Stable Blood Supply in Need

### Accepting blood donations and stable supply of blood products

The Japanese Red Cross Society is engaged in blood services with the mission of providing safe blood products to medical institutions in a stable manner, for supporting individuals facing health challenges and their families.

In FY 2024, we successfully secured a sufficient volume of blood in need of medical care. We achieved this by encouraging a total of 4,990,000 people to donate blood, which is 99.6% of last year's donations. We effectively supplied blood products for transfusion to meet the needs of medical institutions, as well as provided domestic pharmaceutical companies with the required amount of source plasma – the raw materials for plasma derivatives.



From Blood Donation to Medical Institution (Achievements in FY 2024)

\* The number of units supplied is equivalent to the number of units converted to the volume obtained from a 200 mL blood donation. For plasma products, FFP-120 is counted as one unit, FFP-240 as two units, and FFP-480 as four units.  
 \* The number of each item and the total do not always match due to rounding down.

## Initiatives to Promote Blood Donation

### Awareness-raising for blood donation to all ages, with a focus on young people

The number of new blood donors, particularly among younger generations, is declining due to a decrease in the eligible donor population caused by low birth rate and an aging society, as well as reduced opportunities for school blood drives during the COVID-19 pandemic. To build a sustainable blood donation foundation for the future and encourage continued participation, we focused on raising awareness for blood donation among younger generations. This included conducting blood donation seminars at junior high and high schools, and expanding publicity through TV and social media for the "Give Blood at Twenty" campaign.

Furthermore, we implemented the "THINK Blood Donation" campaign year-round, shifting from simply calling for blood donation to encouraging individuals to actively think about blood donation. On World Blood Donor Day, June 14, 2024, we distributed videos via digital signage at multiple major train stations nationwide, including Shibuya station in Tokyo. On National Blood Donation Day, August 21, we conducted an awareness-raising campaign by distributing fans near the Koshien Stadium.



"Give Blood at Twenty" Poster

## Cooperation with Medical Institutions

### The medical institution awareness survey

Medical institution awareness survey is conducted every three years. Its purpose is to promote the effective use of blood and blood components for transfusion and enhance the safety of transfusion medicine. This is achieved by surveying and analyzing the satisfaction levels and needs of medical institutions that use blood products, thereby identifying and reflecting the resulting issues and challenges in our blood services. In FY 2024, responses were received from 612 facilities. We received feedback on our blood service's engagement with medical institutions, including suggestions for improvement. Moving forward, we work to address these issues to further strengthen collaboration with medical institutions.

## Advancing Safety Measures for Blood Products

### Supplying safe blood for transfusion to reduce post-transfusion adverse reaction

To protect the health of those receive blood transfusion, it is essential to stay updated on the latest safety information and to improve safety and quality of blood product by adopting latest scientific technology. As a safety measure against post-transfusion bacterial infections in platelet products, we decided to introduce bacterial screening for these products. Manufacturing and sales approval was granted in February 2025, and information was provided to medical institutions. Furthermore, in preparation for the start of supply, we are confirming operational procedures for manufacturing processes and conducting simulations from blood donation acceptance to supply to ensure stable supply without disruption.

## Voices of Volunteers Blood donation – making others and myself feeling comfortable

Mr. Ryotaro Kondo, Chair of the 2025 Executive Committee of All Japan Student Blood Donation Promotion

My first experience calling out at a blood donation room was in my first year at technical college. I donated blood on my 16th birthday and found a poster of the Youth Red Cross volunteer corps there. My volunteer life began under the challenging circumstances of COVID-19 restrictions. After spending days adapting activities to the pandemic and recruiting members, I now hold significant responsibilities as the Chair of the Youth Red Cross volunteer corps and also the Chair of Executive Committee of All Japan Student Blood Donation promotion. During my activity, I receive many heartwarming comments: "My father was saved by a blood transfusion", "My mother is undergoing cancer treatment and relies on blood donations." Hearing such words warms my heart and makes me feel our activities have been worthwhile.



# Enhancing Organizational Functions

## Strengthening Branding and Public Relations to Showcase Diverse Players and the Comprehensive Strength of the Japanese Red Cross Society

We promote an integrated communication strategy that integrates mass media, digital, and real-world channels. This approach frames the support process through five stages: Awareness→Understanding→Consideration→Action→Continuation. We aim for optimal results by implementing effective communication strategies at each stage and continuously optimizing them through the PDCA cycle – analyzing, evaluating, and refining their effectiveness.

In FY 2024, we launched a campaign centered on the concept 'The Red Cross is on the move! Let's amplify it.' to showcase the diverse players active across the Red Cross's various operations and demonstrate the organization's comprehensive strength.

We appointed actress Mone Kamishiraishi as our ambassador, and broadcasted TV commercials, disseminated information on a dedicated website, and distributed web advertisements. Furthermore, based on our company-wide plan, we implemented the "ACTION! Disaster Risk Reduction Project" This initiative aimed to increase public awareness and understanding of the Japanese Red Cross Society's humanitarian activities in response to disasters. Furthermore, we worked to enhance the public relations skills and capacities of each staff member in each operation through regular company-wide PR workshops and internal communication initiatives. As a result of these efforts, the Japanese Red Cross Society achieved a pure recall rate of 34.2%, which is 7.3% increase, compared to the previous year. Additionally, awareness of domestic disaster response reached 35.1%, which is 0.5% increase compared to the previous year.



Red Cross Movement Month poster

## Business Continuation in the Event of a Major Disaster

### Maintaining headquarters functions in anticipation of major disasters

In FY 2024, in preparation for the possibility that the Japanese Red Cross Society headquarters would be unable to operate in the event of a disaster, training based on the headquarters business continuity plan (BCP) revised in FY 2023 was conducted at the headquarters alternative facility. In addition, to further strengthen the Japanese Red Cross Society's disaster response activities through effective utilization of ICT (information and communications technology and services utilizing such technology) infrastructure, we updated related

equipment.

In addition, we worked on verification to build mechanisms that enhance security during operating conducted outside the headquarters.

Furthermore, we defined concrete monitoring points for the Disaster Response Headquarters' operations and verified them during the headquarters disaster response drill conducted in January 2025.

### Revision of accumulation targets for effective use of Disaster Funds

The Japanese Red Cross Society is working to ensure the effective use of its Disaster Funds.

In FY 2024, based on the issues identified in the previous year, we estimated the minimum amount of funds that should be secured to support smooth operations during emergencies and conducted research and analysis on medium- to long-term utilization methods, including fund management.

Furthermore, to enable rapid relief activities during disasters and to continue Red Cross operations even in the event of a decrease in membership fees due to disasters, we revised the accumulation targets for the Disaster Funds owned by chapters, taking into account recent trends in disaster response.

## Addressing Climate Change

### Formulation of action plan for implementation of concrete efforts

As a humanitarian aid organization, the Japanese Red Cross Society believes that it is necessary for us to address climate change, which is a humanitarian crisis. Therefore, in FY 2024, the Japanese Red Cross Society formulated its Action Plan on Climate Change Response, which defines the details of its efforts. (For details, see Special Feature 4-1 Addressing Climate Change p.15.)

### Achieving environmentally friendly operations

With the aim of reducing CO2 emissions at the Japanese Red Cross Society in order to mitigate the risk of climate change, in FY 2024, the Japanese Red Cross Society prepared an Energy Conservation Guidebook that contains good examples of energy conservation measures at each facility. In our medical services, we started a trial survey of energy consumption and effective energy reduction methods at 5 facilities, and installed 12 EV chargers in the parking lots of 3 facilities. In our blood services, we advanced studies on measures that contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases.

## **Enhancement and Strengthening of Human Resources and Organizational Structure**

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### **Promoting staff well-being, growth, and diversity through Total Rewards approach**

In order to respond to the declining population and changes in the operational environment, as well as to attract, develop and retain stable workforce, we have adopted the Total Rewards approach – a comprehensive investment in human resources.

As an example, in conjunction with the revision of the Child Care and Family Care Leave Act, we enhanced our existing child care leave system to support employees balancing work and childcare. In addition, the President's message on support for balancing work and family care was sent to employees nationwide with the aim of fostering an organizational culture and improving the work environment to prevent employees from leaving work for family care.

In addition, we conducted the Employee Engagement Survey in FY 2024, following the previous year as an important indicator for measuring the effectiveness of our HR strategies. Through regularly conducting this survey, we extract and analyze organizational issues and reflect into the policy. By sharing the survey results with our staff, we strive to create a better work place through mutual communication.

### **Building a Structure to Support Business Development as Indicated in the Long-Term Vision**

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In order to achieve our long-term vision, we are working to streamline roles and responsibilities and ensure gender balance among governance members based on the new operational execution structure introduced in FY 2022. We are also reviewing our organizational structure to respond to changes in social environment, such as demographic changes, so that the Japanese Red Cross Society can continue its humanitarian efforts sustainably beyond its 150th anniversary.

### **Improving Organization-wide Risk Management Capacities**

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In order to minimize the risk of loss of trust caused by incidents or accidents that could negatively impact the Japanese Red Cross Society, in FY 2024, we fully implemented the risk management system at headquarters and conducted risk identification and assessment. Based on this, we formulated and implemented measures to mitigate each risk, and the Risk Management Committee reviewed and deliberated on the implementation status to prevent risk occurrence.

In addition, in order to expand the risk management system to the entire organization, in FY 2024, we reviewed the structure and approach for organization-wide risk management system. In addition, as it is necessary to understand the current situation of risk management at each chapter and facility in advance, we also reviewed survey items for this purpose.

## **Building ICT Infrastructure and Enhancing Staff Proficiency in ICT Utilization**

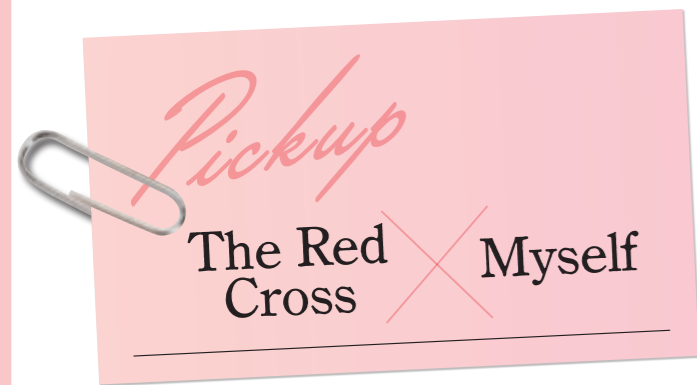
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Considering the adoption and digitalization of ICT (information and communications technology and services using the technology) as a means of business reform, we are studying and developing ICT infrastructure based on the "Japanese Red Cross Society Basic Plan for ICT Adoption, Phase 2", which was formulated in FY 2022 with the aim of improving management efficiency throughout the Japanese Red Cross Society. In FY 2024, we considered the introduction of information systems related to the general affairs and planning sections, the human resources sections, and the disaster management sections, and started partial operation of information systems related to the human resources sections and the disaster management sections.

### **Enhancing Governance by Strengthening the Audit Function**

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In FY 2024, we conducted compliance audits and operational audits. Compliance audits were conducted for 94 facilities as a follow-up audit of improvement status. The operational audits focused on the appropriateness of discretionary contracts and the management of cash and fixed assets. We checked the implementation status of discretionary contracts, the reasons for contracts, contract administration, and the status of contracts that have been continued over a long period of time at the Blood Services Headquarters, chapters, and blood centers. We also reviewed the headquarters' own management practices for chapters and facilities, examined cash management methods and challenges at medical facilities and social welfare facilities, and checked the status of fixed assets inspections. In addition, we conducted on-site visits to facilities and interviews with staff, providing evaluations and actionable recommendations.



The 2025 World Exposition, Osaka, Kansai opened in April 2025. The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Pavilion, which conveys the philosophy of the Red Cross, is there.

Twenty years ago, the International Red Cross Red and Crescent Movement pavilion was also presented at the 2005 World Exposition, Aichi, Japan. Mr. Tadao Inoue, who served as Deputy Director of the pavilion at that time, visited the Expo 2025 Osaka. We interviewed Mr. Inoue, a leading humanitarian Red Cross researcher within the Red Cross, about his impressions of the Expo 2025 in Osaka, his experiences at the Expo 2005 in Aichi, and his journey as a Red Crosser.

## A half-century of inspiration and encounters

In early January 2006, after thoroughly enjoying a long solo trip to Turkey and skipping the President's New Year's address, I returned to work. Soon after, I received a call from the secretarial division: "President Konoe wishes to see you." My relaxed mood, still basking in the sense of freedom after the 2005 Aichi Expo, instantly vanished. I headed to the president's office with a tense expression. The President smiled and said, "President Tokimitsu of Japanese Red Cross Akita Junior College of Nursing visited for New Year's greetings. He mentioned he still hasn't heard back from you about the professor position starting in April. You really should reply soon." Feeling deeply apologetic, I left the president's office.

The next day, Vice-President Otsuka (Chair of the Japanese Red Cross Academy) called me in. "I heard from President Konoe that you've been offered a teaching position. What will you do? You really should reply soon; they're getting worried." He seemed genuinely concerned. At that time, I felt my work at the Expo was complete, nothing at headquarters could truly ignite my passion again. This teaching offer came at just that moment, yet I hesitated at the final step. Then, I asked an incredibly rude question: "If you were in my position... what would you do?" The Vice-President gazed at the ceiling for a moment, deep in thought. "Hmm. I might go. Being a teacher sounds interesting, doesn't it?"

That night, I persuaded my wife and decided to live alone in Akita for seven years. I had intended to resign from headquarters, but the Vice-President gave me some warm words: "If you resign and it doesn't work out, you'll have nowhere to return to." So, I was offered a secondment instead. In the end, I must have fit in well, because I ended up staying in Akita for 12 years. Looking back, between 30 years at headquarters and 18 years at the Colleges of Nursing in Akita and Shibuya, my connection with the Red Cross spans 50 years this year.

My very first job after joining the Japanese Red Cross Society was managing volunteers. It involved supporting refugees following the previous year's end of the Vietnam War, living and eating alongside them at a shelter in Omiya. After that, I worked for a long time in the Public Relations Department, editing newsletters and the Red Cross Newspaper. During my time as Director for Development Cooperation Division, I was involved in supporting



In front of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Pavilion, at the Expo in Osaka, Kansai

### Mr. Tadao Inoue, Director of the Japanese Red Cross International Humanitarian Research Center

After serving in the Social Affairs Department, Organizational Development Department, International Department, and Planning and Public Relations Office at the Japanese Red Cross Society headquarters, he served as a professor at the Japanese Red Cross College of Nursing and Akita College of Nursing, and as Secretary General of the Japanese Red Cross Academy. He also served as Deputy Director of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Pavilion at Expo 2005 in Aichi, a visiting researcher at the Institute of International Philosophy, Toyo University, and a lecturer at the Joint Staff College, Ministry of Defense. In 2023, he received the Minister of Defense Commendation for his educational contributions to the Red Cross and International Humanitarian Law.

developing countries, including assistance to Russia, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pacific Island nations, and Ethiopia.

My mission to the Iraqi Kurdish region after the Gulf War in 1991 remains vividly etched in my memory. During the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, I worked in Kobe conducting safety checks on foreign nationals. Following the Japan Airlines crash in 1985, I was deeply moved by the sight of my colleagues at the Fujioka City Gymnasium facing the remains and bereaved families. During my time as Director of Youth Division, late-night, in-depth discussions about the Red Cross with Junior Red Cross instructors reshaped my perspective on the organization. My connection with them continues to this day.

My final assignment as a headquarters staff member was hosting the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Pavilion at the 2005 Aichi Expo. Then-President Fujimori held the firm belief that "People won't move unless they are emotionally moved." At a time when the Japanese Red Cross Society faced a lot of difficult reform challenges, the staff members, who would be the driving force, had to truly feel the incredible power and beauty of their work. Inspired with his vision, we aimed to create a "pavilion of emotion." This is how the pavilion was born: it featured only powerful videos accompanied by the artist Mr. Children's music, without any explanation, publicity, captions, or narrations. We believed feeling mattered more than understanding. Though some within the organization disagreed, we felt the Red Cross did not need words in a world of rhetoric and excuses (promotion). Because the Red Cross's work is shown — and captivates — through our actions... The Movement Pavilion, which had been nearly deserted in spring, suddenly drew long lines after the holiday week in May, and this continued until the Expo closed. It was an unexpected stroke of luck. People move when they are emotionally moved, and they commit seriously to their work. President Fujimori's belief that the Expo would be an opportunity to awaken and inspire our staff deeply resonated not only with the staff but also with Vice-President Otsuka and the visitors. The pavilion received an award from Mr. Shoichiro Toyoda, Chair of the Expo Association, for its contribution to the success of the Expo.

Amidst daily life, where discouraging events can dampen spirits, President Fujimori taught us that to revive ourselves, we must rediscover the greatness and dignity of our own work and be emotionally moved by it once more. I believe the same spirit is embedded in the concept of the Movement Pavilion at the ongoing 2025 Expo in Osaka - "Notice, think, and act".

Over my long career with the Red Cross, I considered leaving the organization several times. Yet, strangely, each time coincided with an overseas assignment, offering me the chance to experience the Red Cross fieldwork firsthand. Trapped in a cubicle amidst Tokyo's towering skyscrapers, I felt stifled. These assignments awakened me, making me realize the true essence of the Red Cross lies in the field. I thought, "I can still keep going at this

job." Perhaps deceived by that feeling, I continued — and before I knew it, half a century had passed. The breadth and depth of the Red Cross's foundation, the multifaceted work I encountered as a practitioner, educator, and researcher, and above all, the encounters with so many people who shared my convictions — these have sustained my life thus far. I am grateful.

It is certain that without meeting President Shoichi Fujimori, President Naoki Tokimitsu, and President Yoshiharu Otsuka, I would not be who I am today. And the people who changed my life are no longer with us. One cannot build one's life alone. A person's life is shaped through encounters with others. Lately, I find myself reflecting on this truth, as if for the first time.



Mr. Inoue with a staff from Japanese Red Cross Society dispatched for Kurdish aid, at the ICRC compound in Penjwin, northern Iraq



At Expo 2005 held in Aichi:  
Mr. Fujimori, President Emeritus (far left),  
Mr. Otsuka, Vice-President (center),  
Mr. Mine, Director of the Movement Pavilion  
Mr. Inoue, Deputy Director of the Movement Pavilion (far right)

● Japanese Red Cross Society ●

# Deep Dive into the Activities of the Chapters

The Japanese Red Cross Society has one chapter in each of 47 prefectures and conducts activities rooted in local communities. In this article, we focus on two of these chapters and take a closer look at how each addresses the specific needs of its respective region.



We organized a Regional Disaster Preparedness Seminar in Naoshima Town



Disaster preparedness workshop held in collaboration with the Town Office!

## Kagawa Chapter

### Raising Awareness of Disaster Preparedness on Remote Islands

~Creating a framework for easy participation~

The Japanese Red Cross Kagawa Chapter believes that protecting lives from major disasters and minimizing damage requires raising awareness of disaster risk reduction on a daily basis. Furthermore, building resilient local communities where residents can respond swiftly and appropriately in time of disaster is essential for prompt recovery and reconstruction. To further promote disaster preparedness education, we hold Red Cross Regional Disaster Preparedness Seminars throughout the prefecture.

Kagawa Prefecture is known as Japan's smallest prefecture by its size. It boasts a warm climate, experiences few disasters, and is a comfortable place to live. However, it has experienced damage from heavy rain and storm surges in the past. Furthermore, with the increasing risk of large-scale earthquakes like the Nankai Trough earthquake, disaster risk reduction and preparedness is an urgent priority. Particularly for Kagawa Prefecture, which faces the Seto Inland Sea and has many remote islands experiencing population decline and aging, responding to disasters in these areas is an urgent challenge.

In Naoshima Town, globally renowned as an island of contemporary art, the Red Cross Volunteer Corps works in

cooperation with the local government and the Board of Education. Participants range widely from children to the elderly, and the group actively reaches out to new residents moving to the island to broaden its activities.

Particular emphasis is placed on making disaster preparedness information visible. Information is disseminated not only through the town's newsletter but also via social media. Furthermore, to help children and younger generations learn about disaster preparedness and emergency preparedness in an enjoyable way, the group provides learning opportunities focused on knowing and experiencing, such as quiz-style disaster preparedness lectures and clothed swimming drills.

By raising awareness of disaster preparedness in normal time and learning the importance of preparedness from past disaster experiences, the group fosters a long-term perspective of self-reliance. Ms. Hamanaka, Chair of the Red Cross Volunteer Corps in Naoshima Town, mentioned her future aspirations: "We hope to continue developing mechanisms that make participation easy, ensuring our efforts connect to the next generation."



Emergency rice cooking training using Alpha Rice



Parent-child disaster preparedness workshop in collaboration with the Naoshima Town Board of Education



Child safety training conducted as part of a community-building initiatives for new residents

## Akita Chapter

### "Community Connection Team!" Activities Begin!

~To invigorate volunteer corps activities supporting the Red Cross~

Akita Prefecture faces the challenge of having the nation's highest rates of population decline and aging, as well as having the lowest proportions of young people aged 0 to 14 and the working-age population aged 15 to 64. As aging progresses, building a comprehensive community support and service system (Community-Based Integrated Care Systems) is crucial to enable people to live their lives as they prefer in their familiar communities, for as long as possible, right up to the end of their lives. Contributing to the Community-Based Integrated Care Systems is also a key priority for the Japanese Red Cross Akita Chapter. Until now, efforts have focused on preventing frailty and promoting healthy lifestyle through training sessions and volunteer corps activities.

In fiscal year 2024, driven by a strong commitment to continue and revitalize the activities carried out by each volunteer corps, five regional volunteer corps across Akita Prefecture conducted various activities under the banner "Community Connection Team!" The Akita Chapter supported

these initiatives, including through financial assistance.

Activities ranged from disaster preparedness workshops in collaboration with town offices, soup kitchen drills, social salons that foster community interaction, to workshops on preventing fraud schemes – an issue that recently caused significant financial damage to residents within the prefecture. These activities, carried out by the volunteer corps, addressed different challenges specific to each region. The Chair of one regional volunteer corps stated, "With the dissolution of the women's association, there was a trend toward disbanding the volunteer corps too. But just as we volunteers resolved to continue Red Cross activities in the community so we could be seen as local treasures, this 'Community Connection Team!' recruitment came along. The financial support for our activities was truly appreciated." The Akita Chapter remains committed to providing financial support and other assistance in FY 2025 to invigorate volunteer corps activities that sustain the Red Cross and to support their efforts.



Relaxation session during the "Preventing Frailty" health support workshop



Interacting session at the community salon

# Overview of Financial Reports for FY 2024

(thousand Japanese yen)

		Financial Results for FY 2023	Actual Budget for FY 2024	Financial Results for FY 2024	Change from the previous fiscal year
General Account (Total of the Headquarters and Chapters)	Annual income	87,095,163	82,535,198	80,015,810	△ 7,079,353
	Membership fees and contributions	30,021,184	27,473,561	29,537,686	△ 483,497
	Income from delegated activities	106,336	308,985	487,924	381,588
	Grants	964,088	1,938,634	914,564	△ 49,524
	Deposit income from disaster cash grants	38,182,279	11,507,860	11,507,861	△ 26,674,418
	Deferred income	9,752,258	34,052,868	29,898,052	20,145,793
	Other income	3,170,176	2,698,804	2,775,349	△ 394,827
	Carryover from the previous year	4,898,839	4,554,486	4,894,372	△ 4,466
	Annual expenditure	82,200,791	82,535,198	76,388,430	△ 5,812,360
	Expenses for domestic disaster relief	20,224,187	34,155,334	33,861,860	13,637,673
	Expenses for social activities	2,660,739	3,449,091	2,866,847	206,108
	Expenses for international activities	7,872,172	9,498,659	6,857,286	△ 1,014,886
	Expenses for specific activities of chapters	688,619	521,676	517,805	△ 170,813
	Grants for branches	1,730,752	1,921,902	1,689,673	△ 41,078
	Expenses for organizational development	3,516,817	4,635,370	4,303,394	786,577
	Expenses for infrastructure	4,329,509	5,403,571	4,365,259	35,749
	Reserve fund	30,451,053	12,457,038	12,274,013	△ 18,177,040
	Expenses for general affairs management and audit	4,939,342	5,862,110	5,368,559	429,216
	Expenses for acquisition and maintenance of property	2,673,107	1,895,122	1,667,022	△ 1,006,085
	Cash transferred to the headquarters	2,447,139	2,529,971	2,506,669	59,529
Other expenses	667,350	111,161	110,038	△ 557,312	
Contingency fund	0	94,192	0	0	
Total balance of annual income and expenditure	4,894,372	0	3,627,380	△ 1,266,992	
Special Account for Medical Institutions (Total of the Headquarters and Chapters)	Revenue income	1,174,609,394	1,206,011,497	1,176,034,385	1,424,991
	Revenue from medical operations	1,092,955,907	1,153,623,914	1,120,271,697	27,315,789
	(In-patient services revenue)	729,226,761	—	756,607,448	27,380,687
	(Out-patient services revenue)	325,215,232	—	324,919,074	△ 296,157
	(Other medical operations revenue)	38,513,914	—	38,745,174	231,259
	Non-medical operations revenue	66,622,039	38,769,793	42,336,912	△ 24,285,126
	Medical social services revenue	839,914	836,810	793,344	△ 46,569
	Incidental business revenue	12,456,717	12,713,930	12,396,889	△ 59,828
	Extraordinary revenue	1,734,814	67,050	235,541	△ 1,499,273
	Revenue Expenditure	1,158,712,789	1,240,798,747	1,112,653,102	△ 46,059,686
	Expenses for medical operations	1,122,661,017	1,201,852,960	1,079,290,608	△ 43,370,408
	(Material expenses)	354,594,825	—	366,079,225	11,484,400
	(Payroll expenses)	526,514,896	—	466,547,639	△ 59,967,256
	(Outsourcing expenses)	80,487,550	—	83,282,969	2,795,419
	(Equipment related expenses)	113,578,035	—	113,776,187	198,152
	(Research and training expenses)	3,488,429	—	3,685,298	196,868
	(Overhead costs)	43,997,279	—	45,919,287	1,922,008
	Non-medical operation expenses	11,474,255	12,211,975	11,449,260	△ 24,995
	Medical volunteer expenses	9,010,161	9,515,466	7,738,699	△ 1,271,462
	Incidental business expenses	13,674,978	14,209,425	12,519,672	△ 1,155,306
Extraordinary losses	1,952,438	2,086,832	1,261,964	△ 690,473	
Corporate taxes, etc.	△ 60,061	410,479	392,897	452,959	
Contingency fund	0	511,607	0	0	
Total balance of income and expenditure	15,896,604	△ 34,787,250	63,381,283	47,484,678	
Capital income	87,751,403	140,344,014	97,447,301	9,695,897	
Fixed liabilities	16,755,204	41,274,561	23,312,743	6,557,538	
Capital gains income	8,506	0	0	△ 8,506	
Other capital income	70,987,692	99,069,453	74,134,557	3,146,865	
Capital expenditure	87,751,403	140,344,014	97,447,301	9,695,897	
fixed assets	58,952,153	103,432,755	62,163,642	3,211,488	
Loan repayments, etc.	28,799,250	36,911,259	35,283,658	6,484,408	

(thousand Japanese yen)

		Financial Results for FY 2023	Actual Budget for FY 2024	Financial Results for FY 2024	Change from the previous fiscal year
Special Account for Blood Programs	Revenue income	166,555,270	163,760,016	165,686,559	△ 868,711
	Operating revenue	162,120,721	160,819,112	161,631,576	△ 489,144
	(Revenue from supplying blood products for transfusions)	148,281,188	—	147,841,371	△ 439,817
	(Revenue from supplying source plasma)	13,657,761	—	13,647,930	△ 9,830
	(Other operation revenue)	181,772	—	142,275	△ 39,497
	Non-operating revenue	2,792,672	1,339,589	2,486,906	△ 305,765
	Revenue from related businesses	1,640,059	1,601,315	1,565,606	△ 74,453
	Extraordinary revenue	1,817	0	2,469	652
	Revenue expenditure	157,494,914	162,519,990	152,578,050	△ 4,916,863
	Operating expenses	155,010,888	159,459,118	150,002,888	△ 5,008,000
	(Personnel expenses)	59,221,547	—	54,424,563	△ 4,796,984
	(Materials expenses)	40,626,010	—	41,359,072	733,062
	(Overhead costs)	55,435,372	—	54,440,142	△ 995,230
	(Other supply costs)	△ 272,041	—	△ 220,889	51,152
	Non-operating expenses	48,811	61,326	59,519	10,707
	Expenses for related businesses	2,190,119	2,289,626	2,269,576	79,457
	Contingency fund	0	0	0	0
	Extraordinary losses	242,783	699,920	244,846	2,063
	Corporate taxes, etc.	2,310	10,000	1,218	△ 1,091
	Total balance of income and expenditure	9,060,356	1,240,026	13,108,508	4,048,152
Capital income	25,179,626	36,383,633	21,477,033	△ 3,702,593	
Income from loans, etc.	681,592	1,224,211	903,885	222,293	
Capital gains income	28,705	0	3,340	△ 25,364	
Other income	24,469,329	35,159,422	20,569,807	△ 3,899,522	
Capital expenditure	25,179,626	36,383,633	21,477,033	△ 3,702,593	
Fixed asset expenditure	24,899,392	36,103,399	21,196,799	△ 3,702,593	
Loan repayments, etc.	280,234	280,234	280,234	0	
Other expenses	0	0	0	0	
Special Account for Social Welfare Facilities (Total of each section of base)	Annual income	19,240,106	20,619,127	20,094,355	854,248
	Income from operational activities	13,965,855	14,703,613	14,312,016	346,160
	(Social welfare facilities for children)	7,609,166	7,930,404	7,974,876	365,709
	(Social welfare facilities for the elderly)	4,033,392	4,346,666	4,022,868	△ 10,524
	(Social welfare facilities for the disabled)	614,845	640,525	586,676	△ 28,168
	(Social welfare complexes)	1,708,450	1,786,018	1,727,591	19,141
	(Headquarters accounting)	0	0	3	3
	Income from facility maintenance, etc.	40,411	44,029	59,585	19,173
	Income from other activities	996,543	1,813,662	1,270,580	274,036
	Balance of working capital at the end of the previous term	4,237,296	4,057,823	4,452,173	214,876
	Annual Expenditure	14,787,933	16,775,826	15,776,981	989,047
	Expenses for operational activities	13,479,854	15,031,939	14,228,644	748,790
	(Social welfare facilities for children)	6,895,180	7,709,728	7,393,619	498,438
	(Social welfare facilities for the elderly)	4,116,319	4,541,781	4,222,190	105,871
	(Social welfare facilities for the disabled)	568,178	710,927	670,725	102,547
	(Social welfare complexes)	1,893,846	2,031,659	1,934,929	41,083
	(Headquarters accounting)	6,329	37,844	7,178	849
	Expenditure related to facilities maintenance, etc.	323,809	628,865	575,609	251,800
	Expenditure for other activities	984,270	1,031,801	972,727	△ 11,542
	Expenditure of contingency fund	0	83,219	0	0
Total balance of Income and Expenditure	4,452,173	3,843,301	4,317,373	△ 134,799	

\* Amounts are rounded down to the nearest thousand JPY.

- Major expenses overlapped at Headquarters, Chapters, and Facilities
- ① Grants from HQ to Chapters and Facilities JPY 3,023,528,000
- ② Membership fees sent from Chapters to HQ (general accounting) JPY 2,506,669,000
- ③ Funds transferred from Chapters to Medical Institutions JPY 1,826,028,000
- ④ Internal transactions between HQ and Medical Institutions (special account for medical institutions) JPY 1,379,344,000

# FY2024 Financial Reports Highlight

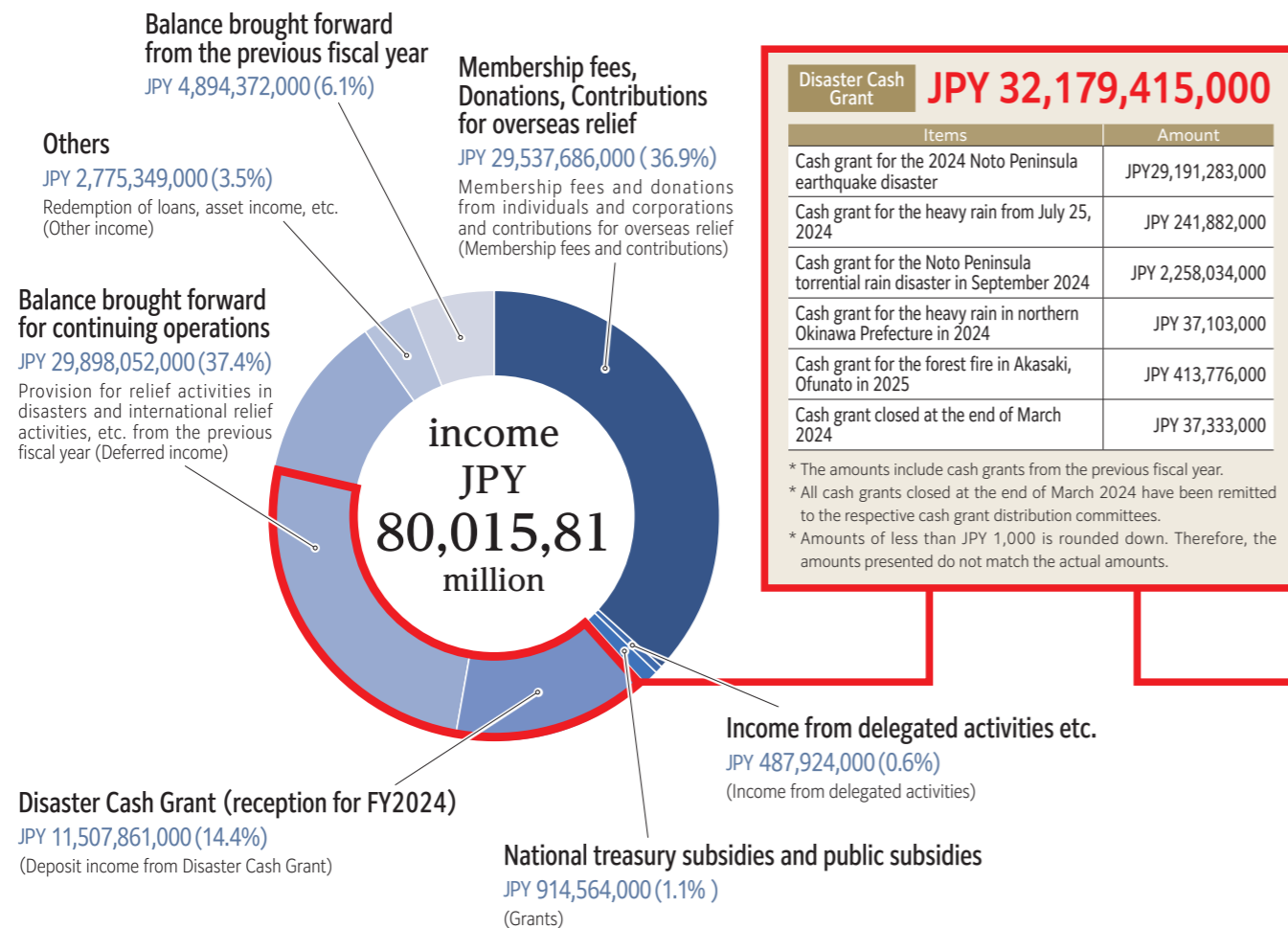
In FY 2024, Japanese Red Cross Society has conducted operations totaling over 1.4 trillion Japanese yen in the general account and 3 special accounts (medical institutions, blood programs, and social welfare facilities). Of this amount, revenues and expenditures related to activities implemented mainly using membership fees and donations received from individuals and corporations are as follows.

\*Total amounts include amounts that overlap between headquarters and chapters.

\*Amounts of less than 1000 yen have been rounded down. As a result, the total of revenue and expenditure items do not match the total shown.

## General Account

### Annual Income JPY 80,015,810,000



Disaster Cash Grant JPY 32,179,415,000	
Items	Amount
Cash grant for the 2024 Noto Peninsula earthquake disaster	JPY 29,191,283,000
Cash grant for the heavy rain from July 25, 2024	JPY 241,882,000
Cash grant for the Noto Peninsula torrential rain disaster in September 2024	JPY 2,258,034,000
Cash grant for the heavy rain in northern Okinawa Prefecture in 2024	JPY 37,103,000
Cash grant for the forest fire in Akasaki, Ofunato in 2025	JPY 413,776,000
Cash grant closed at the end of March 2024	JPY 37,333,000

\* The amounts include cash grants from the previous fiscal year.  
 \* All cash grants closed at the end of March 2024 have been remitted to the respective cash grant distribution committees.  
 \* Amounts of less than JPY 1,000 is rounded down. Therefore, the amounts presented do not match the actual amounts.

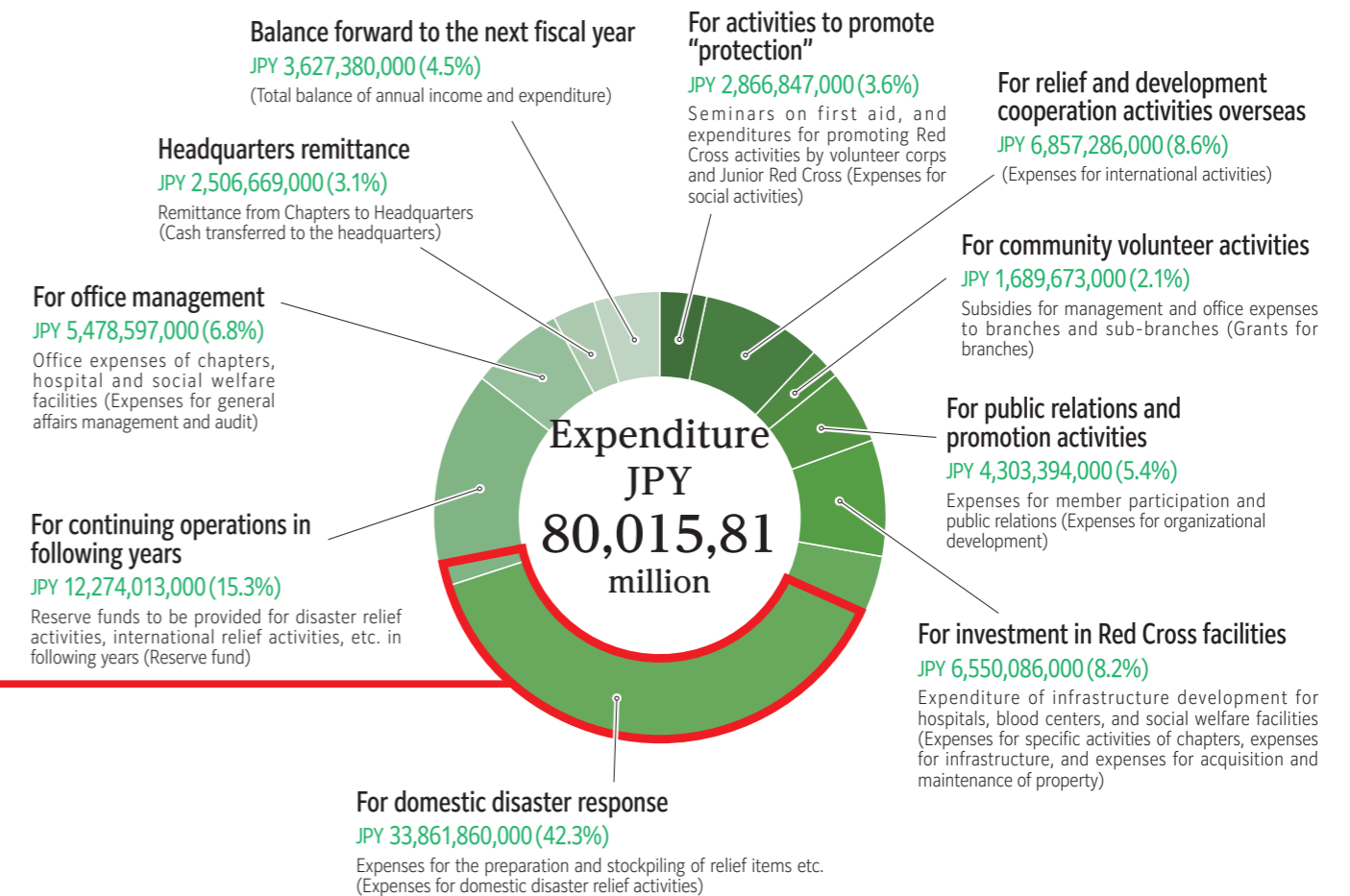
All Disaster Cash Grant received by the Japanese Red Cross Society are transferred in full to the Disaster Cash Grant Distribution Committees of the affected prefectures. These committees then distribute the funds to municipalities and other local governments according to their established allocation criteria, where they are used to support the livelihoods of those affected by the disaster. Under no circumstances are donations used for the Japanese Red Cross Society's operational funds or administrative expenses.

### What's the difference between Activity fund and Cash Grant?



## General Account

### Annual Expenditure JPY 80,015,810,000



## Special Account

Medical Institutions	Blood Services	Social Welfare Facilities
Income: JPY 1,176,034,385,000	Income: JPY 165,686,559,000	Income: JPY 20,094,355,000
Expenditure: JPY 1,112,653,102,000	Expenditure: JPY 152,578,050,000	Expenditure: JPY 15,776,981,000
Net balance: JPY 63,381,283,000	Net balance: JPY 13,108,508,000	Net balance*: JPY 4,317,373,000

\*1) Amounts of less than JPY 1,000 is rounded down. Therefore, the amounts presented do not match the actual amounts.

\*2) Income means "revenue income," expenditure means "revenue expenditure", and net income means "net revenue expenditure"

## How the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Works

As a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Japanese Red Cross Society works to “protect life, health and dignity” in Japan and abroad.

### International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement

#### International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

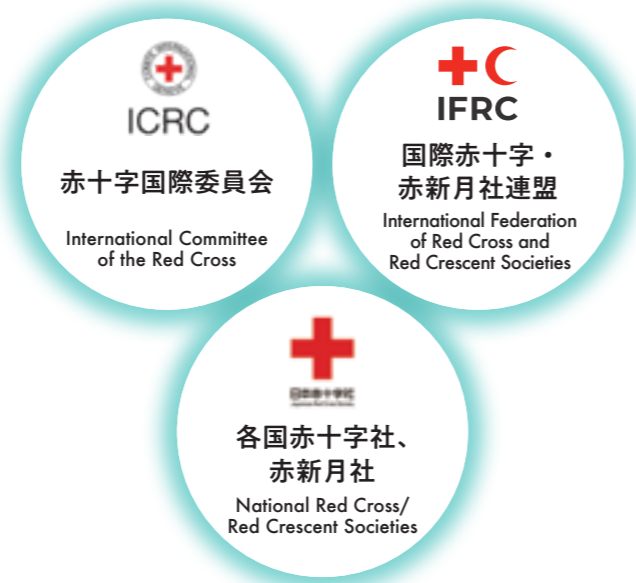
The ICRC protects the lives and dignity of people affected by armed conflict and other violence and provides necessary assistance.

#### International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

The IFRC is a federation of 191 Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. It supports and promotes activities in various countries and coordinates international activities in times of disaster and other emergencies.

#### National Red Cross/Red Crescent Societies

The Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in 191 countries and regions around the world carry out humanitarian activities rooted in each country, including relief activities in times of conflict and disaster, medical care in times of peace, health care, blood services, and youth development.



### The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement carries out world-wide humanitarian activities on the following three characteristics.

#### Common Philosophies and Principles

Our work is conducted based on common philosophies and principles that form the foundation of Red Cross activities, such as the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and international humanitarian law, and so on.

#### Power of Volunteers

The 18 million Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers are present in every corner of their communities and work to help the most disadvantaged individuals.

#### Global Network

There are Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in 191 countries/regions around the world who work together taking advantage of their different resources, know-how, and attributes.



International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in 2024 (Geneva, Switzerland)

## Overview of the Japanese Red Cross Society

### Name, Address, etc.

Name Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS)  
Address 1-1-3 Shiba Daimon, Minato-ku, Tokyo  
Phone +81-3-3438-1311

### Purpose

The purpose of the Japanese Red Cross Society is to accomplish its humanitarian tasks in line with the ideals of the Red Cross, and in compliance with the spirit of the Conventions concerning the Red Cross and the principles adopted by the international conferences of the Red Cross.

### History of Japanese Red Cross Society

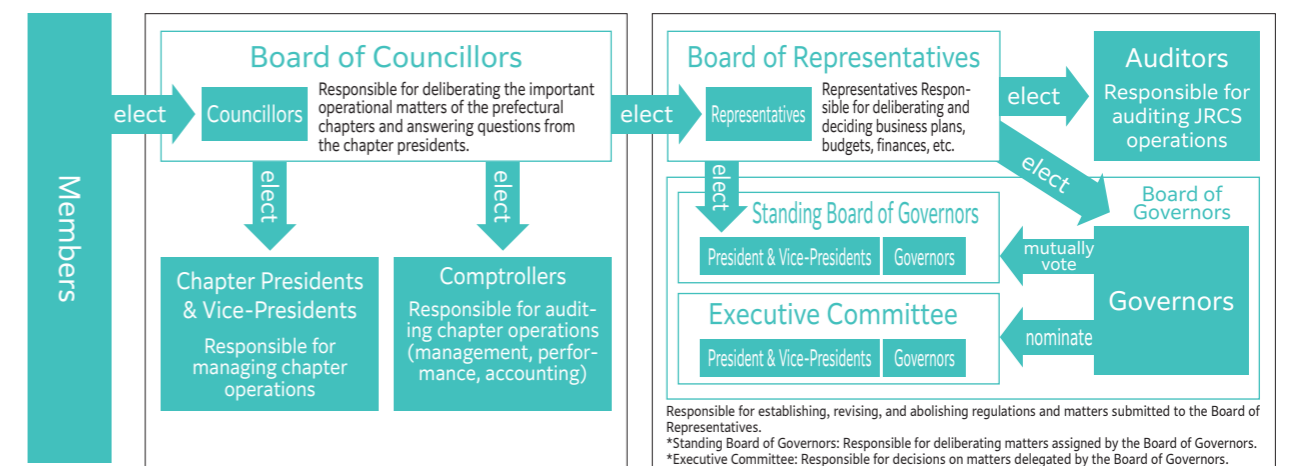
1877 The Philanthropic Society (Hakuaisha) was founded (to aid those wounded in the Seinan War).  
1886 The Japanese government acceded to the Geneva Conventions.  
1887 The Society changed its name to the Japanese Red Cross Society and was recognized as such by the International Committee of the Red Cross.  
1901 The Japanese Red Cross Society was approved as an incorporated association under the Civil Code. The Japanese Red Cross Society Regulation (later “Japanese Red Cross Society Law”) was issued under Imperial Edict No. 223.  
1947 The Japanese Red Cross Society Law was abolished.  
1952 A new Japanese Red Cross Society Law (Act No. 305) was enacted as a single ordinance based on a bill drafted by lawmakers and the Society became a special corporation established under the law. The law clarifies the public and international nature of the Japanese Red Cross Society, emphasizes its autonomy, and strictly guarantees the neutrality of the Red Cross.

### Honorary President & Vice-Presidents

Honorary President: Her Majesty the Empress  
Honorary Vice-Presidents: Her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess, Their Imperial Highnesses Prince and Princess Hitachi, Her Imperial Highness Princess Tomohito of Mikasa, Her Imperial Highness Princess Takamado

### Decision-making Bodies, etc.

The Japanese Red Cross Society Law stipulates that “The Japanese Red Cross Society is organized by members.” Members make up the foundation of the Japanese Red Cross Society organization and in paying membership fees, they have the right to elect executive officers and representatives, and to receive reports about the organization’s operations and finances. Councillors are elected from among members of the prefectural chapters to form the Board of Councillors. Representatives (223 seats) are elected by the Board of Councillors, and the elected representatives form the Board of Representatives, the highest governing body of the Japanese Red Cross Society.



## To Be a More Trustworthy Japanese Red Cross Society

Supported by the people who offer their understanding and cooperation, as we carry out programs and activities to achieve the mission of “protecting lives, health, and human dignity,” the Japanese Red Cross Society is both a highly public organization and one that is responsible for broadly contributing to society. We aim to become an organization that earns even greater trust by further strengthening our foundation, enhancing our organizational capabilities, carrying out operations appropriately, ensuring transparency, and fulfilling our accountability, thereby gaining deeper understanding and cooperation from the public.

# Board Members of the Japanese Red Cross Society

(As of April 1, 2025)

## President and Vice President

<b>President</b> <b>Atsushi Seike</b>	<b>Vice President</b> <b>Toshihiko Suzuki</b>	<b>Vice President</b> <b>Masakazu Tokura</b> <small>Chairman, Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)</small>
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## Governors (\*)= Member of Standing Board of Governors    (※)= Executive Board of Governor, etc.

<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Mamoru Morohoshi</b> <small>Former Board Member, Japan Broadcasting Corporation (*)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Yoshiki Watanabe</b> <small>Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Sweden (*)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Hikomichi Iwasa</b> <small>Advisor, Mitsui Fudosan Co., Ltd. (*)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Kumiko Bando</b> <small>Former Chief, Consumer Affairs Agency (*)</small>
<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Masago Minami</b> <small>Managing Director for Research and Study, The Yomiuri Shimbun (*)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Reiji Terasaka</b> <small>President, Reiwa Health Sciences University (*)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Yukie Osa</b> <small>Professor, Graduate School of Rikkyo University (*)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Yoshifumi Iijima</b> <small>Executive Director General, Administration Sector, Japanese Red Cross Society (※)</small>
<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Yasuo Tanaka</b> <small>Executive Director General, Operations Sector, Japanese Red Cross Society (※)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Yoichi Watanabe</b> <small>Chief Executive Officer, Healthcare Service Headquarters, Japanese Red Cross Society (※)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Shuichi Kino</b> <small>Chief Executive Officer, Blood Service Headquarters, Japanese Red Cross Society (※)</small>	<b>Headquarters</b> <b>Otohiko Hori</b> <small>Former Executive Director General, Operations Sector, Japanese Red Cross Society (※)</small>
<b>Hokkaido</b> <b>Yuzo Kudo</b> <small>Chairman, Ebetsu City Council of Social Welfare</small>	<b>Aomori</b> <b>Shoichiro Kimyo</b> <small>Board Member, Fukushimaosato</small>	<b>Iwate</b> <b>Hiroki Saito</b> <small>Former Conciliation Commissioner, Morioka Family Court</small>	<b>Miyagi</b> <b>Akiyo Ito</b> <small>Director, The Miyagi Museum of Art</small>
<b>Akita</b> <b>Yoshitaka Noguchi</b> <small>Advisor, Akita City Council of Social Welfare</small>	<b>Yamagata</b> <b>Nobuaki Seino</b> <small>Chairman of the Board, Yamagata Panasonic</small>	<b>Fukushima</b> <b>Kahoko Iima</b> <small>Chair, Junior Red Cross Supporting Volunteer Corps, Iwaki District, Fukushima Prefecture (*)</small>	<b>Ibaraki</b> <b>Takashi Otabe</b> <small>Chairman, The Ibaraki Shimbun Cultural and Welfare Foundation</small>
<b>Tochigi</b> <b>Kinichi Ishizaki</b> <small>Former Director-General, Tochigi Prefecture Late-Phase Elderly Medical Care Union</small>	<b>Gunma</b> <b>Kinichiro Machida</b> <small>Chairman, Gunma Prefecture Traffic Safety Association</small>	<b>Saitama</b> <b>Tadahiro Tone</b> <small>Honorary Chairman, Saitama Employer's Association</small>	<b>Chiba</b> <b>Hiroshi Hagiwara</b> <small>Former Chairman and Representative Director, Chiba Nippo Co., Ltd. (*)</small>
<b>Tokyo</b> <b>Norio Takano</b> <small>Mayor of Fuchu City District Chief of Fuchu City, Japanese Red Cross Tokyo Metropolitan Chapter</small>	<b>Kanagawa</b> <b>Shigeo Mogami</b> <small>Representative, Shonan Eizen Kyokai</small>	<b>Niigata</b> <b>Kiroku Takeuchi</b> <small>Chairman, Niigata Council of Social Welfare</small>	<b>Toyama</b> <b>Jyugo Asahi</b> <small>Chairman and Representative Director, Asahi Printing Co., Ltd.</small>
<b>Ishikawa</b> <b>Tadashi Taya</b> <small>Director, Taya-kai Medical Corporation</small>	<b>Fukui</b> <b>Tadashi Kiyokawa</b> <small>Chairman, KYOKAWA Plating Industry Co., Ltd.</small>	<b>Yamanashi</b> <b>Koichiro Horiuchi</b> <small>President and Representative Director, Fuji Kyuko Co., Ltd.</small>	<b>Nagano</b> <b>Takahiko Asai</b> <small>Chairman of the Board of Directors, The Hachijuni Bank, Ltd.</small>
<b>Gifu</b> <b>Koji Mizuno</b> <small>Mayor of Mizunami City</small>	<b>Shizuoka</b> <b>Yutaka Kikuchi</b> <small>Mayor of Izu City</small>	<b>Aichi</b> <b>Masaaki Katsuyama</b> <small>Executive Chairman, SANKYO KASEI SANGYO Co. Ltd.</small>	<b>Mie</b> <b>Mieko Matsuoka</b> <small>Chair of the Board, MATSUOKA KENKI Co., Ltd. (*)</small>

<b>Shiga</b> <b>Koichi Sakaguchi</b> <small>Chairman of the Board, OHMI PRESS WORKS AND FORGING Co., Ltd. (*)</small>	<b>Kyoto</b> <b>Kiyokazu Sawada</b> <small>Chair, Red Cross Volunteer Corps, Kyoto Chapter</small>	<b>Osaka</b> <b>Hiroaki Nakatani</b> <small>Chair, Liaison Council of Satellite Cities and Rural Red Cross Volunteer Corps, Japanese Red Cross Osaka Chapter</small>	<b>Hyogo</b> <b>Hiroaki Ookubo</b> <small>Former Executive Director General, Japanese Red Cross Hyogo Chapter</small>
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<b>Nara</b> <b>Kojiro Tanino</b> <small>Representative Director, Nippon Real Estate Co., Ltd.</small>	<b>Wakayama</b> <b>Soichi Kitani</b> <small>President and Representative, Mason Kitani Co., Ltd.</small>	<b>Tottori</b> <b>Kazutoshi Oda</b> <small>Former Board Member, SUMIRE COLLEGE</small>	<b>Shimane</b> <b>Tomoko Asatsu</b> <small>Chair, Shimane Prefecture Women's Federation (*)</small>
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<b>Okayama</b> <b>Norihiko Suenaga</b> <small>Chairman of the Board, OKAYAMA TOYOPET</small>	<b>Hiroshima</b> <b>Makoto Matsumura</b> <small>Chairman, HIROSHIMA Prefectural Medical Association</small>	<b>Yamaguchi</b> <b>Ayanori Tokuda</b> <small>Representative, T.N. System</small>	<b>Tokushima</b> <b>Shu Kawashima</b> <small>Chairman, Kawashima-kai Medical Association</small>
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<b>Kagawa</b> <b>Kazuhiro Tada</b> <small>Executive Managing Officer and Representative Director, The Hyakujyuni Bank, Ltd.</small>	<b>Ehime</b> <b>Fumika Ogura</b> <small>Former President, Ehime Prefecture Nursing Association</small>	<b>Kochi</b> <b>Yasuyoshi Odagiri</b> <small>Managing Director, Tosa Kibonoe</small>	<b>Hiroshima</b> <b>Makoto Toyoma</b> <small>President and Representative Director, Denki Building Co., Ltd.</small>
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<b>Saga</b> <b>Kazuhide Nakatomi</b> <small>President and Representative, Hisamitsu Pharmaceutical Co., Inc.</small>	<b>Nagasaki</b> <b>Kenichi Magoori</b> <small>Executive Chairman, Magoori Co., Ltd.</small>	<b>Kumamoto</b> <b>Saburo Aiko</b> <small>Director, Members Association, Japanese Red Cross Kumamoto Chapter</small>	<b>Oita</b> <b>Masaharu Sugihara</b> <small>President and Representative Director, Oita Kotsu Co., Ltd.</small>
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<b>Miyazaki</b> <b>Tomoyo Tashiro</b> <small>President, Oyodo Gakuen</small>	<b>Kagoshima</b> <b>Hiroyuki Mori</b> <small>Chairman, Kagoshima Education and Culture Promotion Foundation (*)</small>	<b>Okinawa</b> <b>Masaru Uema</b> <small>Advisor, The Daido Fire and Marine Insurance Co., Ltd.</small>
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## Auditor

<b>Kazuaki Kama</b> <small>Special Advisor, IHI Corporation</small>	<b>Nobuyuki Koga</b> <small>Former Chairman, Nomura Holdings, Inc.</small>	<b>Junichi Wakimoto</b> <small>Former Director General, Audit Office, Japanese Red Cross Society</small>
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The fixed number of the Board of Governors is 1 president, up to 2 vice presidents, 61 Governors and 3 auditors. Currently, there are 8 full-time board members, including the president, 1 vice president, 5 governors, and 1 auditor. The rest of the members of the Board of Governors serve without compensation.

## Audit Report

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 23, Paragraph 4 of the Statutes of the Japanese Red Cross Societies, we, the auditors, have audited the operations of the Japanese Red Cross Society for the fiscal year 2024 which are from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025. We hereby announce the methods and results of the audit as follows:

### 1. Method and details of the audit

Each auditor communicated with the President, Vice President, Governors and senior officials, etc., cooperated with the internal audit department and the auditing firm, and endeavored to collect information and improve the audit environment, and conducted the audit by the following methods: In addition, the auditors reviewed the annual report, revenue and expenditure statement and other financial statements for the relevant fiscal year.

a. The auditors attended the Board of Governors, the Standing Board of Governors and other important meetings, received reports from the President, Vice President and senior officials on the status of the execution of their duties, requested explanations as necessary, and inspected important approval documents. After the end of the fiscal year, the auditors received reports from the President on the status of operational execution and requested explanations as necessary. In addition, the Comptrollers of each Chapter reported on the results of audits regarding the management and execution of chapter operations.

b. The auditors monitored and verified whether the auditing firm to which the audit of accounting was entrusted retained its independent position and conducted appropriate audits, and received reports from the auditing firm on the status of the execution of its duties and requested explanations as necessary. In addition, the auditors were notified by the auditing firm that matters concerning the execution of its duties had been prepared in accordance with various laws and regulations, etc. provided for the proper execution of audit services, and requested explanations as necessary. In addition, the Comptrollers of each Chapter reported on the results of audits concerning the accounts of the chapters.

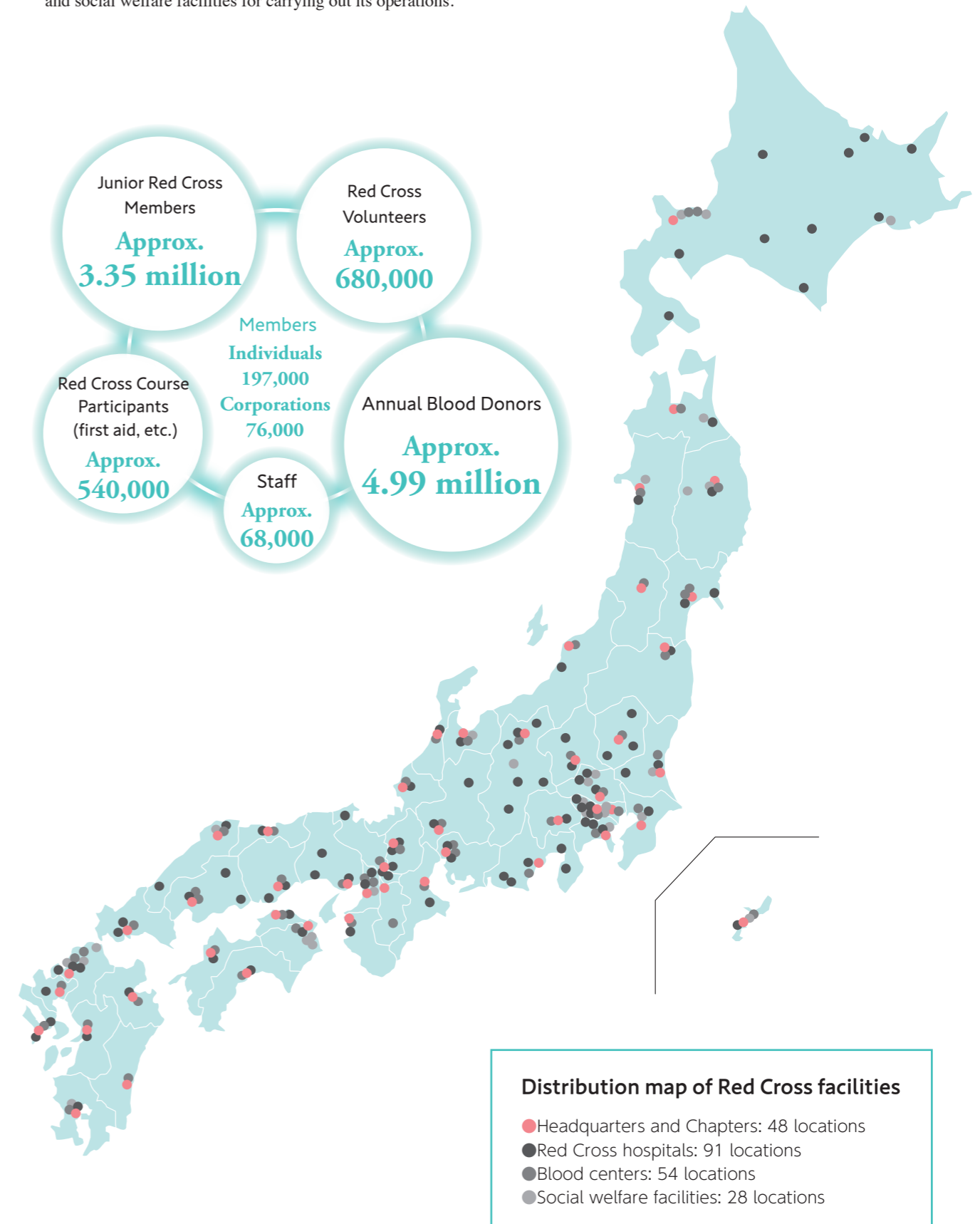
### 2. Results of Audits

- (1) Misconduct or material facts in violation of laws and regulations as well as the Statutes concerning the execution of duties by the President, Vice President and Governors are not found.
- (2) The Annual Report is considered to correctly indicate the status of the Japanese Red Cross Society in accordance with laws and regulations as well as the Statutes.
- (3) The Revenue and Expenditure Statement and other financial statements are considered to properly indicate the status of the income and expenditure, property and profit and loss of the Japanese Red Cross Society in all important respects.

June 18, 2025

Junichi Wakimoto, Auditor, Japanese Red Cross Society  
 Kazuaki Kama, Auditor, Japanese Red Cross Society  
 Nobuyuki Koga, Auditor, Japanese Red Cross Society

The Japanese Red Cross Society is supported by members who pay a certain amount of funds each year and volunteers who carry out various activities. The organization has its headquarters and chapters as its secretariat, and hospitals, blood centers, and social welfare facilities for carrying out its operations.



**Distribution map of Red Cross facilities**

- Headquarters and Chapters: 48 locations
- Red Cross hospitals: 91 locations
- Blood centers: 54 locations
- Social welfare facilities: 28 locations



人間を救うのは、人間だ。

## Annual Report 2024-2025