



The Center for Helping Each Other

“JUNTOS News!”

JUNTOS means
“Together with” in
Portuguese”

英語版

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Let's all help each other. “JUNTOS” is the center for reconstruction for the Joso area.



JUNTOS provides rooms , serves as a regional exchange center, works on a daily basis for consultation about troubles you might have, and also rents tools for cleaning up so that you can restore your lives and the Joso area may be reconstructed.

～ There is nothing different between nationalities. JUNTOS stands by you.～

Information from JUNTOS

250,000 yen support will be provided for "partially destroyed" houses.



More than 2,700 houses were judged as "partially destroyed" by the government after the flood. However, the National Act Concerning Support for Reconstructing the Livelihood of Disaster Victims only covers the houses that are worse than "Severely Destroyed". Even if water didn't reach 1m above the floor level, and the government judged the house as “partially destroyed”, owners had to throw away a lot of furniture that was on the ground floor of their house and need a lot of money to buy new furniture and to have their houses repaired.

Although fund raising came from all over Japan, it totaled just a small amount of money (only 20 or 30 thousand yen) after reaching each victim because the huge number of houses that were damaged by the flood. People are now asking the government to review the support for "partially destroyed" houses so that victims can get more financial support. For this requirement, the budget of 250,000 yen support for partially destroyed houses is now under review by the prefecture and the Joso City government.

As a result, financial support for “partially destroyed” houses, which has not been covered by the national financial support, will value 817,000 yen maximum, after combining the new financial support and Emergency Housing Repair. The new support system will be enforced after passing a vote of the congress of the prefecture and city. The financial aid will be paid into your bank account after you submit an application to the local government. Applications were sent to victims whose houses were judged as “partially destroyed”.



Special Edition: Extension of the support system for victims

■ The income limitation of Emergency Housing Repair is going to be removed.



Emergency Housing Repair is a support system under which the city government gives financial support (maximum: 567,000 yen) to victims whose houses are judged as being "partly destroyed" by the government, and is waiting to be repaired. However, under the current system, if the damage level of a victim's house is "partially destroyed", those victims cannot have financial aid unless their annual household income is less than 5 million yen because of the income limitation.

Many citizens asked the government to review this system because the income limitation is an obstacle to victims who really need help. As a result of the requirement, Ibaraki Prefecture and the Joso City government promised to make a new support system that gives financial support (567,000 yen) to each victim's family who could not get financial aid under the current system. The new system is supposed to begin after passing a vote at the congress of the prefecture and city.

■ Rebuilding farming facilities, and repairing and buying farming machinery will be subsidized by the government.

Recovering a greenhouse (includes buying materials for repairs), trellis for growing fruits, cattle shed, or repairing and buying a tractor, a rice-planting machine and combine, are subsidized by the government.

*Amount of the subsidy: 30% of the cost of the investment will be subsidized by the national budget.

(Total 60% after combining the prefecture's and local government's subsidy)

*Application: a certificate from the local government.

*Requirements: You should have obtained a loan from a financial institution or received an additional budget from a local public body. The subsidy is only for those who are going to farm.

*Subsidized investments: rebuilding or repairing facilities and machines because of the machine life expiring, starting construction work before a business plan is approved by the government, of which the construction will start after a disaster, and so on.

*Deadline: The end of November, 2015.

*More information: <

www.maff.go.jp/j/keiei/keikou/kouzou_taisaku/27_gou/index.html>

■ The support system for small and medium enterprises and business owners begins.



Emergency Housing Repair and the National Act Concerning Support for Reconstructing the Livelihood of Disaster Victims covers owners of a house, the National Act Concerning Support for Reconstructing the Livelihood covers those who had rented a house. On the other hand, for business owners, there is no other support but a public loan. Therefore, it is still difficult for business owners to continue their business.

For this reason, the government decided to make "the Support system for the Continuation of Small and Medium Enterprise's Businesses Damaged by a Disaster". Under this system, enterprises or business owners (including apartment owners) may be subsidized when they buy or fix machines or facilities for their business (maximum: 500,000 yen). The new subsidy will be enforced after passing a vote of the congress of the prefecture and city.

■ National Health Insurance premium will be exempt



If you received "a disaster afflicted housing certificate" issued by the local government and submitted an application for the exemption, your national health insurance premium will be exempt. Fill in the application and submit it to the help desk of the local government or send it by the enclosed self-addressed envelope. A full exemption is for the level of "completely destroyed" and a half exemption is for the levels of "partially destroyed" and "severely destroyed". In addition, if your household income could be less than that of 2014, you might get the exemption under any damage level. Please ask the help desk of the Health Insurance Department of the local government.

The term of the exemption is between September 2015 and August 2016. Finally, the latter stage elderly health care system premium, the nursing-care insurance premium and the national pension premium might be partially or totally exempt, depending on the level of the damage. More information: please ask the local government's desk.

■ The second public offering of the Free Housing Service is now open!

For a limited period, the government is offering free housing for victims who lost their house that was completely destroyed or those whose houses are partially (severely) destroyed but can be no longer fixed by Emergency Housing Repair.

The term that you can live in free housing depends on the situation of each house. You cannot take this offer unless you have already used the Emergency Housing Repair service. From November 15th to 19th, the second public offering of the free housing is going to be held. In addition, there is another free housing service in which the local government rents apartments. It is limited for victims whose houses were completely destroyed.

Let's Revive Our City!

JUNTOS, a help center which is mainly active in Morishita-machi, Mitsukaido, is offering not only multilingual information but also a transportation service for those who cannot go out, a lending service (trucks or other equipment for cleaning) and a delivery service of supporting materials for victims who are supposed to move out of a shelter. We are planning a salon in the city where victims can meet again, talk and share information while having something hot to eat. JUNTOS is advertising for volunteer work (driver, distributor of flyers and materials, people to help at the salon, translators). Please join us. Anytime is OK. Please refer to the contact list below.

Two months has passed since the flood happened. Many people moved out of the city, and differences of restoration between each region and family have been increasing. A double life of those who moved out of the city, in which they make a round trip between their new home and hometown, is a heavy burden for them. Through our survey, we found that what most people feel anxious about is a bleak outlook for their livelihood in the future. These are our problems that we must consider. Let's overcome the difference between regions, level of damage, and nationality and work together to revive our city.



Field:	Our Activity:	What kind of volunteers:
J Joho (Information)	Offering information for victims through JUNTOS magazine and the multilingual radio program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gathering and editing of information for victim's livelihood ▪ Distribution and advertisement of the magazine.
U Unten (Driving)	Transportation service, car sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Driver
N Naosu (Repairs)	Repairing houses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Repair volunteer
T Todokeru (Delivery)	Survey for needs and delivery and material for victim's houses with your hospitality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sorting and delivery volunteer
O Ohanashi (Talking)	Events where residents can meet up, food distribution, salons and so on.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A footbath volunteer, a volunteer counselor ▪ A food distribution volunteer
S Sumu (Living)	To make a community in the new city after moving, a nursing home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Volunteer coordinator

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