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March 17, 2011

Japan Earthquake and Tsunami How to Help

Japan has a very special place in the Portuguese's hearts and history. The first ambassadors from the West to establish contact with Japan arrived from Portugal in 1543, leading to a long-lasting friendship and cultural exchanges. Now, our friends are in desperate need our help.



Japan was hit by one of the largest earthquakes ever recorded on March 11th. The magnitude-9.0 quake spawned a deadly tsunami that slammed into the nation's east coast, leaving a huge swath of devastation in its wake. Thousands of people are dead and many more are still missing or injured.

Japan has often donated when other countries have experienced disasters, such as when Hurricane Katrina impacted the United States. Now it is our turn to help them.

Organizations Working on Relief and Recovery in the Region

AMERICAN RED CROSS: Emergency Operation Centers are opened in the affected areas and staffed by the chapters. This disaster is on a scale larger than the Japanese Red Cross can typically manage. Donations to the American Red Cross can be allocated for the International Disaster Relief Fund, which then deploys to the region to help. [Donate here.](#)

GLOBALGIVING: Established a fund to disburse donations to organizations providing relief and emergency services to victims of the earthquake and tsunami. [Donate here.](#)

SAVE THE CHILDREN: Mobilizing to provide immediate humanitarian relief in the shape of emergency health care and provision of non-food items and shelter. [Donate here.](#)

SALVATION ARMY: The Salvation Army has been in Japan since 1895 and is currently providing emergency assistance to those in need. [Donate here.](#)

AMERICARES: Emergency team is on full alert, mobilizing resources and dispatching an emergency response manager to the region. [Donate here.](#)

CONVOY OF HOPE: Disaster Response team established connection with in-country partners who have been impacted by the damage and are identifying the needs and areas where Convoy of Hope may be of the greatest assistance. [Donate here.](#)

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL CORPS: Putting together relief teams, as well as supplies, and are in contact with partners in Japan and other affected countries to assess needs and coordinate our activities. [Donate here.](#)

SHELTER BOX: The first team is mobilizing to head to Japan and begin the response effort. [Donate here.](#)

NOPA Thanks You for Your Generosity

About NOPA

NOPA is a national non-profit, non-partisan, tax-exempt organization created to address the many growing needs of the Portuguese-American community living in the United States.

Headquartered in the Greater Washington DC Region, NOPA conducts applied research, policy analysis, advocacy, and providing a Portuguese-American perspective in critical policy areas. NOPA provides Portuguese language education and culture promotion as well as capacity-building assistance to its affiliates who work at the state and local level to advance opportunities for individuals and families.

Contact Us

NOPA, Inc.
PO Box 2652
Falls Church, VA 22042

Phone: 703-389-3512
Email: info@nopa-us.org
Website: www.nopa-us.org

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