

# UTSA Cares about Japan

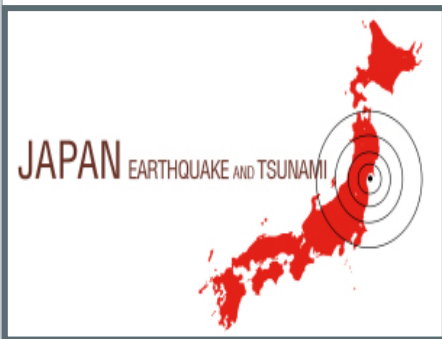
Donation Drive for the Japan Tsunami Relief: hosted by the Japanese Club



**On Friday, March 11, 2011 Japan was hit with a 9.0-magnitude earthquake 45 miles east of the Oshika Peninsula of Tohoku, lasting approximately six minutes.....**

The earthquake triggered extremely destructive tsunami waves that struck Japan just minutes after. Over 11,000 people were killed, 2,800 injured, and over 16,000 people went missing. Countless buildings were damaged or destroyed causing extensive and severe structural damage, including damage to roads, railways, and even collapsing a dam. Tohoku earthquake's magnitude makes it the most powerful earthquake to ever hit Japan.

Since the disaster took place during the spring break holiday, the UTSA community was not able to do much at the time. However, immediately after the break, the Japanese Club teaming up with the East Asia Institute along with several international students from Japan and Japanese Studies students convened and decided what they could do to help with the Japan earthquake and tsunami relief. The members all agreed to conduct



Donation drive at UTSA to help with the Japan relief



a fundraiser as their obligation as part of the international community. “My friends and I could not enjoy our spring break as we were constantly checking with friends and family members back in Japan to see if they were all safe,” said Mao Yamada, a student from Japan currently studying Communications at UTSA. “I am very glad that our campus has organized a fundraiser to help the Japanese victims in the affected areas in Tohoku.”

The Japanese Club started fundraising on both the Main Campus and the

Downtown Campus of UTSA from Tuesday, March 22 to Wednesday, March 30. The Club received various Japanese cultural items, snacks and drinks from several members and volunteer individuals, including wristbands that are engraved with “We are with you, Japan” as free giveaways. Money was collected and the club members gave out those gifts as a token of their appreciation.

The group of people helping out started off small. Gradually, more and more people offered



# UTSA cares about Japan!

UTSA Japanese Club		1001
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	Japanese Red Cross	DATE:
		\$ 4129.00
Four Thousand and One Hundred and Twenty Nine even		DOLLARS
MEMO	UTSA Japanese Club	
	AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE(S)	
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time and volunteered, including the Japanese Club members, the East Asia Institute student workers and administrator, international students from Japan, Anime Kurabu, domestic students, and kind strangers not affiliated with any groups. The atmosphere was lively. “I was excited to see the number of volunteers who came to assist at the event”, said Mimi Yu, Faculty Advisor for the Japanese Club. “I was also impressed by the generosity of the UTSA community that shows their support for Japan in this very difficult time.”

After six days of very successful fundraising, the Japanese Club was able to surpass their initial goal of \$3,000 and raised more than \$4,000. All proceeds will be donated to the Japanese Red

Cross. Special thanks go to all UTSA faculty, staff, students and administrators who stopped by the booths to drop off their donations. Kudos also goes to all of those that volunteered their time and efforts in the fundraiser. “It has been an honor for the Japanese Club at UTSA to sponsor this donation drive,” said Alice Duong, President of the club. “It shows the international communities should come together and support each other in this type of humanitarian relief. The Japanese club was glad to host this event for a very good cause.”



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