

5 Regional Programs for Persons with Disabilities, etc.

With the amendment of the Basic Law for Persons with Disabilities of June 2004, the establishment of programs for persons with disabilities that had until then been left up to the will of metropolitan and prefectural administrations as well as municipal administrations became mandatory. For the former, this marks the day of the promulgation of the amended law; for the latter it would be April 2007.

Concerning the circumstances of the establishment of different Regional Programs for Persons with Disabilities (referred to hereafter as "Programs"), at the end of fiscal 2007 Programs had been established by all metropolitan and prefectural administrations, as well as by all designated municipalities. Concerning the structures establishing these Programs, in the case of metropolitan and prefectural administrations as well as designated municipalities about 80-90% were carried out by cross-sectional investigative structures composed of related departments. In about 70% of the cases, similar measures were taken for developmental structures as well. At the time the Programs were established, almost 90% of metropolitan and prefectural administrations carried out hearings for concerned parties and encouraged participation on the part of the citizenry; nearly all designated municipalities did the same. Finally, all administrations took part in the "Regional Councils for Promoting Measures for Persons with Disabilities."

As far as the content of the Programs is concerned, of the eight fields included in the State's Basic Program for the Persons with Disabilities, "Enlightenment and Information of the Public," "Livelihood Support," "Life Environment," "Education and Training," "Employment and Labour," "Health and Medical Care" and "Information and Communication" have been included in Programs by all administrations. "International Cooperation" was included in roughly 20-30% of them.

In municipal administrations in March of 2009 (not including designated cities but including special districts, conditions that apply to all statistics in this paragraph), 1715 out of 1782 bodies (96.2%) were establishing Programs, showing an increase from the previous fiscal year when, out of 1799 bodies, 1710 were establishing Programs (95.1%). At the time of our research there were 67 bodies not establishing Programs; however, among those, fifteen are to establish Programs by the end of March 2010. Taking that into account, at the end of March 1730 bodies are establishing Programs (1715 plus fifteen, or 97.1% of the total).

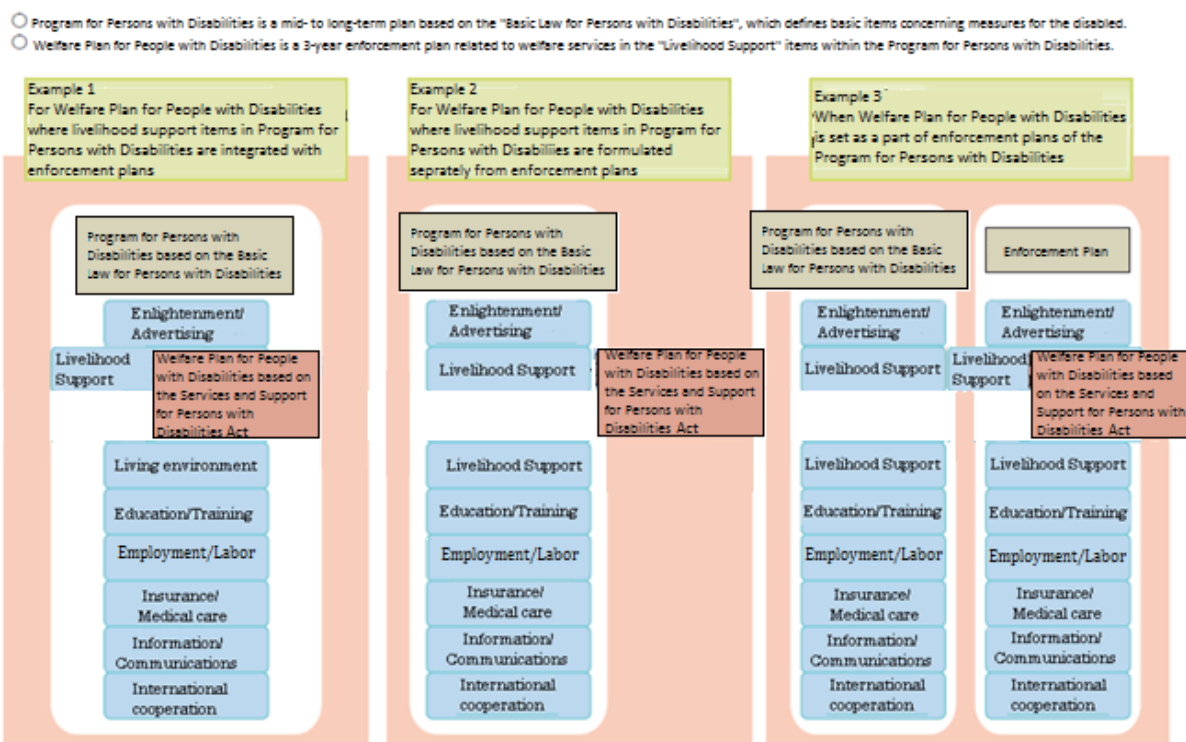
At the time of establishing Programs in municipal administrations, structures promoting or establishing measures of the Programs existed about 60% of the time. At the time of development, about 30% of them used hybridized management by related departments. Compared with metropolitan and prefectural administrations and designated municipalities this percentage is low, especially the percentage of developing structures. Finally, around 70%

of the municipal administrations carried out hearings for concerned parties and encouraged participation of the citizenry at the time of establishing Programs, but concerning "Regional Councils for Promoting Measures for Persons with Disabilities,"—not made compulsory for municipal administrations—barely 40% of them took part.

Regarding the content of the Programs, out of the eight fields included in the State's Basic Program for Persons with Disabilities, "Enlightenment and Publicity," "Livelihood Support," "Life Environment," "Education and Training," "Employment and Labor" and "Health and Medical Care" were included in more than 90% of them; "Information and Communication" was included in nearly 90% of them, while "International Cooperation" was included in no more than about 10% of the Programs.

Now, the Services and Support for Persons with Disabilities Act made mandatory the establishment of Welfare Plan for People with Disabilities by metropolitan, prefectural and municipal administrations. It is mandatory to lay these welfare programs down in accordance with programs such as regional disability programs as prescribed by *the* Basic Law for Persons with Disabilities. The relationships between Welfare Plan for People with Disabilities and programs for Persons with Disabilities based on the Basic Law for Persons with Disabilities are as shown in Chart 6.

■ Chart 6 Relations of Program for Persons with Disabilities and Welfare Plan for People with Disabilities



(Note-) Basic Plan/Enforcement Plan item lineup = when learned from national gov.

Source: Cabinet Office

Regional disability programs are "middle-term programs establishing the basic clauses related to measures for persons with disabilities based on the Basic Law for Persons with Disabilities". While these programs comprehensively cover all fields of measures for persons with disabilities, Welfare Plan for People with Disabilities are programs related to the securing of welfare services for persons with disabilities etc., and are based on the Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities Act with three years as its unit period. They are positioned primarily as enforcement programs to deal with welfare services that fall under the clause of "Livelihood Support" included in regional disability programs.

In order to develop regional measures for persons with disabilities that are undertaken in a comprehensive manner and from a hybridized point of view that pays attention to persons with disabilities themselves, in February 2010 "regional meetings for the comprehensive development of disability measures" were held in cooperation with relevant bureaus. Organized into two blocs (Tokyo and Osaka), these meetings—in which governmental organizations also participated—were places for departments to exchange views related to the disability measures of regional public organizations.

Finally, in order to support the establishment of regional programs for the metropolitan, prefectural or municipal administrations who wish to do so, a budget was secured for "dispatching advisors to establish municipal programs for persons with disabilities," said advisors being well-informed professionals who can provide appropriate counsel regarding the establishment of these programs.

○Within the "comprehensive survey on measures for persons with disabilities"—carried out in order to clarify the problems that constitute barriers to participation of persons with disabilities in society—a survey of the two fields of "Enlightenment and Publicity" and "International Cooperation" was carried out in fiscal 2009.

From the results of the "comprehensive survey on measures for persons with disabilities" enforced in fiscal 2009 by the Cabinet Office: Pronouncements of Persons with disabilities on "Enlightenment and Publicity" and "International Cooperation"

The Cabinet Office organized an opinion survey for disabled persons in order to delineate matters that constitute barriers to disabled persons' participation in society and clarify what problems are to be eliminated, based on the fact that chapter IV ("Developmental Structures, etc.") of the Basic Programs Persons with Disabilities prescribes "investigations into the efficiency of measures and tasks through the exchange of opinions with organizations related to disabled persons and through the investigation of their needs."

From December of 2009 to January of 2010, the survey was sent by mail to 4445 persons with disabilities across the country pertaining to the topics of "Enlightenment and Publicity" and "International Cooperation." As a result, 2178 people responded.

Executed primarily by the investigating council, which was composed of persons of learning and experience as well persons with disabilities and had Professor Terashima of Urawa University as chairperson, they received the cooperation of disabled persons' organizations in carrying out the survey.

First, regarding how widely known the concept of "Cohesive Society" is, 45.2% answered "if anything, not" and 27.0% answered "almost or not at all." At the same time, in the Cabinet Office survey aimed at the general public that was done in April and May of 2009 and that had the same goal (※"investigation of the awareness of discrimination based on disabilities," hereafter called the "survey of the awareness of disability discrimination"),

22.2% answered "I know of it" and 41.7% answered "I only know the name." Regarding how widely known the adoption of the Convention on the Right of Persons with Disabilities is, 45.0% answered "almost or not at all" and 38.1% answered "if anything, not." On the other hand, in the survey of the awareness of disability discrimination, for the same question 74.7% answered "I don't know it" and 22.3% answered "I know it."

Then, regarding whether or not there is discrimination and stereotyping based on disabilities, 48.5% answered "yes" and 36.4% answered "a little." On the other hand, in the survey of the awareness of disability discrimination, for the same question 48.3% responded "a little" and 43.2% answered "yes." Regarding whether or not people experienced discrimination and stereotyping based on their disabilities, 68% answered "I have," and when asked whether they currently experienced discrimination and stereotyping based on their disabilities, 50.9% answered "sometimes."

When asked "Are you familiar with the Week of Persons with Disabilities?" 44.3% answered "I know of it but I don't know the dates" and 24.6% answered "I know the dates."

Finally, in the field of "International Cooperation," when asked about their views on "information exchanges with disabled persons of all countries of Asia and the Pacific regarding life, activities and structures," 29.6% answered "I would like to exchange information with Asian countries," 29.6% answered "I don't especially want to exchange information" and 22.2% answered "I would like to be informed."

Detailed poll results are published on the Cabinet Office website (<http://www8.cao.go.jp/shougai/suishin/tyosa/index.html>).

※ Investigation of the awareness of discrimination based on disabilities (in the "Responses to Primary Questions" section below, three answer results have been added, noted as "※Opinion poll aimed at the general public").

- Purpose of survey: to grasp citizens' awareness of discrimination based on disabilities, including "denial of reasonable accommodation" as prescribed in Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- Survey target: 1050 men and women aged 15 to 79
- Survey period: April-May of 2009
- Survey technique: Internet poll using a polling agency's registration monitor.

Responses to Primary Questions

1 Current state of awareness of persons with disabilities regarding "Enlightenment and Publicity"

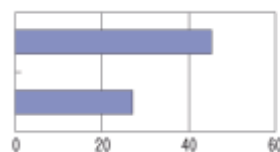
(1) "Do you think the concept of "Cohesive Society" is widely known?"

-A large number of persons with disabilities answered that the concept of "Cohesive Society" "is not widely known."
 -At the same time, in the opinion poll aimed at the general public results show that, when including people who answered "I only know the name," the comparative recognition rate of "Cohesive Society" is high.

○Opinion poll aimed at persons with disabilities

"Do you think the concept of "Cohesive Society" is widely known?"

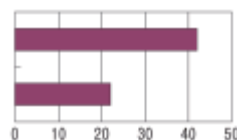
- If anything, not.....45.2%
- Almost or not at all.....27.0%



*Internet poll aimed at the general public

Recognition of the concept of "Cohesive Society"

- I only know the name.....41.7%
- I know it.....22.2%



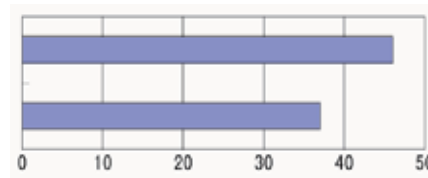
(2) "Do you think the adoption of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is widely known?"

-A large number of persons with disabilities responded that the adoption of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is "not widely known."
 -In the opinion poll aimed at the general public, results show that the comparative recognition rate of the Convention is low, including people who answered "I only know the name."

○ Opinion poll aimed at persons with disabilities

"Do you think the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities is widely known?"

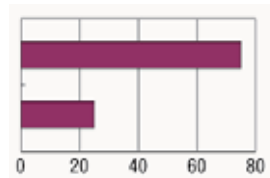
- Almost or not at all.....45.0%
- If anything, not.....38.1%



*Internet poll aimed at the general public

Recognition of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

- I don't know it.....74.7%
- I know it✘.....25.3%



* includes respondents who answered "I know of it but not in detail"

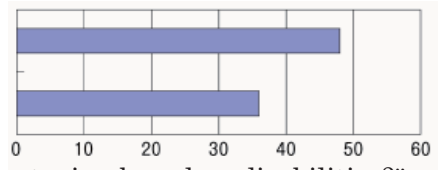
(3) "Do you think there is discrimination and stereotyping based on disabilities?"

-Regarding the existence of discrimination and stereotypes based on disabilities, when including those who answered "there are some," a majority of persons with disabilities answered "yes there are."
 -Similarly, in the opinion poll aimed at the general public, when including those who answered "there are some," a majority answered "yes there are." However, when compared with the poll aimed at persons with disabilities, the rate of people who think "there are" is slightly lower and those who think "there are some" is higher.

○ Opinion poll aimed at persons with disabilities

"Do you think there is discrimination and stereotyping based on disabilities?"

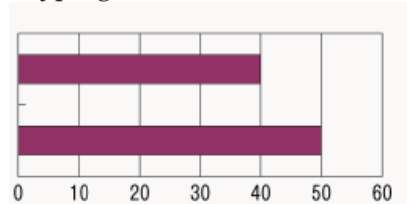
-Yes.....48.5%
 -A little.....36.4%



*Internet poll aimed at the general public

"Do you think there is discrimination and stereotyping based on disabilities?"

-Yes.....43.2%
 -A little.....48.3%



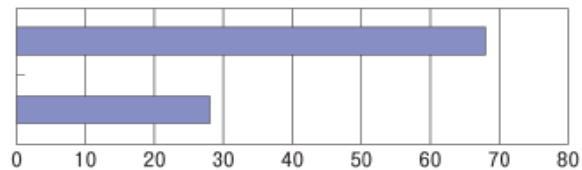
(4) "Have you experienced discrimination or stereotyping based on your disability?"

-Almost 70% of persons with disabilities have experienced discrimination or stereotyping based on their disability.

○ Opinion poll aimed at persons with disabilities

"Have you experienced discrimination or stereotyping based on your disability?"

-Yes.....68.0%
 -No.....28.1%



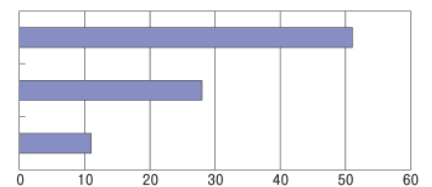
(5) "Right now, do you feel like you are being discriminated against or stereotyped because of your disability?"

-Almost 60% of persons with disabilities either feel like they are or actually are discriminated against or stereotyped because of their disability.

○ Opinion poll aimed at persons with disabilities

"Right now, do you feel like you are being discriminated against or stereotyped because of your disability?"

-I sometimes feel (and am) discriminated against.....50.9%
 -I don't really feel (and am not) discriminated against.....27.8%
 -I always feel (and am) discriminated against.....11.4%



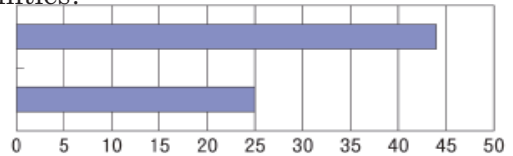
(6) "Are you familiar with the Week of Persons with Disabilities?"

-When including those who answered "I know of it but I don't know the dates," almost 70% of persons with disabilities know about the Week of Persons with Disabilities.

○ Opinion poll aimed at persons with disabilities

"Are you familiar with the Week of Persons with Disabilities?"

- "I know of it but I don't know the dates"...44.3%
- "I know the dates".....24.6%



2 Current state of awareness of persons with disabilities regarding "international cooperation"

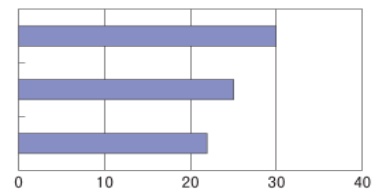
"What are your views on information exchange with persons with disabilities of all countries of Asia and the Pacific regarding life, activities and structures?"

-Nearly 30% of persons with disabilities would like to actively exchange information and, while about 20% would like to have some information, as of today more than 20% are not especially interested.

○ Opinion poll aimed at persons with disabilities

Regarding "information exchanges with persons with disabilities of all countries of Asia and the Pacific regarding life, activities and structures"

- I would like to exchange information.....29.6%
- I don't especially want to exchange information.....24.9%
- I would like to be informed.....22.2%



- Presentation of exchange programs occurring locally between persons with disabilities and constitutive members of society such as NPOs, companies, etc.

Practical Activities for a Cohesive Society with Persons with Disabilities : Example 1

"Barrier-free Hearts"

NPO Yuu Workshop, Hyogo Prefecture, Miki City

Removing the fences of disability and age, we manage a “barrier-free” coffee-house where anyone can enter without worry: the “Only Yuu Café” (open 10am- 6pm, closed Mondays). We run the café as a salon where older people, people with all sorts of disabilities, etc. gather and get to know one another through music. It is a space that anyone can easily enjoy, and where mutual help and discussion occur naturally, including with the staff.

Every Saturday we organize a music event in the café, inviting all sorts of guests. Local persons with disabilities, local elderly and the staff play music and sing together, thereby enriching their spirits. Around 30 people normally participate.

Finally, once every two or three months we hold “Only Yuu Concerts” inside and outside of town, where people with and without disabilities stand together on the same stage, deepening their mutual bond through music and enjoying a sense of togetherness.

Additionally the Urano brothers, the sight-impaired representatives of our association, are actively engaged in “Human Rights Defense Activities,” mostly by giving talks about seeing-eye dogs in the town's primary schools.

Also, we operate health-related classes called “adult cramming sessions” for the elderly. Apart from offering enjoyable health benefits for heart, mind and body we also organize lectures and musical therapy sessions in schools, hospitals, and local public facilities.



Practical Activities for a Cohesive Society with Persons with Disabilities: Example 2

"Tampopo House," a Foothold for Exchange in a Former School Dormitory

NPO Nishihara Tampopo House, Kumamoto Prefecture, Nishihara Village

We cleaned and repaired the former dormitory of Nishihara middle-school, located on the west side of Nishihara Village hall, and now use it as an independent support center for welcoming people with all three types of disabilities. We also use it as a place for local exchanges where anyone can come without worry—whether or not they have disabilities—a place where local citizens, children and adults alike, can take a little break.

-One Coin Lunch: Every week on Friday, using produce grown and harvested by our own hands, we offer a 500-yen meal that changes every week. Under the guidance of the staff and of volunteers, people with disabilities wait, serve, set tables, etc.

Local people such as the elderly living alone and mothers raising children can also come with a free spirit to have lunch, thus promoting daily communication with persons with disabilities.

-Cultivating Rice and Vegetables: With the

cooperation of local farmers we carry out farming activities, employing to organic farming techniques without chemicals. Persons with disabilities work the fields alongside staff and volunteers, transform what they harvest into wheat mixed with miso, pickled plums, refined green tea, soybean flour, yam jelly, etc. that they then sell as "Tampopo products."

-Exchange with Children: in close cooperation with the village's day-care centers, primary schools and secondary schools, we promote exchange with persons with disabilities. For example, during summer vacation we put on a work-camp in the house. By publicizing the house, we endeavor to make this a place where children can come without fear.

-Events: We frequently hold cooking classes and ceramics classes in the house where anyone with disabilities or without disabilities, can participate. Finally, we also actively take part in the town bazaar and summer festival, thus deepening local citizens' understanding of disabilities.



**Practical Activities for a Cohesive Society with
Persons with Disabilities: Example 3**

**Wheelchair Classes Given by Employees Using Wheelchairs in
Elementary and Junior High Schools**

We dispatch employees using wheelchairs and vehicles equipped for persons with disabilities to public elementary and junior high schools in Saitama during general class hours. We organize basic presentations of specially-equipped vehicles and wheelchair demonstrations, where children get to enter the

Heart-net Wheels Bureau, Saitama City "Friend-Matic" wheelchair-accessible cars (generic name of Toyota's assisted driving system for people with physical disabilities) normally used by our employees; they get to bring a wheelchair into the Hiace vehicle, experience going up and down on the lift, etc.



Work Practice for Persons with Disabilities in an Ordinary Company

We host work practice for persons with disabilities, such as people registered at the work support center and students and pupils of the special support schools of Saitama Prefecture. We offer them places to work in companies related to Saitama Toyopet Ltd.: etc. to our partner companies;

-Part-time jobs at events: during sales promotion events such as the "All Toyota Motor Show" and the "Motor Festa," persons with disabilities participate as guides, receptionists, flier distributors, etc.

-Part-time jobs and work practice in our partner companies: short-time work in the form of part-time or partial-wage jobs (for example, in Happo Life Saisei, a recycling company, they principally clean and take stickers off of collected styrofoam boxes; at our sales points they wash cars, clean the facilities,

Heart-net Wheels Bureau, Saitama City



guide clients during compulsory car inspections, classify catalogues, etc.);

-The office of Heart-net Wheels also takes in people with physical or intellectual disabilities. We ask them to fabricate business cards, point-of-purchase advertisements, and uesu (chamois), but also to see to the shipping of direct mail and the "Heart-net Wheels Newsletter."

Practical Activities for a Cohesive Society with Persons with Disabilities: Example 4

A salon for exchanges between local citizens and persons with disabilities using the empty storefronts of a shopping mall

NPO Step by Step, Kumamoto Prefecture, Amakusa City

By renovating empty storefronts of the central shopping mall and opening them (see the list below), not only are we offering a place for children of special support classes and special support schools to be or to work happily, but we also provide a salon for them where guardians and local citizens can gather for daily exchanges. Children and persons with disabilities are able to exchange with local citizens who come to the stores and also with the volunteer staff—mainly composed of local high school students—while tending to the cash register, sales, deliveries, etc.

-Miaw Miaw Bakery: a bakery where persons with disabilities make, bake and sell bread, cakes, cookies, etc. up-front, using only additive-free ingredients produced in Japan.

External sales in handicapped children's school are regularly organized.

-Café Another Page: a café space opened in the Amagusa-Takarajima "Port" International Exchange Center, located in the shopping mall.

Persons with disabilities offer sweets—made in the Miaw Miaw Bakery—and beverages, tend to the register, provide catering to meeting

rooms in the building, clean up afterwards, etc.

Local citizens of all ages—from children to adults—come to the café and use it, making this place a foothold for daily exchanges, a foothold with the goal of realizing a symbiotic society.

-Sute Vegetables: a grocery selling dozens of vegetable species year-round that works in close cooperation with local farmers (almost 30 farms)

Persons with disabilities help bag the vegetables brought in by farmers, stock products, tend to the register, etc.

These stores are managed by Step by Step, which also operates other local daily life support activities: for- moving support and temporary daycare support.



Practical Activities for a Cohesive Society with Persons with Disabilities: Example 5

"Community Friends" putting rich color into the lives of Persons with Disabilities

NPO PAC Guardians, Chiba Prefecture, Funabashi City

Through our "community friend" activities we promote diffusion and enlightenment, dealing mainly with persons who need judgment support such as persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities. We also work at establishing "community friends."

A "community friend" is someone who spends time with a person with intellectual or developmental disabilities—their "partner"—enjoying some free time or social participation time together, enlarges the social contact zone of their partner and helps broaden their partner's involvement with local citizens.

It is said that having people with whom one can spend time engaging in daily, trivial conversations without any sense of social obligation or sense of entitlement is extremely important for human beings, yet it is the existence of these type of people that is most lacking in the lives of persons with disabilities. If there were people who understood their disabilities from a point of view different than that of their parents or social-welfare workers, their lives could become much richer.

Concretely, all sorts of activities happen on a monthly basis: going shopping or eating together, or in the case of persons who cannot go out going to have a chat at

home, etc. Ten partners have ten different ways to spend that time together.

As a rule, social relations of persons with disabilities often end with those with their family and social-welfare/education workers. We think that through "community friend" activities these "friends in town" bring color to the lives of persons with disabilities.

The activities PAC Guardians—a functioning entity—were originally aimed at developing the use of guardianship for adults, as well as for counseling and support. We started the "community friend" program because we thought it was necessary to create a system in our area where all sorts of people would intermingle and get involved with persons with disabilities, bringing support into their lives.

We go on developing both of these important activities: guardianship of adults and livelihood support in order to construct the basis of daily life, and "community friends" in order to bring rich color to their lives.



Practical Activities for a Cohesive Society with Persons with Disabilities: Example6

Sara Sports Club

The "Sara Sports Club" was created in April of 2009 as a comprehensive local sports club. We organize sports lessons and events to chip away at social problems of recent years, problems that hit close to home: declining physical strength of children, problematic behavior of young boys, dilution of social ties due to the weakening of local vitality, the need to improve physical strength and health for the elderly, the need for participation of persons with disabilities in society, and the lack of public comprehension of the diversity of disability types.

We formed our sports club in order to create an environment where anyone, regardless of age and whether or not they have disabilities, can participate without worries in sporting or cultural activities. Our goal is to deepen mutual understanding through exchanges that go beyond the boundaries of generation and disability, as well as to mutually enhance peoples' potential by linking together persons with and without disabilities.

We plan and manage the content of classes and events with the priority that all participants of the sports club, members and volunteer staff alike, are able to enjoy them.

We endeavor to think of and look for activities that persons with disabilities can do themselves, and not activities that "we can do for them."

We believe this is "exchange" in the real

sense of the term.

(Content of Main Activities)

- Balloon Ballet Classes: Once a month we organize a balloon ballet class in which people with and without disabilities can participate and enjoy.
- Body-Futsal Classes: Once a month we organize a class of a type of soccer where you use your entire body (excluding hands). Children in wheelchairs can participate, and when people with and without disabilities exchange passes and score a goal, it's a real thrill.
- Other than that we take part in the Takamatsu festival and organize all sorts of events with the members of the club, broadly deepening exchanges with local citizens, regardless of whether they have disabilities or not.
- Depending on the content of classes and events, the percentage of participants with and without disabilities is generally 50/50, which contributes greatly to the deepening of their mutual understanding.



Practical Activities for a Cohesive Society with Persons with Disabilities: Example 7

"Challenged" Musicals

NPO Ichikawa Town Citizen Culture Network, Chiba Prefecture, Ichikawa City
What started as an activity that animated our cultural organization—performing original musicals as a group, children and adults, with or without disabilities, all together—became an exemplary model, as it created all sorts of support networks, that opened widely onto the field of social welfare.

Since 2005 we've been giving one independent performance a year. A total of almost 200 people get involved every year: 50 children and adolescents with all sorts of disabilities, 20 members of their families, 30 children and adults without disabilities, 40 to 50 volunteer supporters (mainly students), 50 artistic directors, as well as stage and production staff (both specialists and citizens).

The musicals are performed twice in Ichikawa. Since 2007, a performance is also given in Chiba. Every performance attracts almost 2000 spectators.

Participants are assembled publicly every year, and more than half of them are repeat participants. The participation fee is 10,000 yen per person.

After a total of 20 rehearsals over four months—taking place, as a rule every Sunday from 1pm to 5pm—we then move to stage rehearsal and finally to audience performance.

