

Chapter 4 Establishment of Foundation of Daily Lives

1. Measures for Lifestyle Stability

“Services and Supports of Persons with Disabilities Act,” in which prescribed that the supports like the benefits relating to the necessary welfare services for persons with disabilities and other supports shall be provided so that persons with disabilities can perform independent normal daily activities or have a social lives depending on their abilities and aptitude, was partially enacted in April, 2006, and fully enacted in October of the year.

After enforcement of this Act, we have taken the repeated measures to alleviate a drastic change so as to fix the act, and lightened the burden of users, and strengthened business foundation of business owners.

Deliberations have been conducted for 2 years, in “Comprehensive Welfare committee” under the Task Force, for providing the seamless support without those who cannot receive the benefits of the system, and building a regional livelihood support system based on an individual needs. In August, 2011, “Skelton Proposal” was summarized and based on this proposal, “Bill Pertaining to Improvement of the Relevant Laws to Take a New Healthcare and Welfare Measures for Disabled Person, with aiming at realization of coexistence in a Local Community” including the content that “Services and Supports of Persons with Disabilities Act” is regarded as “Total Support Act for Persons with Disabilities,” was endorsed by the Cabinet, submitted to the Diet on March, 2012, enacted on 20th June of the year, and became effective on 1st April, 2013 (Part of it is to become effective on 1st April, 2014).

And, in order to fully offer the supports for persons with disabilities in a local community even in the period until “Total Support Act for Persons with Disabilities” becomes effective, ability-to-pay principle has been applied to the burden of user, and the supports for children with disabilities have been strengthened and the counseling supports improved, by a partial amendment of Services and Supports of Persons with Disabilities Act, Child Welfare Act and others in December, 2010.

【Main measures】

- Prescribed in Total Support Act for Persons with Disabilities is “Providing integrated services irrespective of type of disability,” “One-dimensional implementation by municipalities,” “User-oriented service system,” “Promotion of helping the persons with disabilities who work at welfare facilities to get employed in general work places,” “Increase the transparency and clarification of the process of arriving at decision of benefit payment,” “Strengthening the mechanism of sharing the burden each other,” and “Promotion of Well-planned Building of service foundation based on Programme for Persons with Disabilities’ Welfare.”
- Such support services are provided that counseling support expert makes the service use programme so that persons with disabilities and the guardians of children with disabilities can use the welfare services for persons with disabilities in an adequate way.
- At the time of formulating a welfare programme for persons with disabilities, prefectures and municipalities have set the numerical target and the anticipated

requirement of the relevant service necessary for this, assuming FY2014 as target year, from the standpoint of promoting to allow persons with disabilities to work at general work places and to live in a local community.

- General counseling support services for persons with disabilities and the guardians of children with disabilities have been decided to provide in a local municipality of the user by integrating a responsible organization of business and the local municipality of the user, irrespective of type of disability.
- Rehabilitation consultation office and others that undertakes a role of providing specialized technical support and the information to municipalities is established in every prefecture, in which advisors for physically persons with disabilities, intellectually persons with disabilities and children, and mental health welfare advisor are staffed.
- In order for persons who have been imprisoned in correctional institutions and are difficult to care for themselves to help receive welfare service immediately after they are released from correctional institutions, counseling support system using social welfare counselor in correctional institutions is established, and also “Community Life Stabilizing Support Center” is established, and by the Center working together with a probation office, building a support system to rehabilitate is promoted.
- Prefectures Councils of Social Welfare, Councils of Social Welfare in Cabinet-Order designated Cities, Municipal or District Councils of Social Welfare and others that the welfare services are commissioned are running the services (services to assist with the utilization of welfare services) to assist relating to an adequate use of welfare service and daily financial management, so that people who are elderly with dementia, persons with intellectual disabilities and persons with mental disorder and others, and not fully competent to making decision can live independently in a local community.
- Now that abusing persons with disabilities at home or in facilities are emerging recently and become an object of public concern, prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities are considered as extremely critical issues to maintain dignity of persons with disabilities, and the Cabinet moved to validate “Persons with Disabilities Abuse Prevention Act,” in June, 2011 the ruling and opposition parties have arrived at agreement, “Act Pertaining to Prevention of Abuse Against Persons with Disabilities and the Supports for guardians of Persons with Disabilities” was enacted unanimously in the month, and became effective in October, 2012.
- Efforts to prevent abuse against persons with disabilities
 - 1) Support project of countermeasure for prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has been implementing “Support project of countermeasures for prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities” to

support the efforts for prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities since FY2010, and in FY2011, responsible organization has been extended from prefectures to municipalities. Specifically, implemented is that along with seeking to establish cooperation system between authorities concerned in a region, visiting a home to talk to person with disability who has suffered for abuse in past, trainings on prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities, analysis of abuse cases and others.

2) Fostering human resources involved in prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities and defending their rights

The central government gives training courses for fostering people who might undertake a leading role in each prefecture, in terms of prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities and defending their right.

- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare is promoting Parent Mentor activity that a parent of a person with developmental disorder offers a mental support for another parent of child with developmental disorder, and implementing “Project of Building Support System for Persons with Developmental Disorder,” in which training workshop and others are run to promote the introduction of a assessment tool for early discovery of developmental disorder, and understanding the necessity of the support for it.
- We were working on the establishment of “Support Center for Persons with Developmental Disorder” to provide the supports for persons with developmental disorder and their families comprehensively. As of end of FY2011, it has been established in 65 prefectures and/or designated cities.
- “London Paralympics 2012” took place in London, England, and 4,310 athletes (of which 134 person from Japan) and 2,430 (of which 121 from Japan) coaches and executives came to participate from 164 countries and regions.
- In Basic Law for Sports, the basic idea is specified as encouraging persons with disabilities to play sports, and also in “Basic Programme of Sports” formulated in March, 2012, based on the provision of this Law, it is specified that irrespective of age, sex disability and other, the creation of an environment where a wide-range of people can participate in sports depending on individual interest, aptitude and others is a basic policy issue.
- “The 12th National Art and Culture Festival for Persons with Disabilities in Saga” took place in Saga Prefecture, with a goal of improving the lives of persons with disabilities, deepening public understanding and knowledge of disabilities and contributing to promote the social participation and independence of persons with disability.
- Under the promotion project of development of welfare equipment for practical use, based on “Law Pertaining Research and Development of Welfare Equipment and the Promotion of Popularization,” with a goal of improving the quality of live of persons with disability, the elderly people and caregivers, research and

development cost is granted to private companies and others that are developing an imaginative welfare equipment for practical use, and have superior technology, through New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO).

- Based on the trends of international standardization, standardization of a welfare equipment using Japanese Industrial Standard (JIS) is being promoted. In FY2011, as a standard of welfare equipment, walking aid (JIS T 9264) and walking stick fixed at elbow (JIS T 9266) are newly established.
- Along with participating in activities in Technical Committee of Packaging (ISO/TC122) of International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and Technical Committee of Ergonomics (ISO/TC159), the draft standard cosponsored by Japan-Korea-China was submitted to these Committees, and until FY2011, five standards have been published as international standards.
- Along with fostering and securing welfare professionals like social welfare counselor, we secure people engaged in rehabilitation, like physical therapist that have a specialized skill and knowledge, and improve their qualities.

2. Measures of Healthcare and Medical Service

In addition to promotion of prevention, early discovery and treatment of diseases that are at the root of a disability, and the improvement of school safety, by medical examination, the medical services, medical rehabilitation and other services are provided for persons with disabilities.

Along with promoting the measures for mental healthcare and medical services, such as promoting mental health, early discovery and treatment of psychiatric diseases, comprehensive countermeasures for suicide is being promoted, based on “Outline of Comprehensive Countermeasures for Suicide” as a fundamental and comprehensive guideline for measures for suicide relating to “Basic Act for Countermeasures for Suicide.”

【Main measures】

- Total medical examination is conducted for all the children aged 1 and half years and 3 years who are in the most important period, from the aspects of physical and mental development in childhood, and based on the result we give an appropriate guidance.
- Since FY 2008 we have been developing a national activity called “National Activities of Healthy lifestyle” as a national activity, focusing on “Appropriate exercise,” “Proper diet” and “Stop smoking,” and since FY2011 we have further promoted the countermeasures for lifestyle diseases by starting “Smart Life Project” that are further familiarized and developed the activities, and others.
- In the revision of medical treatment fee in FY2012, assessment of hospital treatment for very seriously ill children or persons has been improved.

- In order to bring support to higher cortical dysfunction, strategic support organizations were posted in metropolitan and prefectural administrations. Other focus areas include: 1. specialized counseling concerning persons with higher cortical dysfunction through counseling support coordinators; 2. enhancement of local networks of relevant organizations; 3. the "task force for the propagation of higher cortical dysfunction support," offering training related to support techniques for higher cortical dysfunction.
- The government has been promoting countermeasures for suicide comprehensively, under Basic Act for Countermeasures for Suicide and “Outline of Countermeasures for Suicide” (endorsed by the Cabinet in June, 2007) based on this Act.