

Rainbow Times

New Children's Social Care Vision

With the amendment of the Child Welfare Act in 2016, it was clearly stated that the child is the subject of rights, and national and local governments are to support guardians. In order to realize these, the "New Children's Social Care Vision" was announced in August 2017. The vision states that social care will be available for all children from the prenatal stage to the age when they can be independent, and social care will give priority to a child's rights and needs, while taking into account the needs of the family. In principle, the participation of the child and the family and the cooperation of professional workers are part of every phase, from general child-rearing support or cases where support is necessary at home to the care of children living away from home. Nine pillars are listed in the process for realizing the vision.

- (1)Construction of family and children support systems for local authorities: Construction of a social work system that meets needs; enhancement of the support menu
- (2)Reform of child guidance centers and temporary protection: support for setting up child guidance centers in core cities and special districts; functional segregation of inquiry, protection, placement, and support; functional partitioning of temporary protection
- (3)Strengthening a comprehensive foster care support system (fostering organizations) and reform of the foster care system: Increase the amount of foster parents and improve the quality of care; establish new types of foster care
- (4)Promotion of special adoption as a permanent solution (the securing of permanency): Reform of the legal system; construction of a support system through collaboration between child guidance centers and private agencies
- (5)Guaranteed family-based care for infants, and making the goal an approach with a clearly defined maximum timeframe for care: Improvement of fostering organizations and increase the rate of placement in foster care; making infant homes multifunctional
- (6)Drastic reform of care provision and residential care according to needs: Establishment of system for welfare placement costs; enhancing residential care facility functionality
- (7)Support for independence (leaving care, after care): Preparation of independence support guidelines; promotion of continuous support while in care and after leaving care
- (8)Improvement of personnel expertise, etc.: Evaluation of training effectiveness; construction of an evaluation mechanism for temporary protection and social care and of an advocate system; streamlining of data
- (9)Review of prefectural plans, and governmental support: review based on the Vision; efforts to secure budget from the

Every process has a specified number of years and numerical target. While "maximum speed" is required for the initiatives, it is clearly stated that "careful consideration" should be given so that children will not be put at a disadvantage. It must not be a hasty process with consequences that will cause harm to children. It is important to always give priority to the interests of the child, move forward steadily and stably, to realize the principles. (Minamiyama)

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/houdou/0000173868.html> (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japanese)

INFORMATION

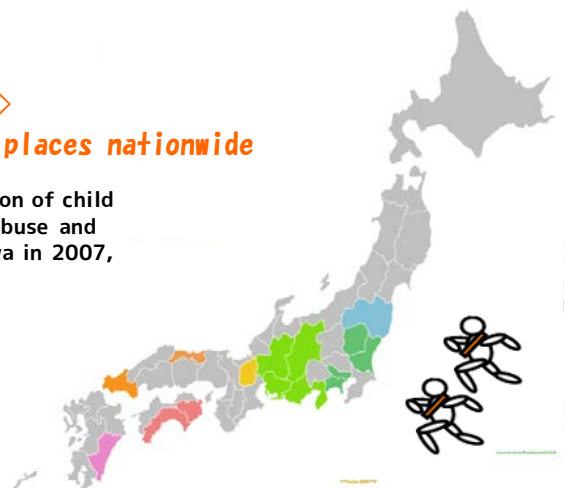
<<Nov. is the Child Abuse Prevention Month in JAPAN!>>

Orange Ribbon TASUKI Relay held at various places nationwide

By wearing the Orange Ribbon TASUKI that is the symbol of prevention of child abuse and relaying that message, we call for awareness of child abuse and neglect prevention. The TASUKI relay started in Tokyo and Kanagawa in 2007, has expanded every year, and this year will be held in 14 regions

**If you are nearby,
we hope that you will support us!**

Check the URL
<http://orange-tasuki.net/>



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