

From the “Takatori Relief Base” to the “Takatori Community Center”



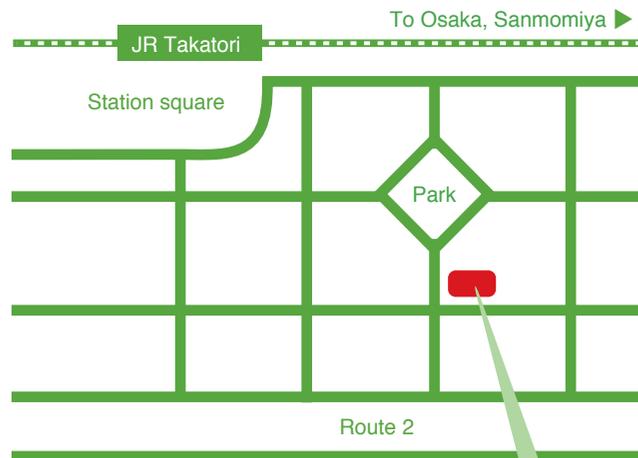
Located in an area where 10% of the residents are of foreign nationality, the Takatori Community Center is the successor to the “Takatori Kyuen Kichi” (Takatori Relief Base), which acted as a hub for the Takatori

Catholic Church’s volunteer efforts after the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake of 1995. As time went on, the Center evolved from a facility providing emergency relief to local residents, to one that houses numerous organizations with the shared aim of building a community where multicultural coexistence is an everyday reality. In the year 2000, the Center was reestablished as a legal entity and came to be known by its current name.

The Center consists of a network of 9 different organizations working together to build a new type of community, where people with different languages, cultures, races, and nationalities, etc., can live together as equals.

Each organization has its own specialized field in which it performs a variety of independent activities, in order to provide such things as multilingual information, educational services, IT related assistance, support activities to promote the self sufficiency of elderly and disabled individuals, and activities to support foreign residents and their communities (in the form of self-empowerment organizations). At the same time, there have been numerous occasions where these various organizations have been brought together, so as to allow them to share and consolidate their knowledge and personnel toward the goal of completing a common project.

Even as each of these individual NPO/NGOs pursue and develop their own independent activities, the Takatori Community Center continues to operate as a single, cohesive network that is highly adaptable to the demands of today. All of this is made possible by the wealth of talent offered by each individual organization, as well as the efforts of the countless individual members involved.



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Takatori Community Center



Welcome to Takatori Community Center!

Takatori Community Center houses 10 nonprofit and non-governmental organizations. Each group strives to build a community where residents with different cultures, nationalities, ages and disabilities can understand each other and enjoy a fulfilling life as members of the same community. Not only the staff members of 10 different organizations participate in activities, volunteers, interns and researchers from around the world are also involved. Interaction between people with diverse backgrounds is what drives us to the next step to build a multicultural society in Japan.

Self-help group for Spanish-speaking residents in Japan

Hyogo Latin Community

Tel/Fax 078-739-0633

This organization began its activities in 2000 as part of the World Kids Community, and it became its own independent organization in April of 2011. Members from Latin America and Japanese members form the core of this group, and it primarily engages in various efforts to improve the livelihood of residents from Spanish speaking countries, as well as to create opportunities for interaction between Japanese and Latin American residents in the community. Spanish speaking members play a central role in offering daily life consultations in Spanish, producing a monthly magazine and radio show, and conducting mother-tongue and learning support classes for children.

Supporting the Vietnamese community

VIETNAM yeu men KOBE

Tel/Fax 078-736-2987

VIETNAM yeu men KOBE organizes a variety of activities, carried out by the Vietnamese members of the community themselves, with the aim of building a more hospitable community and a society based on coexistence. It provides a wide variety of services for Vietnamese residents, such as consultations for everyday issues in Vietnamese, mother tongue language classes for children, and translation/interpretation, etc. It also offers activities to actively promote interaction between Vietnamese and Japanese people.

Supporting children with multicultural backgrounds and striving for educational change

World Kids Community

Tel 078-736-3012 Fax 078-737-3187

As more and more children with foreign backgrounds establish long term residence in Japan, it is imperative that further efforts are made to improve the everyday conditions that they are faced with. Toward this end, World Kids Community provides activities to help these young people develop self-confidence, as well as activities for their parents to establish their sense of awareness as active members of the community, with the ultimate goal of helping the foreign resident community achieve self sufficiency. As part of its efforts, it offers "Re:C", which is an activity that provides children of multicultural backgrounds with a means to express themselves creatively.

Leaf Green is here to assist you in everyday life and elderly care!

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Leaf Green

Tel 078-731-8577 Fax 078-731-8587

With the goal of realizing a society where senior citizens and individuals with disabilities are able to continue living in the communities they call home (through means, such as mutual assistance), Leaf Green provides home nursing, transportation, and childcare assistance to individuals who are eligible for assistance under the Nursing-care Insurance System/Services and Supports for Persons with Disabilities System, as well as those who do not qualify for assistance. Furthermore, during the day, Leaf Green offers basic nursing-care services, in addition to the "Yui" public salon, which acts as a meeting place for senior citizens. Through these activities, Leaf Green strives to build a vibrant community where all residents can enjoy peace of mind.

Helping Asian women to be self-reliant

Asian Women's Empowerment Project (AWEP)

Tel/Fax 078-734-3633

he Asian Women's Empowerment Project (AWEP) was established in 1994 with the goal of providing support to Filipina women who formerly worked in Japan but have since returned to their home country. Activities include introducing fair trade products made by both independent groups of Asian women and small-scale manufacturers to Japan, in addition to providing consultation for foreign women living in the Kobe area (a service it began providing after The Great Hanshin-Awaji earthquake). By transforming the existing structures of society that perpetuate inequality based on nationality, gender, and one's place of origin, and by harnessing the talents of each of its individual members, AWEP hopes to realize a society where people can live in active cooperation with one another.

Translation and interpretation services, Web/DTP production

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Multilanguage Center FACIL

Tel 078-736-3040 Fax 078-737-3187

FACIL provides translation services for information that is deemed essential to the needs of the local foreign community, interpreters who are needed in everyday situations, and in general, works toward the realization of a multilingual community setting. At the same time, it also provides services that meet the multilingual/multicultural needs of both foreign and non-foreign residents, government offices, medical institutions, and local businesses. Although FACIL initially offered its specialized expertise as a "volunteer" service, it has since evolved into a community business that provides such services in 51 different languages.

Broadcasting information on community and everyday life in 10 languages

(Specified Nonprofit Corporation)

Community Radio Station FMYY

Tel 078-737-3196 Fax 078-737-3187

FMYY is a community radio station broadcasting its message of "multicultural coexistence and humane community building." The members of the community are diverse and participate in producing and broadcasting radio programs. Moreover, FMYY acts as a community salon where members of the community can gather and share "live" information and cultivate knowledge in a real world setting. We aim to act as a portal that utilizes the Internet to connect Nagata with the world.

Helping nonprofit organizations with problems/questions related to computer

Hyogotech

E-Mail tech@tcc117.org

Information Communication Technology (ICT) plays an integral role in the daily operations of NPOs and in civic activities in general. By solving various issues related to ICT, and by making it possible to effectively utilize such technology, we aim to contribute to network building to connect organizations and individuals involved in providing IT assistance.

Japan office of World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters

AMARC Japan Working Group

Tel 078-737-3205 Fax 078-737-3187

Bringing together over 5,000 community radio stations that broadcast in 117 countries and territories across the world, the international NGO "World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters" (abbreviated in French as AMARC) uses international cooperation as a means to promote activities that further the development of community radio as well as all forms of civilian-driven radio broadcasting. The AMARC Japan Working Group acts as its local Japanese office, which is engaged in such activities as providing support to disaster related FM radio stations.

Community development network and management

Northern Noda Hometown Network

Tel 078-735-9388

The Northern Noda Hometown Network is a network made up of organizations, groups, and individuals which share a common love for the Northern Noda region. By making use of its extensive experience in post-disaster community building, it actively helps in solving everyday issues that face the local community. Furthermore, it acts to share and disseminate lessons learned from past activities within and without the community.