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PRESS RELEASE

One Month Later: World Vision provides hope for Japanese earthquake and tsunami survivors

Canadians donate \$2 million

MISSISSAUGA, ON, April 8, 2011 – Losing their homes, schools and even family and friends – Japanese children attending World Vision's child-friendly spaces are struggling with emotional and psychological trauma one month after the devastating earthquake and tsunami hit northeastern Japan.

"I am concerned about my family members who are still missing, such as my grandparents and my aunt," says Narumi, an 11-year-old girl who visited one of World Vision's child friendly spaces. "I am also worried whether I can go to school with the same friends."

As a child-focused organization, World Vision has established child-friendly spaces in the communities of Tome and Minami Sanriku, where children play, learn and receive counselling to help them deal with the traumas they may be suffering in the aftermath of the disasters.

World Vision is also currently working with local authorities to deliver relief supplies through evacuation centres and shelters in Miyagi prefecture, an area hard hit by the disasters. These supplies include water, blankets, diapers and hygiene kits for children and their families.

World Vision is carrying out a 90-day emergency relief plan, which will be followed by recovery and rehabilitation efforts to help families get back on their feet and support plans to rebuild communities. Due to the severity of the damage suffered in northeastern Japan and the scale of the need, World Vision's work will continue for the next 24 months.

World Vision Canada has raised more than \$2 million for Japan relief efforts. As a result, World Vision Canada has now received enough donations to fund its Japan response and is encouraging those who wish to help its disaster relief efforts elsewhere in the world to donate to its general Disaster Response Fund.

"Canadians have once again shown their generosity to others in their time of need. World Vision Canada is extremely grateful to all those who have contributed to help children and their families in Japan as they struggle to rebuild their lives."

—Dave Toycen,
President, World Vision
Canada

CONTACTS

Bob Neufeld, 905-565-6200 (ext 3265) or mobile: 647-622-2045, Robert_Neufeld@WorldVision.ca
Britt Hamilton, 905-565-6200 (ext 3973) or mobile: 416-419-1321, Britt_Hamilton@WorldVision.ca

World Vision is a leading Christian relief, development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice. Inspired by our Christian values, we are dedicated to working with the world's most vulnerable people. We serve all people regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or gender.