

Initiative 10 Promotion of emotional care

[Outline of Approach]

- The Iwate Prefecture Emotional Care Center and regional emotional care centers in four coastal locations were established to reduce the mental burden on survivors of the disaster by promoting intensive emotional care for each and every survivor.
- Many children have experienced losses due to the disaster and are living under a great deal of stress. The Iwate Children's Care Center is working hand in hand with health, medical care, welfare, and education institutions to provide emotional and mental care for the children.

Approach 1: Establishment of the Emotional Care Center

To address emotional care over the mid- to long-term, the Iwate Prefecture Emotional Care Center was established in Morioka in February 2012 and another four centers in Kuji, Miyako, Kamaishi and Ofunato cities the following month.

The regional emotional care centers are collaborating with the disaster survivor counselling centers (in seven coastal municipalities) on house visits, checkups, health education and other health activities in the region, and developing human resources by training personnel to act as suicide counselors.



Opening of Iwate Prefecture Emotional Care Center



Training seminar for suicide counsellors

Iwate Prefecture Emotional Care Center HP <http://www.i-mcc.jp/>

Approach 2: Establishment of Iwate Children's Care Center

From June 2011, a Children's Emotional Care Center was established in Miyako, Kamaishi and Ofunato cities, where children and their families were able to have consultations with nurses and teachers.

In May 2013, in order to continue this operation over the mid- to long-term, we established the Iwate Children's Care Center with aid from the State of Kuwait and the Japanese Red Cross Society.



Multidisciplinary case conference



Multidisciplinary care team

The Iwate Children's Care Center is operated via Iwate Medical University, where they conduct visits to child psychiatry clinics and disaster-affected areas to provide consultations, engage and train professional staff such as child psychiatrists and clinical psychologists, and also implement comprehensive training for counselors, teachers and supporters of the region.

Iwate Children's Support Center website http://www.iwate-med.ac.jp/hospital/iwate_children/