



Australia-Japan Society (Inc).WA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Groundswell of support for relief efforts for the Japan disaster

The Australia-Japan Society of Western Australia (AJSWA) is working with other grass root organisations in Perth to facilitate local fundraising and relief efforts for Japan in the wake of the disastrous earthquake and tsunami which struck on Friday, March 11.

AJSWA President Patrick Whight said the Society was shocked and saddened by the news reports from the Tohoku region in Japan.

“The Society’s committee and members have expressed great sympathy for all the families affected by these disasters,” he said.

“Many individuals and groups in WA have contacted the AJSWA wanting to help in any small way.

“The Society acted quickly to convene and host an extraordinary meeting on Monday, 15 March 2011 to begin working with a number of community groups which provide cultural exchange and social networks for local Japanese people.

“While many of these groups will organise individual events we can support each other to, where possible, combine resources to maximise efforts.”

The AJSWA will coordinate a calendar of fundraising events on its website to help people of Perth locate events they can participate in. Submissions are invited.

Until specific fundraising initiatives are developed, the AJSWA supports donations to the Red Cross Japan and Pacific Disaster Appeal through the official website at <http://www.redcross.org.au/japan2011.htm>, an organisation endorsed by Mr Torao Sato the Consul-General of Japan in Perth.

“The people of Japan have always been extremely generous in providing assistance to people in need and it is time for all of us to offer whatever assistance we can to our friends in Japan,” Mr Whight said.

“The AJSWA will do all it can to extend our continuing support to Japan and the Japanese people to help them deal with the horrific consequences of this disaster.”

For ongoing information about fundraising events for the Tsunami disaster in Japan visit <http://www.ajswa.com.au/> or the AJSWAfacebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Australia-Japan-Society-of-Western-Australia-Inc/102616112531>.

The AJSWA is a not-for-profit organisation working to promote mutual understanding between West Australian and Japanese people in Perth.

Media contact: Jean Stewart, 0417 900 037.