

# RISSHO KOSEI-KAI DONATE-A-MEAL MOVEMENT



## About the Donate-a-Meal Movement

Participants in this movement voluntarily skip a meal or snack several times a month and donate the money saved for emergency relief and development aid projects around the world. The movement is based on a Buddhist worldview rooted in the spirit of the One Vehicle, which teaches that all people are brothers and sisters are given their precious lives by the one great life of the universe.

Our endeavors are based on a three-hold spirit of prayer, compassion to those who suffer, and donation.

- **Prayer** : We pray for all people's happiness and peace of mind.
- **Compassion** : We skip meals out of compassion for people who go hungry because of poverty or conflict.
- **Donation** : We help those who suffer by donating the money saved from skipping meals. In this way we hope to share in the joy as well as in the suffering of others.



**Rishso Kosei-kai** is a lay Buddhist organization established in 1938. Its basic scripture is the Threefold Lotus Sutra. Members come together in the hope of perfecting themselves and contributing to world peace by practicing and disseminating the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha, the founder of Buddhism, in their families, workplaces, and communities.

## Activities Funded for 2013–2017

Your heartfelt donations go to support people around the world suffering from poverty, hunger, natural disasters, and other causes, and to education and human resource development projects dedicated to alleviating poverty. Most of the funds go to the projects described below.

### Reduction of Poverty and Hunger

#### *Japan Blankets for Africa Campaign (JBAC)*

Many parts of Africa are hot during the day and cold at night, and many people suffer from the nighttime cold. Others are made homeless by civil strife or natural disaster. JBAC sends blankets from Japan to those in need. Each blanket has a message sewn onto it, bringing the recipient the warmth of our caring thoughts as well. Since 1984, when the campaign began, over four million blankets have been sent to various countries in Africa. Funds from the Donate-a-Meal Movement help pay for their transport. Rissho Kosei-kai is an affiliated organization of JBAC.



#### *Providing School Meals through the UN World Food Programme (WFP)*

Some children living in the mountains of Bhutan do not get enough to eat, and this project offers schoolchildren highly nutritious school meals to further their education, by improving their physical development, learning abilities, and school attendance rates. Funds from the Donate-a-Meal Movement support WFP's work to promote education for children in developing nations by providing them with food aid. Our contributions in 2016 paid for breakfast and lunch daily (about 304,000 meals) for 19,000 children at 176 schools in Bhutan.



### Education and Human Resource Development

#### *The Dream Bag Project*

The Dream Bag Project seeks to comfort and encourage children around the world who have been emotionally scarred by conflict, while nurturing warm thoughtfulness toward others in the Japanese children who fill handmade "Dream Bags" with school supplies, stuffed toys and other playthings, and message cards, sincerely praying for the happiness of recipients overseas. During 18 years since the project began in 1999, Dream Bags have been sent to about 764,000 refugee and internally displaced children in eleven countries, bringing them smiles, joy, dreams, and hopes.



## Emergency Aid and Reconstruction Assistance

### *Emergency Aid to Victims of Air Raids in Gaza, through the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the Campaign for the Children of Palestine (CCP)*

In November 2012, the Gaza Strip, an area controlled by the Palestinian National Authority, was attacked by Israeli military forces, victimizing many of its residents. To help those who were wounded or lost their homes in the attacks, the Donate-a-Meal Fund for Peace sent emergency aid through the UNRWA and CCP, a Japan-based nonprofit organization.

Our donations helped provide food, other supplies, and medical care, as well as counseling for mothers and children.



### *Support for Victims of the Earthquake and Tsunami in Northeastern Japan*

The massive earthquake of March 11, 2011, caused a great tsunami that struck the Pacific coast of northeastern Japan, devastating many areas. Five hundred million Japanese yen from the Donate-a-Meal Movement was spent in 2011 for relief of the victims. The money was used for the distribution of relief supplies in the immediate aftermath of the disaster, contributions to prefectural and municipal governments in the disaster areas, support for volunteers working on-site, and so on. Also, a project to provide counseling to disaster victims was initiated since 2012.



## Other Major Activities (partners noted in parentheses)

### *Reduction of Poverty and Hunger*

- Projects to support agriculture, environmental protection, and regional development in Cambodia and Laos (with the Japan International Volunteer Center)

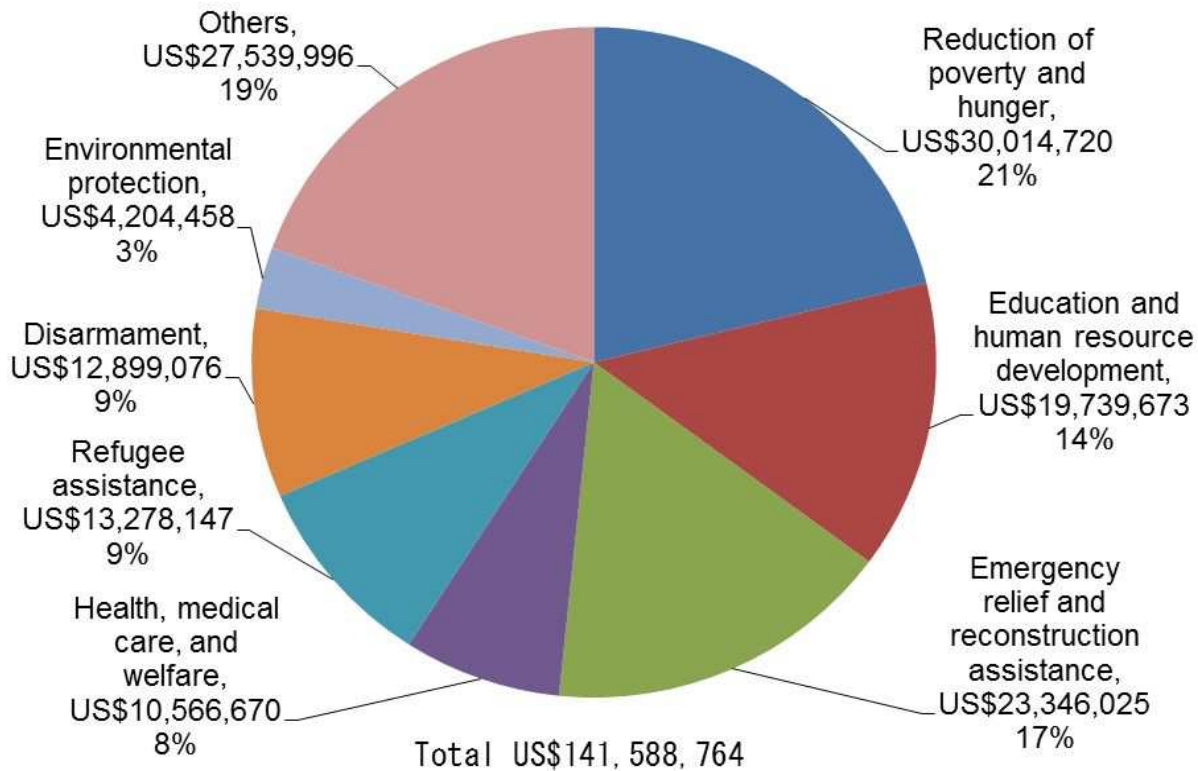
### *Education and Human Resource Development*

- Support for scholarships in the Philippines (with the Bataan Christian Youth Foundation Incorporation)
- Project to support the development of Japanese NGOs (with the Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation)
- Nursing Course Project for Palestinian refugees (with UNRWA)

### *Emergency Relief and Reconstruction Assistance*

- Emergency humanitarian aid and support for reconstruction projects in South Sudan, Afghanistan, and other countries (with JEN)
- Emergency relief of victims of conflicts and natural disasters in Japan and other countries

## Overview of Activities from 1985 to 2016



**The Donate-a-Meal Movement welcomes your goodwill and cooperation: donations can be deposited to the following account.**

Name of the Bank	Mizuho Bank
Branch Name:	Nakano Branch
Branch Code:	351
Bank Code/ Swift Code	MHBKJPJT
Type of account	Ordinary account
Account number	519418
Account holder's name	Rissho Kosei-kai Ichijikiheiwakikin
Address of Bank	4-44-18 Honcho, Nakano-ku 164-0012, Tokyo, Japan
Tel No. of Bank	+81-(0)3-3382-1151

**Please direct your questions and inquiries to the contact below.**

Rissho Kosei-kai  
2-11-1 Wada, Suginami-ku, Tokyo 166-8537 Japan

Donate-a-Meal Fund for Peace  
Youth Network Group/Dharma Education & Human Resources Development Department

TEL: +81-(0)3-5341-1661

FAX: +81-(0)3-5341-1055

URL: <http://www.rk-world.org>

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