

This event is a collaboration between Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA) and Momstart Club to show support for the Tohoku people, by moms and children in Aichi.

We would also like to invite evacuees living in the Tokai area, free of charge.

**“Let’s send presents over to the disaster area from Aichi!”**

『Momstart Club』, a child-raising support group in Nagoya (founder: Kiyono Sakakibara, Nagoya, Aichi) will present “Let’s send presents over to the disaster area from Aichi!” at “International exchange Christmas Charity event” as a part of our Tohoku earthquake support activities. We also invite evacuees who are living in Aichi, Gifu and Mie, free of charge.

We will make Christmas wreaths(\*) to send over to the disaster area. The wreaths will be delivered to Rikuzentakadashi and other places through the Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA) (president: Kyoei Wakabayashi, Shinjuku, Tokyo) together with the “Iwate Mobile Library Project”.



Mobile Library Project



A Wreath we are going to make



Music class scene

This event follows the charity workshop “Disaster-preventing seminars for moms who want to protect and ensure their baby’s safety in the advent of a disaster” that was in July. More than 6 months have passed since the disaster and `psychological care` is still important. Originally we were planning to send our instructors to the disaster area to conduct classes for moms and children, such as “Music Class”. As we thought it would be difficult to stay in the disaster area for a long time, we decided to hold an event here in Nagoya.

The Christmas event is multi-cultural. “Multi-culture Club” is made up of moms in Momstart club who have experienced living abroad. These moms will act as Mom-Santa and will lead the event by singing songs in English, and reading stories in Japanese, English and Chinese. We hope moms and children from all over the world will enjoy mingling during the event and make wreaths together to be sent with our best wishes along with the “Iwate Mobile Library Project”.

We made our mission statement “We will help you start out in your life as a mother” and have been attempting to improve the child-raising environment in Nagoya. We would like to continue our activities for the Tohoku region as well and sustain our support in the meantime, and in the long-term by inviting evacuees who live in the Tokai area, free of charge, for mom’s and children’s classes.

□A **wreath** is an assortment of flowers, leaves, fruits, twigs and/or various materials that is constructed to resemble a ring.

■“International exchange Christmas Charity event” Outline

Date	6 <sup>th</sup> December, 2011 (Tuesday) 1 : 10 : 00~11 : 00 (Open 9 : 45) 2 : 11 : 15~12 : 15 (Open 11 : 00) ※1 and 2 are the same program so please choose your favorite time slot.
Place	Nagoya City Youth Exchange Plaza 1F Playroom 6-8 3-chome Yanagihara Kita-ward Nagoya TEL : 052-991-8440
Program (1 and 2 are the same program)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sing Christmas songs with Eririn</li> <li>• Make something for Christmas</li> <li>• Sing English songs with Yuki</li> <li>• Stories in English, Chinese and Japanese</li> <li>• Make Christmas wreaths with a wish to reconstruct Tohoku</li> <li>• Get a present from Mom-Santa at the end!</li> </ul>
Fee (per parent and child)	¥1,000 booking required (includes snack to take home and materials for a Christmas wreath which will be sent to the disaster area) ※The fee will be used to cover instructor’s costs and not for profit. ※¥1,000 covers one parent and up to 2 children ※Evacuees from the Tohoku region are welcome free of charge.
Number of people	Up to 30 families each time slot
How to sign up	◆Please send an email below to sign up. <a href="mailto:charity@momstart.org">charity@momstart.org</a> Please include the following information: [parent’s name] [your child’s name, sex, and date of birth. [your address (only the ward you are in)] [your cell phone number] [your email address] [the time slot you want to sign up for]
Organizer	『Momstart Club』 A child-raising support group in Nagoya
Supported by	Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA) 『Relish』 Flower school and order flower gift

■What is the “Iwate Mobile Library Project” run by the Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA)?

The mobile library is supported by SVA, and was started July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011. It goes to temporary housings around Rikuzentakada City, Ofunato City, Otsuchi-cho and

Yamada-cho. They provide various kinds of books, such as children's book, comics, novels, and others, at regular intervals. People can borrow up to 5 books and return them when the mobile library next comes around. Tables and chairs are also prepared as well as cups of tea, and drawings can be done together.

■A comment from Sachiko Kamakura, supervisor at the Iwate Office Library Project, Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA):

“Book stores and libraries near the coast of Iwate were completely destroyed because of the earthquake and tsunami, and people had no access to books. We really hope that our mobile library will also bring them ‘a place to get emotional support’, as well as books. This will be the first Christmas since the disaster. A lot of families won't be able to decorate their big Christmas trees as they live in small temporary housing, but we hope the wreaths will shine a light into their lives. Thank you very much for your cooperation.”

■About “Momstart Club” child-raising support group in Nagoya

Momstart Club is run by a staff of 50 volunteers. We carry out various activities for parents who have a child aged between 0 and 3 in and around Nagoya and provide a network to help them feel at ease and support them raise their children. About 10 – 20 parents and their children participate in these activities each time. Since being established in July, 2009, a total of 4,800 parents and children have participated. Our prime areas are Chikusa ward, Showa ward, Midori ward, Kita ward, Mizuho ward, Meito ward, and Moriyama-ward in Nagoya. We will soon expand into Kariya city and Nisshin city.



The group launched “Mom`s Action Project” to contribute to society, and whose aim is to make Japan more energetic and bring smiles to the world, through the actions of mothers! To help with reconstruction, after the earthquake disaster, we had a charity bazaar to raise money for charity by donation. We have donated ¥195,027 to JOICEP which supports women in the disaster area and other organizations from money that was raised by charity

bazaars and other activities.

**【Contact information】**

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