



Strengthening the Japan – U.S. Response to Natural Disasters

PWA Vision

Peace Winds America envisions a world where natural disasters pose a minimal threat to the safety, security and livelihood of people living in the Asia Pacific. Our core belief is that disaster response begins with preparedness, and that both disaster preparedness and response should integrate the efforts of governments, militaries, NGOs and the private sector. By strengthening disaster preparedness and response in the Asia Pacific, PWA seeks to reduce the high human, political and economic costs of natural disasters in the Pacific Rim.

Disaster Preparedness – Planning and Connectivity

Peace Winds America mitigates disasters before and after they strike. Our programs better prepare disaster responders and vulnerable communities through collaborative planning and training.

Civil-Military Initiative

PWA developed the Civil-Military Initiative in response to the increasingly important role of military in disaster relief. With the U.S. – Japan alliance as the foundation, this initiative focuses on civil-military emergency response policies, planning, training and execution. This Initiative strives to increase understanding between military and civilian disaster relief, and to strengthen coordination between U.S. and Japanese disaster response mechanisms.

Sister Cities Program

PWA developed the Sister Cities Program in response to the pivotal role of cities in disaster preparedness and response. Using the international sister cities network, this program enhances disaster management at the city level by building capacities and integrating the various local emergency responders, including businesses and industries. Sister Cities Exchanges connect disaster managers from cities in Japan, the U.S. and other Pacific Rim countries with various levels of government, NGOs, militaries and the private sector. Working closely with the City of Seattle’s Office of Emergency Management, this Program strengthens municipalities’ capabilities for natural disaster preparedness and response.

Public-Private Partnerships Program

PWA advocates for strong disaster management agreements between public and private sectors. As disasters affect both business and government resilience, PWA works toward building partnerships that minimize costs and maximize resources available during an emergency.

Disaster Response – Coordinated and Collaborative

Peace Winds America remains committed to serving people affected by natural disasters. Through humanitarian assistance and disaster response (HA/DR), PWA helps the most needy by providing aid and resources from U.S., Japan and other sources. PWA also provides liaison services among the international responders.

Disaster Relief: PWA partners with our sister organization, Peace Winds Japan, and local NGOs to coordinate on-site relief and rehabilitation. To ensure that relief leads to recovery, PWA raises funds for local NGOs that are accountable and motivated to help their communities recover over the long term.

Pacific Partnership: As a part of U.S. Pacific Fleet humanitarian assistance, PWA increases the participation of Japanese government agencies, Maritime Self-Defense Forces, and NGOs to strengthen the U.S. – Japan relationship while providing humanitarian medical and engineering assistance.