# Mental Health Issues Following the Complex Disasters of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant Accident

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#### 福島県



大阪さわ病院・緑川先生作成

# Condition in Disaster-Affected areas

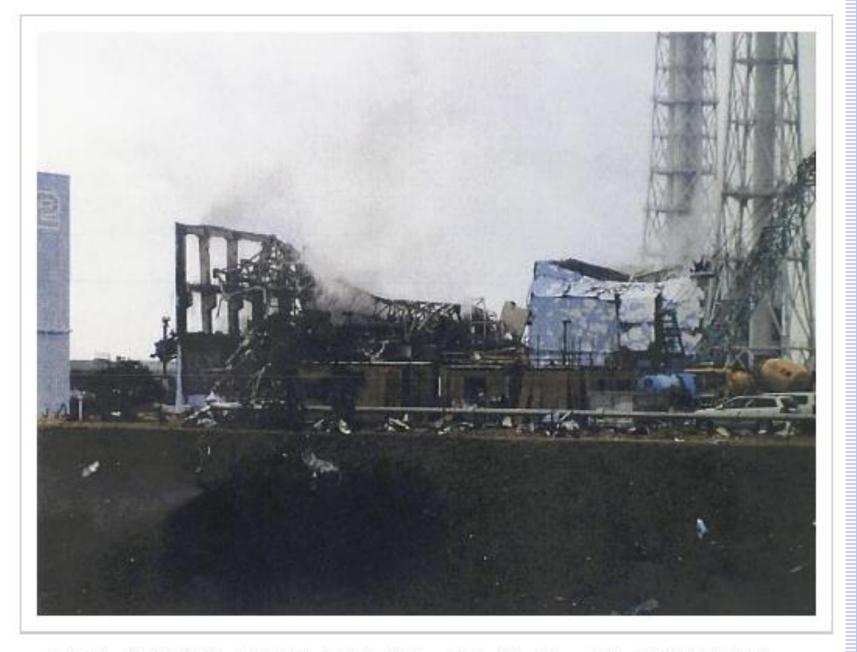


相馬市の海岸部 大正大学 野田文隆 先生より提供

### **Great East Japan Earthquake: Status of Fukushima Prefecture**

- Damage sustained from earthquakes and tsunami
  - Death toll: 1,837 persons (as of September 9)
  - Missing persons: 123 persons
  - Total destruction of residential housing:
     17,533 houses
- Impact from nuclear accident at Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant

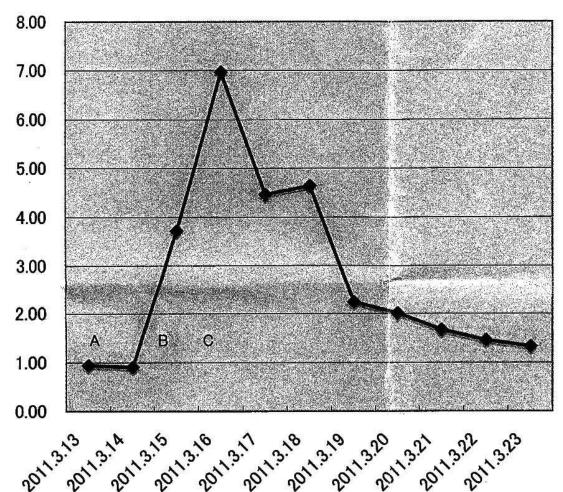
## Rapid Response to Nuclear Accident



煙を上げる福島第一原発の3号機周辺(21日午後5時15分)=東京電力提供

#### 大学敷地内バックグランド放射線量の推移

観測値 (#Sv/h) 日ごと平均



→ 観測値 ( *μ* Sv/h) 日ごと平均

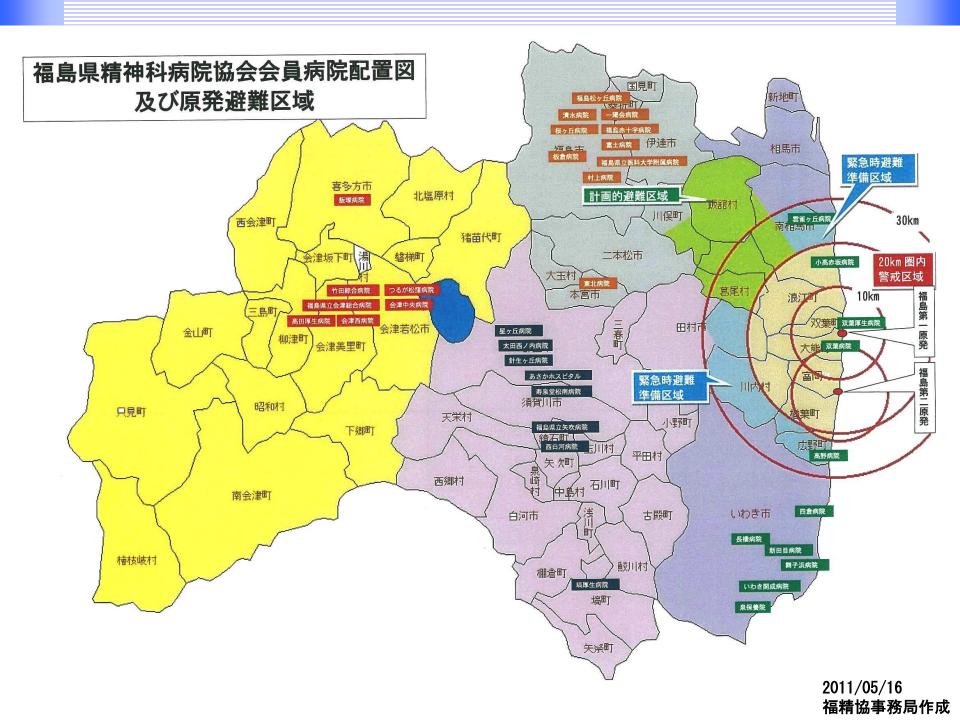
A: 3号機建屋の水素爆発

B: 2号機、4号機で爆発

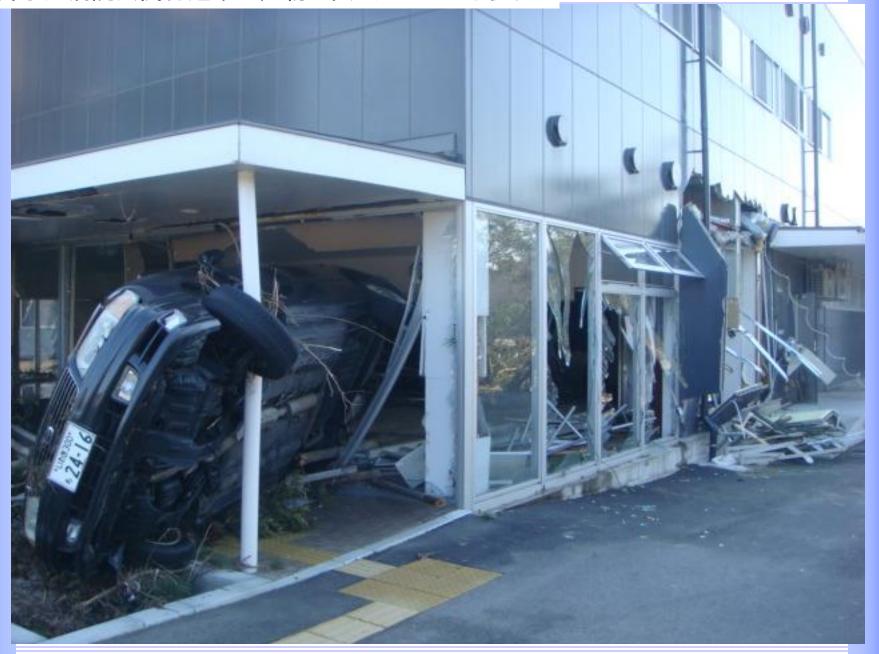
C: 2号機、3号機で漏出



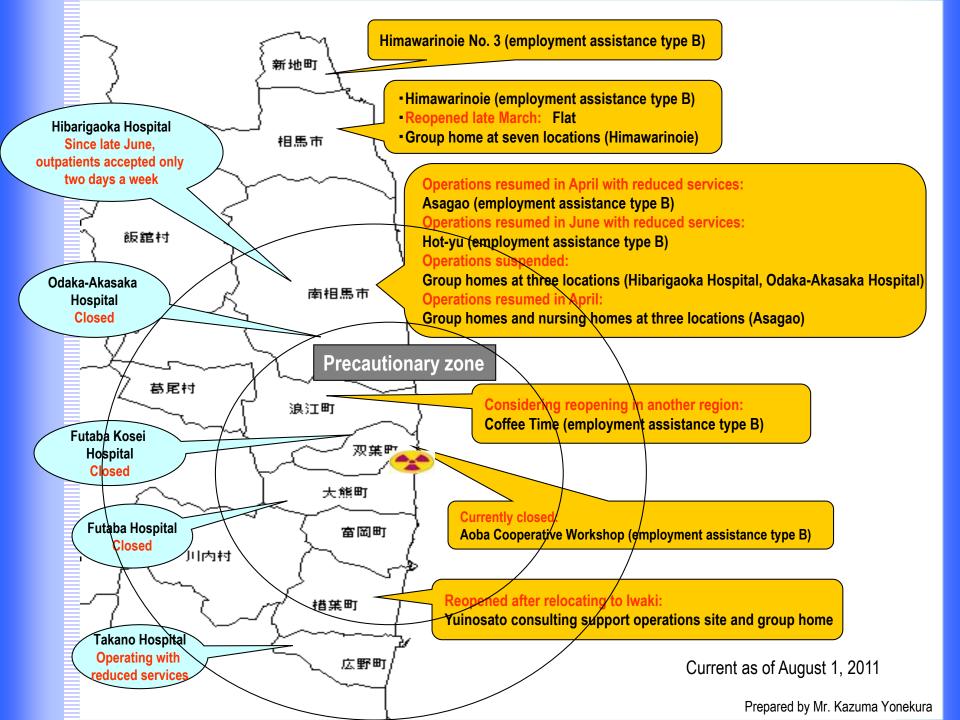
# Conditions in Psychiatric Care and Welfare services in the DisasterAffected Area



#### 舞子浜病院玄関付近車が建物に突っ込んでいる状況



舞子浜病院 本田教一先生より提供



# Activities of Care-Provider Teams



こころのケアチームいわき地区へ



### Details of Activities by Kokorono (Mental) Care Team at Fukushima Medical University

1 Supporters make the rounds of 40–60 evacuation centers to offer care.

Care is provided to disaster victims in general, as well as to psychiatric patients.

Each team visits three to five evacuation centers each day.

Patients in follow-up cases are interviewed again once a week.

- ⇒ "persons who provide medical services to fill in the gap until medical institutions recover their functions"
- 2 Provide individual consultations for public health centers and responsive action for cases in which patients are admitted to hospitals.

#### **Details of Activities (continued)**

③ Residential support

Residential visits are provided in early stages (a) for patients with a history of hospital admittance according to court papers, (b) for patients whose progress is monitored by public health centers, or (c) or when visits result in worrisome concerns.

- ⇒ Preventing reactivation of illness
- 4 Provide care for children, parents, and instructors at day care centers and kindergartens
  - ⇒ Lectures, group or individual consultation with pediatricians.
  - ⇒ Most are concerned about their children's abnormal behavior and radiation exposure.

Needs are extremely high.

- ⑤ Provide care for siblings and mothers when carrying out health checkups for infants at public health centers
  - ⇒ Individual interviews are done in separate rooms for worrisome cases.

### Mental Care for Children



こども達と折り紙で過ごした楽しい時間

#### Status of Children

Children under the age of two appear to be reflecting the psychological conditions of their parents more than physical symptoms, revealing the particular impact of the environment on childrearing after afflicted by disaster. Three to five year olds show clear signs of their psychological condition by how they play games (tsunami or earthquake games) and by their from wearing underwear to wearing diapers), revealing problems iurinating habits (regressing and their development processes, such as sleep.

Infants under six months of age frequently experience problems associated with underdeveloped children in terms of their development processes. Thus, general advice on childrearing is more essential than mental care.

Reactions become complicated with children in elementary school. Children complain about specific stress reactions, such as flashbacks, revealing a complicated interweaving of instability in their actions and psychological processes, which requires individualized care that takes a lot of time to address.

#### Health Care Activities

### Health Care Activities : Implementation at Public Health Centers from May 21

#### ちょっとここで 一休みの会

毎週 土曜日 開催します 時間・・・10時30分~12時00分場所・・・相馬市保健センター

どなたでもご参加になれます。 お子さんも一緒にどうぞ・・・

リラックスする方法を練習します

順次、趣味講座なども開催していきます ご希望があれば個別にお話を伺います

**お茶を準備**してお待ちしています )で、気楽にいらして下さい。



福島県立医科大学心のケアチームより

#### <Staff>

- Graduate School of Fukushima Medical University
  - Primarily students who have completed the psychiatric nursing program
- Fukushima Prefectural Yabuki Hospital: OT, PSW, & CP
  - Prefectural University Mind and Body medical ward: OT
- Cooperation by volunteer organization (Team JAPAN 300)
- Others

Students majoring in psychology at graduate schools in and around Tokyo

### Case Examples

Cases of children involved with care teams from Fukushima Medical University in Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture

#### Case Example K

- · Age: 7 Gender: Female
- She was at home when the disasters struck, and her house was partially destroyed. She is unable to approach the house even for clean-up visits from the evacuation center and starts to cry as she gets near the house. Her parents consulted the care team to find out whether they should relocate.
- When the child was asked to draw a picture, she drew her own house being attacked by ghosts. When colored pencils were provided, she only used provocative colors, such as black and red.

#### Case Example K (continued)

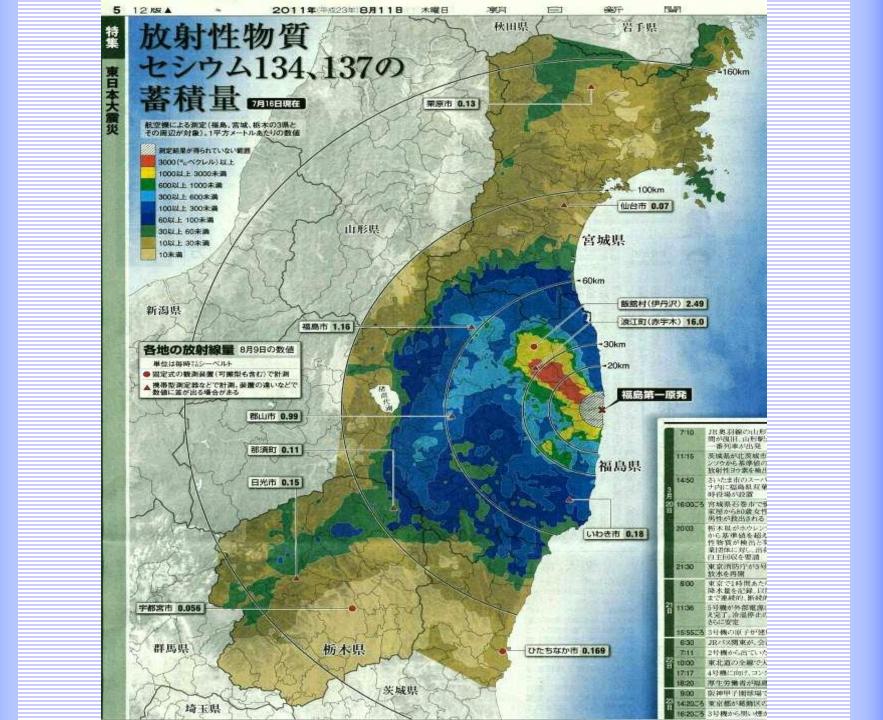
- The mother has a nervous constitution, so the care team attended to her insecurity, showing complete sympathy. She eventually began to smile, and her insecurity was no longer transmitted to her child. Her interactions with her child changed, and she became increasingly capable of dealing with her child in a more tender manner, which resulted in a reduced number of crying episodes and occasions for regression.
- ⇒ The decision to relocate was postponed, and a suggestion was made to either remain at the evacuation center or rent a temporary home, with follow-ups to be made on a weekly basis while the child was able to attend school. Eventually, the family was able to return home safely.

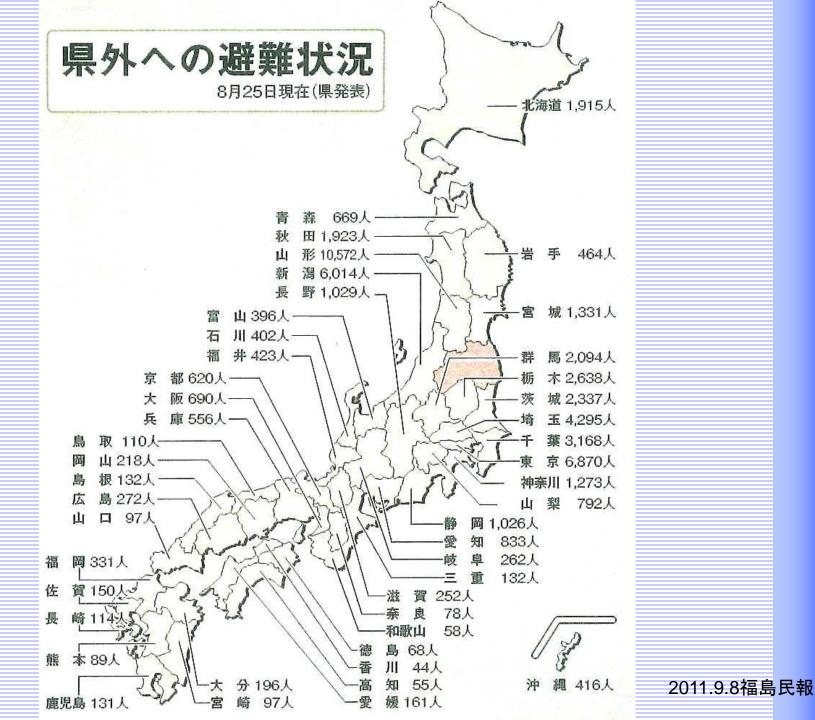
#### Case Example C: PTSD

- Age: 19 Gender: Female
- Junior college student majoring in physical education. No past case history.
   Home located in Toyoma District.
- Her home was completely destroyed by the tsunami, and she has been living at an evacuation center since the disaster. She became restless at the evacuation center around the same time of day at which the earthquake occurred and has been regressing and suffering from pronounced affective incontinence.
- She often started crying suddenly during the day and continued into the night, and she often embraced her mother. Images of a tsunami appeared in her mind each time an aftershock occurred, causing her to shiver from fear, and she was unable to go near her home.
- She was clearly having difficulties coping with daily life. Aftershocks that occurred about one month after the initial disaster deteriorated her condition even further. The care team intervened each week, and her best friends were asked to help by visiting her to encourage her to resume a normal life, and she returned to school. Her condition is improving, although very slowly.
- ⇒ There has been no other case where I felt that the support of parents and friends offered such a level of comfort for the patient and proved effective to this extent.

## Mental Care - Issues and Orientation -

### Impact of Radiation Contamination





#### 県人口流出続く 33年ぶり200万人割れ





## Impact of Life as a Refugee

ど、住民や保健師、医療関係者らに は、避難所で「健康教室」を開くな らいい

松下幸生副院長は、うつやアルコ 高めてもらう活動を続けている。 アルコール依存への関心と知識を

うつやアルコール依存の危険が高 から仮設住宅などに移って一層、

達院長によると、被災者が避難所

擅摘する。「地域のコミュニティー -ル依存の最大の要因は孤独だと

く体制が必要だが、被災地では保 期間同じ人の悩みを聞き続けてい まっているという。「保健師が長

久里浜アルコール症センターで

依存の予防への取り組みも始まっ

被災地では、うつやアルコール

広がる うつ・アルコール依存 、地域での支援必要

い暮らしへの不安、避難所や仮設住宅の生活でのスト によるケアの必要性を訴えている。 広がっている。家族や家を失った喪失感や先の見えな レスが原因だ。専門家は、コミュニティーや地域社会 東日本大震災の被災者に、うつやアルコール依存が

# 「生きているのがやだなあ」

も。生まれてからずっと | 間ごとに目が覚める。1日 「死んだ方がいいのか | 近は効かなくなり、1時 家に戻れず悲観

薬を処方されているが、最 女性(86)がつぶやいた。 わき市のホテルに避難した る福島県広野町から同県い の緊急時避難準備区域にあ 力福島第一原発から約25十 に戻れる見込みはない。避 難後、眠れなくなって睡眠 した。30年以上住んだ家 5年前に夫を病気で亡く う。 るという。「『こっちに来 の女性や、津波で命を落と 波にのまれたのを見た。そ 際、渡った直後の橋が落 れている。津波から逃げる 長の男性(59)も追い詰めら ち、後ろにいた若い女性が した同僚たちが夢に出てく 宮城県気仙沼市の元甲板

年(平成23年)8月3日

れるという。 加減にしてほしい」と言わ ぶ。他の避難者から「いい 性は避難所でよく夜に叫 恐ろしくて眠れない」。男 い』と呼ばれる夢を見る。

%)だった。 された患者は51人(19・5 た。このうち震災が原因と いた京都府の「心のケアチ 避難所を7月まで巡回して みられる反応性うつと診断 ーム」は262人を診察し 福島県会津若松市などの

いわき市の精神科・心療一の1・2倍だった。 同県内の5、6月の自殺者 つは自殺の要因にもなる。 の人数は計118人と昨年 新規患者が2割増えた。う

は、妻の遺影や離れて暮ら す子どもの写真が並ぶ。

内科専門の新田目病院では一住宅に住む一人暮らしの男 性(73)を訪ねた。部屋に一ろから仕事が終わると飲ん

性。入院は「絶対に嫌だ」とい 遺影や家族の写真に囲まれた仮 ラー掌
県大船渡市、
岡崎写す 設住宅で朝から焼酎を飲む男 (画像は一部加工しています)

ていた。元とび職。若いと 以入りの焼酎の瓶が置かれ 男性のそばには、2・7

でいた。震災後は、がれき 除去の仕事が入らない限 飲む日が続く。 の仲間を訪ねては、朝から り、やることがない。集落 楽しみなんだし 持つ東北会病院(仙台市)の石川

しい」と訴えている。 人がいたら早めに受診を勧めてほ 健師が足りない。周囲で気になる

うことが支援につながる」と話す。 が残る被災地では、互いに支え合

精神科専門病院としての実績を

年前に足を痛め、仕事を失 口漁船に乗っていたが、11 みながら待っていた。マグ 暮らしの男性(67)が酒を飲

別の仮設住宅でも、一人 酒する人は入院が必要なケ ているという。「朝から飲 間している20人中、8人が 神科医長によると、継続訪 がれば」と話す。 ース。定期的に見守ること で、少しでも抑止力につな アルコール依存問題を抱え 同チームの真栄里仁・精

った。「酒やめたら、何が (青木美希、岡崎明子)

# 「朝8時4分からコップ2杯」

仕事なく酒量増

そこで死にたい」。東京電一が)やだなあと思う」と言

(同じ)町に住んでいた。

1回は「(生きているの

目立ち始めている。 から飲み始めましたかし アルコール依存症患者も | ら。コップ2杯だ 「朝8時40分ぐらいか一が、岩手県大船渡市の仮設 「今日、お酒は何時ごろ ール症センター(神奈川 県)の「心のケアチーム」 7月中旬、久里浜アルコ

#### 2011年(平成23年)8月10日

☆☆中全児童·生徒の1割

夏休み中に転校を希望して の転校が4575人いた。 童・生徒が7672人、県内 日時点で県外に転校した児 に挙げたという。 割近くにあたる。多くは かった。 全児童・生徒の1 県教育委員会のまとめで分 校を希望していることが同 転校したか、夏休み中の転 童・生徒が、既に県内外に 校に通う約1万4千 「放射線への不安」を理由 県教委によると、7月15 福島県内で公立の小中学 合の児 し」を理由にした。 理由を聞いたところ、県外 郡山市など「中通り」地域 1081人、県内が755 いる児童・生徒は、県外が 転校希望の約4分の3が からの転校も多いという。 域だけではなく、福島市や 人だった。東京電力福島第 「放射線への不安」と回 一原発のある「浜通り」地 県教委は「事故の収束が 夏休み中の転校希望者に 「仮設住宅への引っ越 県内転校希望の約半数

> が少なくないのでは。保育 見えず、転校を決めた家庭

子どもの県外流出は深刻な 問題だ」としている。 園や幼稚園児を含めると、

### Results of Survey Conducted by the Town of Naraha, Where All of the Households Have Been Evacuated (August 2011)

Response rate: 1,995 out of 2,900 households (68.8%)

Has any family member become ill?

A family member has become slightly ill	53.8%
A family member has become very ill	17.7%

Can any family members be described in the following manner?

Future prospects are unclear and difficult to deal with psychological	ly 72.2%
Has difficulty getting much sleep	Over 30%
Feels life is not worth living, as there is nothing to do	Over 30%
Frequency and amount of alcohol consumption has increased	17.8%
Lost all of his or her income	21.7%

(Excerpted from page 12 of Asahi Shimbun newspaper dated October 1, 2011.)

#### Problem of Suicides

### The number of people committing suicide has increased rapidly since the earthquake disaster.

2011.7.16 00:15

The number of people committing suicide is increasing rapidly. In particular, May recorded an increase of almost 40%, figures that indicate the full impact of the earthquake disaster.

- June 11: A 55 year old male dairy farmer from Soma City in Fukushima Prefecture committed suicide. His Philippino wife and son both returned to the Philippines due to the impact of the nuclear accident at the Fukushima Dai-ichi power plant. On the wall of his compost shed, the man wrote, "If only the nuclear power plant did not exist."
- A 102 year old man was found dead in litate Village. His family had all evacuated from the village, and he was living on his own. It is believed that he committed suicide because he suffered from living away from his family.
- In late June, a 93 year old woman committed suicide in Minamisoma City, leaving a suicide note indicating, "I am evacuating to the grave because an old person simply drags everyone down."

#### Issues of Mental Care

#### **Issues Regarding Mental Care**

- 1. Continuing and sustaining treatment for psychiatric patients
- 2. Intervening early in new occurrences of PTSD and alcohol dependency due to the earthquake disaster and nuclear accident
- 3. Implementing measures to combat insecurity about radiation contamination
- 4. Preventing the reduction of cognitive functions for the elderly
- 5. Deterring suicides
- 6. Improving mental health care provided by medical and welfare staff

#### **Effective Framework for Mental Care**

- 1. Integrate medical, public health, and welfare services
- 2. Cherish relationships in regions
- 3. Maintain the restructuring of patients' lives as the fundamental objective

Project for Establishing a New Psychiatric, Medical, Public Health, and Welfare System in Sousou

Approaching temporary housing (Shinchi Town, Soma City, and Minamisoma City) ■ "Itsumo Kokode Hitoyasumino Kai" (club where you can have a break any time) Salon Visiting all households (November, March, and July) Activities at Soma City Public Health Center and Haramachi Public Health Center in Minamisoma City ■ "Chotto Kokode Hitoyasumino Kai" (club where you can have a little break) Mental consultation at annual personal/medical checkups ■ Soma wide area firefighters
■ High school teachers ■ Shinchi homes ■ Municipal government offices/ municipal government personnel Support for implementation of treatment for persons who have not had any checkups and those whose treatment has been suspended ■ Consultations
■ Visits Contacting psychiatric, medical, Small-scale public health, and welfare related psychiatric day care personnel services Workshops Periodic meetings Preparation of DVDs

Conceptual diagram of the Project for Establishing a New Psychiatric, Medical, Public Health, and Welfare System in Sousou

Soma Wide Area Mental Health Care Center "Nagomi" (tentative name)

Outreach psychiatric clinic (beds available)

Visiting nurses (responding around the clock)

Own home

Hospital beds for inpatients (2–3 beds) (crisis intervention and respite care)

Visits

Establishing means of transportation

Transport to hospital on Nakadori Avenue

Document distributed on August 6, 2011
The Secretariat proposal

Operation of patrolling vehicles

Welfare facilities (regional activities support centers/ group homes, etc.)