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## **International Grief Support Charity Ready to Mobilize as Emotional First-Responder after Japan Tsunami Disaster**

*Rainbows For All Children Responds to Tragedy with its Crisis Response Program*

ITASCA, Ill. (March 18, 2011) — Rainbows For All Children™, the largest, international grief support nonprofit, is ready and able to provide assistance as the emotional first-responder in Japan, after the magnitude 8.9 earthquake and resulting tsunami left towns and villages devastated. Rainbows ([www.rainbows.org](http://www.rainbows.org)) has had an existing network in Japan since 2001, with a history of helping grieving children and teens worldwide since 1983.

Rainbows is positioned with the experience and resources to assist the children and teens, who lost so much during the Japan tsunami disaster. In order to respond in the most responsible and efficient manner, Rainbows will implement immediate and long-term strategies to alleviate the suffering and to restore social-emotional wellbeing in the tsunami-ravaged areas.

“We’re experienced with natural disasters as Rainbows was an emotional first-responder after Hurricane Katrina and we plan to help those in Japan with a similar, compassionate program called Silver Linings,” said Suzy Yehl Marta, founder and president of Rainbows For All Children. “The community support program trains counselors, volunteers, churches and relief organizations that need additional tools to assist youth experiencing emotional turmoil due to the tsunami.”

Rainbows’ registered director in Japan, Mika Ochi, is safe **fortunately and will translate** Silver Linings program into Japanese.

With the growing death toll in Japan, thousands of **youth** will need emotional and compassionate care and support, both with the disaster program — **Silver Linings** — as well as Rainbows’ core **programs, which supports children and teens experiencing a loss, death or separation.**

“We’ll need to increase our reach **by** securing funding partners to support this devastating disaster in Japan. The need is unimaginable and growing,” added Marta.

Immediately after Hurricane Katrina, Rainbows received requests to implement Silver Linings at more than 200 sites throughout the Gulf Coast. To learn more or to sponsor a Rainbows site in Japan, please contact Rainbows at [info@rainbows.org](mailto:info@rainbows.org). Rainbows is a recognized 501(c)(3) charity.

**More About Rainbows For All Children**

Rainbows For All Children is an international, nonprofit organization that fosters emotional healing for children grieving a loss or life-altering crisis. Since 1983, Rainbows has helped more than 2.5 million children in the wake of their personal or community tragedies. The goals include helping children to develop and strengthen coping skills, learn appropriate behavior and anger management, alleviate depression, and reduce emotional pain and suffering. These coping tools will build the confidence and self-esteem of these hurting children, improve communication in their families and peer relationships, prevent destructive behaviors such as involvement with gangs, alcohol and drug abuse, and ultimately improve school attendance and academic performance.

For more information about Rainbows, please visit [www.rainbows.org](http://www.rainbows.org). To join Rainbows on Facebook and Twitter, please visit [www.facebook.com/rainbowsforkids](https://www.facebook.com/rainbowsforkids) and [www.twitter.com/rainbowsforkids](https://www.twitter.com/rainbowsforkids), respectively.

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