

The March 2011 earthquake and tsunami were more powerful than any in living memory. This combined disaster occurred in perhaps the most prepared nation on earth. Most people, even in the hardest hit areas, survived due to preparedness, warnings, and a population educated about natural disasters. Their story is one of bravery, fortitude, and incredible spirit and hard work.

Voices from Tohoku

Special guests from Japan share experiences from last year's earthquake and tsunami.

Tuesday, May 8, 2012 @ 7pm

Mercy Corps Action Center

28 Southwest First Avenue Portland, Oregon 97204 503.896.5747

This event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30pm.

- **Mr. Hajime Saito** was principal of a junior high school in the coastal town of Kesennuma. He will recount how his school had prepared for disaster, how they responded, and how the school served the students and community members who were sheltered there.
- **Ms. Rika Yamamoto** was Chief of Emergency Operations at Peace Winds Japan and led a team that established emergency operations immediately after the tsunami. She will discuss how nonprofit organizations in Japan have contributed to relief and recovery.

Voices from Tohoku is the first of the Cascadia Lectures organized by the *Portland Earthquake Project* and hosted by the Mercy Corps Action Center on Tuesday evenings through June 12 (excluding May 15).



Science and preparedness experts from four respected nonprofit and government organizations have teamed up to create the Portland Earthquake Project. This all-volunteer initiative includes representatives from Mercy Corps, the US Geological Survey, the Oregon Red Cross, and the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management.

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