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## **Crisis Intervention for Japanese-American Families Is a Phone Call Away The Child Center of NY's Staff Stands Ready To Assist**

Queens, NY, March 18, 2011 – The devastating effect of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan continues to traumatize hundreds, if not thousands living in our area -- home to a significant population of Japanese descent. To help children and families of the city's grieving Japanese community cope with devastation and uncertainty, The Child Center of NY will make its Japanese-speaking staff available to provide immediate crisis intervention.

"It is crucial," says Sandra Hagan, The Child Center's executive director, "for families with young children who are struggling with disruption and loss to recognize any behavioral changes and seek short term treatment before they escalate. These may include nightmares and other sleep disturbances, separation fears and clinging to caregivers, anxieties about death and frequent complaints of stomach aches and headaches."

The Child Center's crisis counselors are expertly trained to focus on minimizing stress, providing the child with emotional support and improving their coping skills. This type of intervention is intended to be brief, generally lasting for a period of no longer than a few months. Both community workshops and one-on-one counseling are available in English and Japanese for Queens families with children. For more information, please call [718-657-7100](tel:718-657-7100).

### **About The Child Center of NY**

Founded in 1953, The Child Center is a multiservice agency, annually reaching 18,000 at-risk New York City children from birth through young adulthood at 80 clinic, school, and community locations. We offer a lifeline to children who are experiencing poverty, emotional problems, disabilities, child abuse, academic failure, development delays, and other issues that threaten their achievement. Located mainly in Queens, our staff includes master's level social workers, teachers, nurses, tutors, youth counselors, psychologists, and psychiatrists who are passionate about helping children. For more information: [www.childcenterny.org](http://www.childcenterny.org)

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