

Promoting Social Independence for Homeless People

1 NO POVERTY



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Our motivation for the research

Why do homeless people exist in Japan even though social welfare system is implemented?

Our means of research

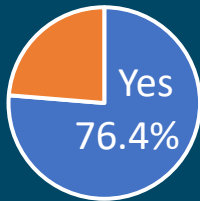
- Interview to a professor of RIKKYO UNIVERSITY
- Participate in a volunteer activity of the nonprofit corporation TENOHASI
- Conduct a survey among the 4th & 5th grade students at our school
- Research on the internet



1. Mental aspect

The result of our survey

Q1. Do you think you have prejudice towards homeless people?



Q2. What kind of impression do you have towards homeless people?

Answers

- I feel bad for them
 - They must have a hard time
 - They must be unclean
 - It's their own fault
- etc.

What the NPO TENOHASI does

- Soup kitchen
 - Lifestyle consultation
 - Medical consultation
 - Housing first project
- Retention rate: about 80%

Problem

1. The dysfunction of the current social welfare system
 - Stress from the group life in the accommodation shelter
 - The anxiety from their unpredictable future

→many residents of the shelter leave the shelter
2. Difficulty to fill in the gap by NPO activities
 - TENOHASI now manages 50 rooms for people to live in
 - Their funds are unstable

Problem

- Homeless people feel alienated
 - Homeless people can't fit in to the society
- etc.

Solution

- Tell information about homeless
- Encourage people to participate in a volunteer activity

Our idea

Incorporate homeless people to the agricultural community
→provide house and long-term occupation at once

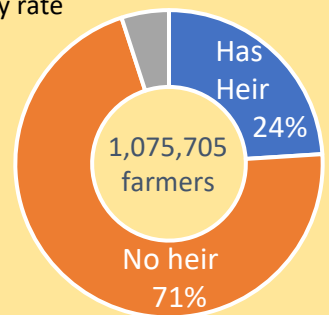
The agricultural issues of Japan

- The low food self-sufficiency rate
- Lack of heir

Inherit

- Agricultural properties
- Techniques
- Know-hows

→work on agricultural issue and homeless problem simultaneously



2. Institutional aspect

What the government does

- Welfare aid program
 - Accommodation shelter
- retention rate: under 50%
- Independence support program
 - Medical support program

Conclusion

Supports from both the mental and institutional point of view is indispensable for solution