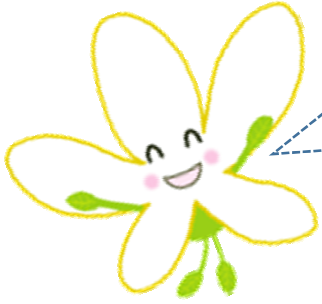


Join Your Neighborhood Association!



Most towns in Japan have a neighborhood association often known as “*Jichikai*” or “*Chonaikai*.”

The local residents come together to support one another and make their community a better place.

Join the neighborhood association in your area and get to know your neighbors.

What is a neighborhood association?

A neighborhood association is a group of community residents that organizes voluntary activities and initiatives.

It strives to make our towns safe and comfortable and hosts various activities such as anti-crime/disaster-prevention events, local area cleanup activities, and maintenance of garbage collection sites.

What are the benefits of joining a neighborhood association?

Disaster prevention



It organizes voluntary disaster prevention groups and carries out disaster prevention drills. It prepares emergency stockpiles and disaster supplies.

Anti-crime Measures



Community residents take part in neighborhood watch patrols and maintain lighting for security. Building good relationships between area residents can deter would-be crimes.

Traffic Safety Measures



Community residents keep an eye on children on the way to school to protect them from traffic accidents.

What are the main activities of a neighborhood association?

Supporting child-care and senior residents



There are many occasions for children and adults to socialize with each other through participating in *Kodomokai* (children's associations) and child-care support centers. A neighborhood association also supports senior residents through Aoba Disaster Prevention Network.**

Social and Recreational Activities



It hosts several festivals which give residents a good opportunity to socialize with each other. It also hosts sports events to promote fitness among residents.

Neighborhood Cleanup Activities



It maintains garbage collection sites and keeps streets and parks clean. Community cooperation makes the neighborhood clean.

** Aoba Disaster Prevention Network is a community support system for the elderly during a disaster.

Who runs a neighborhood association?

- The members of a neighborhood association are community residents. Community residents work together to make their town comfortable.
- A neighborhood association is run on the membership fees collected from all participating residents. The amount of the fee and fee collection vary depending on each neighborhood association.

- * Joining a neighborhood association is a great opportunity to get to know people in the area.
- * The neighborhood activities keep the community safe and secure.
- * Community cooperation keeps the community clean and makes an effective mutual support system during a disaster.
- * Join a neighborhood association and make your community an even better place.