



# Life Hope Network Nagoya, Japan



LIFE International

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## Nagoya, Japan

- Less than 2% of Japanese say they are Christian.<sup>1</sup>
- Nagoya is Japan's 4th largest city (2.2 million people).<sup>2</sup>
- Japan has approximately 342,000 abortions annually.<sup>3</sup>
- With a fertility rate of 1.21, Japan's population is declining.<sup>4</sup>
- The practice of "Mizuko Kuyo," is common in Japan. For a fee, many Buddhist temples perform a ceremony to appease the god Jizo and save the spirit of an aborted child.<sup>5</sup>

## Letting Our Light Shine for Adoption

One thing I have been excited about this last year is how God is changing hearts and minds toward adoption. A pregnant woman who was living with me was interviewed by the best network in the country about her decision to give her baby up for adoption. The press here seems to be very interested in this topic now, as well as in the related topic of so many Japanese children being brought up in orphanages, instead of being released for adoption.

We have been praying about both issues for a long time, and it seems that now they are constantly in the news. I recently adopted a little down syndrome Japanese boy, and so adoption has become much more a part of my life and has only intensified my desire to see as many children as possible out of institutions and into families. At this point, though, it isn't unusual for women we talk to to have no idea of adoption and to not even be able to consider it. So, we need to keep praying and letting our light shine.

## What God Did Through Life Hope Network in 2010

- Three women, two post-abortion clients, and one homestay, believed in Jesus and were baptized.
- 15 clients chose life and 9 post-abortion clients came to healing through a post-abortion study.

## Life Hope Network 2011 Goals

- To strengthen our relationships with a big maternity hospital and the local government so that they will refer more women for homestays.
- To help more women find healing from post-abortion stress.
- To reach more abortion-minded women through our cell phone blog.

## Life Hope Network 2011 Prayer Requests

- Pray for a co-manager to assist our Japanese director.
- Pray that God will keep our hearts right before Him, that we will not grow weary in doing good, and that we will always tell the truth in love.

## How Can You Partner with LIFE International?

Individuals, churches, centers, and businesses can partner with LIFE through prayer and financial support. Every prayer offered and every gift sown into LIFE helps equip life-giving ministries like Life Hope Network. Will you join with LIFE and help multiply life-giving ministries wherever abortion exists?

Questions? Want more information? Contact us at [info@lifeinternational.com](mailto:info@lifeinternational.com) or (616) 248-3300.



—Japanese director, Keiko (far right) with client, baby, and two center members

1 Central Intelligence Agency. The World Factbook. Retrieved from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.html>

2 Japanese Cities Ranked by Population. Retrieved from <http://www.japanorama.com/cityrank.html>

3 Baba, S., Tsujita, S., & Morimoto, K. (January 2005) The Analysis of Trends in Induced Abortion in Japan—An Increasing Consequence among Adolescents. *Environmental Health and Preventive Medicine*, 10. Retrieved from [http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/ehpm/10/1/9/\\_pdf](http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/ehpm/10/1/9/_pdf)

4 Central Intelligence Agency. The World Factbook. Retrieved from <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ja.htm>

5 Betty, S. (July 25, 2008) After the Abortion Mizuko Kuyo. National Catholic Reporter. Retrieved from <http://ncronline.org/node/1462>