

Fundraising For a New Heart For Rai



Rai Matsushima, a 12 years old boy in Kuwae Jr. High School in Chatan, Okinawa, is suffering from a severe heart disease. He will be travelling to the United States to have a heart transplant operation.

Because it requires a huge amount of money to cover this operation overseas (estimated 215,000,000 Japanese Yen), we have established "A New Heart For Rai" foundation. We would like to continue this fundraising for Rai and his family to cover the cost of the operation including the living cost and the traveling expenses while in the United States. We wish for your understanding and would like to ask for your generous support.

In December 2013, Rai had a fever and was diagnosed with a cold in a local hospital. His fever continued and he also started vomiting. He was then diagnosed with acute myocarditis at the Chubu Tokushukai Hospital. He was transferred to Okinawa Nanbu Children's Medical Center. Myocarditis is a deadly disease as there is a potential for sudden cardiac hypofunction. After a few days, Rai had a fulminant myocarditis which caused cardiac arrest as he was having a cardiopulmonary insufficiency. He escaped death by having an external left ventricular assist device and right ventricular assist device implanted. In spite of all possible medical treatment and rehabilitation given, his cardiac function has not been recovered, and in July 2014, he was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy from myocarditis (incurable disease). The only treatment left is a heart transplant and his name is listed in the Japan Organ Transplant Network. However, organ donors are rare in Japan; therefore there is at least a three-year waiting period. Currently, his life is sustained by the external left ventricular assist device. His cardiac condition needs to be stable as his right ventricle is also falling. In August of 2014, it was confirmed that a heart transplant is the only hope. Rai has been accepted for transplantation at Columbia University [Hospital] Medical Center in New York City. However, the cost is huge. Insurance does not cover it, and it is not an amount of money that a common individual can cover. Rai says: ***"I would like to have the heart transplant operation and would like to go back to school and play soccer again."*** This all came to Rai so sudden but he is holding on, fighting the disease. A heart transplant can save Rai's life and help him regain his health and his dreams. We want to help, so we are establishing "A New Heart For Rai" foundation. We sincerely ask for your warm support and generous donation in helping to prolong his young life, through your donation.

Fundraising Goal

¥215,000,000

for more information

rai-aid.com

PLEASE DONATE TO:

The Bank of Okinawa	Chatan Branch	Futsuu Account: 1522272
Bank of The Ryukyus	Chatan Branch	Futsuu Account: 505384
Okinawa Kaiho Bank	Chatan Branch	Futsuu Account: 0509951
Koza Shinkin Bank	Chatan Branch	Futsuu Account: 0160176
JA Okinawa	Chatan Branch	Futsuu Account: 0013539
Japan Post Bank	Branch # 708	Futsuu Account: 1484346

Account Name: Rai-kun wo Sukuu Kai (Help for Rai)

A New Heart For Rai Foundation

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