



November 15th, 2016

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Buddhist Churches of America

1710 Octavia Street • San Francisco, California 94109

Tel: (415) 776-5600 • Fax: (415) 771-6293

Dear BCA Members and Supporters:

As we enjoy the traditions of this Thanksgiving season, we may contemplate our nembutsu teachings of gratitude and our interconnectedness to all sentient beings. It is an appropriate time to think of our practice of *dana*, the unconditional giving of ourselves and our resources, particularly to those less fortunate or those experiencing unrest in their lives by some catastrophic event. Fortunately, our BCA Social Welfare Fund has been available to such people in need.

These are the projects funded this past year. In April, a disastrous earthquake hit the Kumamoto area of Japan, causing extensive property damage and displacing many of the residence in that area. The BCA Social Welfare Fund was able to send \$25,000 to the Hongwanji relief efforts. The Social Welfare funds were also able to help the Central California Nikkei Foundation when their walk-in refrigeration unit at their 78 unit assisted living facility began unexpectedly malfunctioning while trying to maintain service of over 300 meals a day to its residents and adult day care participants. In the past, the Social Welfare fund, through your generous support, has distributed over \$2 million in grants for worthy projects throughout the world since 1981.

The Social Welfare Committee has received applications from many more agencies deserving help for 2017, so we are asking for your help in continuing to make funds available to those less fortunate or those that may be in need of some emergency help. Your *dana* has helped keep BCA programs operating but your response to this Thanksgiving letter will help to ease suffering in our communities and in the world.

Your gift of any amount is appreciated. Please complete the attached donation form with the payment method of your choice. You can donate online at BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org/SocialWelfareFund. Together we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

In Gassho,

Gary Mukai
Co-Chair
Social Welfare Committee

Charlene Grinolds
Co-Chair
Social Welfare Committee



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BCA 会員の皆様へ、

慈光照護のもとますますご健勝のこととお慶び申し上げます。さてサンクスギビングの時期となりました。浄土真宗の門信徒として、様々な事情により苦しい状況に置かれていらっしゃる方々に対して無償の援助を行うダーナについて少しお考えいただければと存じます。米国仏教団ではそういった方々を援助するための社会福祉事業基金というものがございます。

本年四月には熊本で大きな地震が発生し、甚大なる被害をもたらしました。米国仏教団の社会福祉事業基金では復興支援金として 25,000 ドルを本願寺へ送りました。また困窮している七十八家族を支援し、一日に三百食以上の食事を提供している Central California Nikkei Foundation の施設にて、冷凍・冷蔵設備が故障した際にはこれを支援いたしました。米国仏教団社会福祉事業基金では本年このようなプログラムを展開してまいりました。皆様のご厚意に支えられながら、これまでに各地において 200 万ドル以上の支援を行ってまいりました。

2017 年に向けて各方面より支援依頼の声が届いております。付きましてはこの支援事業をこれからも継続すべく皆様からのご寄附をたまわりたく存じます。皆様のダーナによってこの社会福祉事業基金は成り立っており、それによって皆様のお近くで困っていらっしゃる方々、更には世界で困っていらっしゃる方々を支援することができます。

このプログラムにご賛同いただけるようでしたら同封の用紙に寄附の支払いの方法等の必要事項をご記入いただき、ご返送くださいますようお願い申し上げます。あなたは BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org/SocialWelfareFund でオンライン寄付することができます

合 掌

Gary Mukai
Co- Chair
Social Welfare Committee

Charlene Grinolds
Co- Chair
Social Welfare Committee