

Field Report

**Community-based child-rearing volunteer support in UK
– A report of visiting to the Home-Start UK**

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Abstract

Objective: In September 2019, in order to obtain useful insights for child-rearing support activities for foreign parents and children living in Japan, I visited two offices of Home-Start UK, an international non-profit organization that provides community-based child-rearing support.

Method: In this report, I will explain what I learned at the Home-Start UK, focusing on the three points of (1) facility outline, (2) support system, and (3) volunteer activities.

Results: Home-Start UK has provided home-visiting child-rearing support for a diversity of parents and children, including immigrants and refugees of various backgrounds. Home-Start's home-visit supporters are well-trained volunteers who cooperate with public health services and professionals. The ethos behind the home-visit services offered by Home-Start is based on child protection from the citizen's perspectives.

Discussion: In the Japanese context, an effective approach to establishing community-based support systems for foreign parents and their children could also be the promotion of volunteer group-led activities with cooperation from networks of professionals and public health services.

Key Words: Child-rearing support, Home-Start, immigrant, UK, volunteer