



# Family Service Organizations in Hiroshima, Japan

Monte-Angel Richardson  
University of Michigan School of Social Work



*“A small ingenuity triggered a small ingenuity so that a single drop of water shakes the surface of the water and the ripples caused are spreading out, your real world is shaken and life changes”*

Ripple provides consultation services for adults and children with troubles interacting and engaging in their environments. Sessions are conducted individually or in groups, in up to three sessions per person.

### Services

**Social Skills Training:** Group and individual interpersonal communication training for children and young adults.

**Solution-Oriented Interview Consultation:** Problem solving to understand difficulties in daily interactions. Therapy is based on communication to find the crux of the issue. Clients learn skills, practice them, then report on progress.

### Components

Ripple’s services are founded in comprehensive interpersonal support theory. By providing problem-solving strategies, Ripple aims to increase personal efficacy in personal relationships.

### Measures of Success

As a newer organization, Ripple staff pilot programs and meet regularly to discuss progress and make revisions.

**Case study meetings:** Team meetings where staff discuss questions and concerns about their sessions.

**Reports from study groups:** Piloting the program and meeting weekly to learn and assess the basics of consultation support.



## Place-based

“Every morning, this picture will greet you when you go to work. I thought about the people who visit Ripple and our staff, and drew it. It is scenery that will reset my feelings.”

## Group treatment

“I am aiming for a nursery school where children grow up with their companions, parents and caregivers connect hands and grow up with children.”



*“We strive to enhance domestic treatment, consider consistency of child rearing and small group raising for infants, small group promotion for children, think about human formation and advance to university, aim for independence to society, exchange with local communities”*

**Located** downtown, Hiroshima Shudoin is a multi-service organization serving both children and older adults.

### Services

Child care facility, nursery, infantry, emergency support, overnight facilities, child counselling, after school services, and consultation centre.

**Facility Amenities:** Community garden, nature walks, small classes, meal preparation and kitchen, and large playground.

### Components

Hiroshima Shudoin serves children who cannot be raised at home and provides services for parents with emergency needs. They also organize socialization groups for children, infant and natal care curriculum for families, and consultation for parents with young children who have concerns about developmental delays or mental illness.

### Measures of Success

**Longevity:** Hiroshima Shudoin has been in operation for a hundred years, originally serving as an orphanage to children after the atomic bombing.

**Community Embeddedness:** The organization prides itself on its community connections, often providing services through partnerships.

Thank you to Ripple  
[ripple-hiroshima.jimdo.com](http://ripple-hiroshima.jimdo.com)  
& Hiroshima Shudoin  
[shudoin.or.jp](http://shudoin.or.jp)

For arranging tours of their organizations.  
Greatest thanks to Dr. Yumi Oshita

(大下由美)  
For arranging the visits.  
ありがとうございます!