

NAF Atsugi volunteers clean up local orphanage

MC2 Justin Smelley

NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI – Sailors from Naval Air Facility (NAF) Atsugi volunteered in a spring clean up at the Misono Kodomo-no-ie Orphanage in Fujisawa on June 10.

The Sailors painted, pulled and cut out weeds on the grounds, picked up trash and cleaned windows. This is the second clean-up NAF Atsugi has done at the orphanage this year.

Many of the Sailors have done volunteer work prior to their military careers and are no stranger to support the cause.

“Before I joined the military I liked to help people out and now that I’m in another country I get to help people and also experience their culture,” said Religious Programs Specialist Seaman Apprentice Jadarius Segars. “I get to see their appreciation for what we do and it makes me feel good.”

The crew split up into four teams to get the maximum work effort for the limited time they had at the orphanage. They finished all the tasks they had planned out and even did a little extra in the three hour time limit.

Community relations events like this one not only help build a stronger relationship between the base and the surrounding cities, but also give Sailors a chance to help out the country that hosts them.

“It’s a joy being able to help out with the community,” said Naval Air Crewmen 2nd Class Julius Jones. “It’s a service I do for myself and a service I do for the community and I enjoy doing it.”

NAF Atsugi plans on helping out the orphanage with any community projects they have in the future to keep this strong friendship going.

To participate in future community relations projects contact the Host Nations Relations Office at 264-3602 or the chaplain’s office at 264-3202.