



# Presentation of Japan NTUT

Mrs. Mariko Takamura :

A lecturer of English and ASL

at the Tsukuba University of Technology,

Teaching through Japanese sign language.



# Profile of Mrs. Mariko Takamura

Education TV program,

**“Hello to Deaf People“**

Representative of deaf support group,

**“WE” = World Exchange** of culture project

A sign language song dancer duo,

**“Soul Rainbow.“**





# Profile of Mrs. Mariko Takamura

**Born profoundly deaf** and wore a hearing aid in her daily life.

Working at a hospital as a **nutritionist**, went to California State University, Northridge at the age of 25 to study (CSUN)



# Profile of Mrs. Mariko Takamura

4 years later, in Japan worked for an **English newspaper** and an advertisement agency, and established **WE** to support the deaf and HH, hard-of-hearing.

Returned to USA to **marry American boyfriend.**

## An author

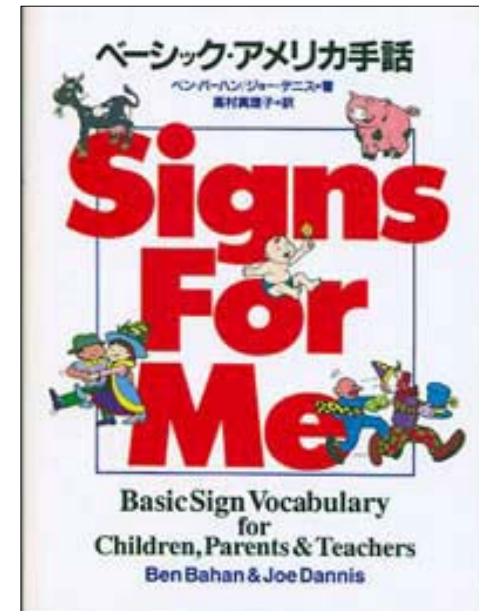
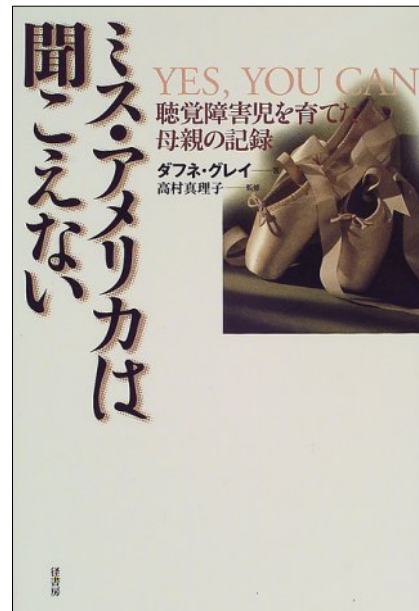
“American Sign Language Broadened My World!”

“Learning Sign Language in America”

## Translator

“Yes, You Can.”

“Signs for me—Basic Sign Vocabulary for Children,  
Parents & Teachers”



# Example of how Mrs. Takamura has influenced us.

- Some deaf and HH students went USA to study with **her support.**
- **A wonderful lecturer in English and ASL** based on her experience.





**Why** did we  
Choose

Mrs. Takamura  
as **a leader?**



Mrs. Mariko Takamura  
who influenced many people  
by **overcoming deaf  
and lived positively.**

But she died of cancer.

The too early death  
is regretted.



# Vision of Mrs. Mariko Takamura

Always keep in mind “Try!” and “Can!”

# Her Dreams...



# Familiarize the Japanese people with ASL.

“Learning ASL will help you communicate with people from other countries while respecting their cultures.”

Support Indonesian deaf children's efforts to become self-sustaining and receive a college education.

Teach children  
expressing themselves  
through sign language, music  
and  
poetry.

Invite **Wild Zappers**  
and other great deaf  
performers to Japan.



# Her Words...







“I hope to see deaf and HH  
children being positive  
about their lives,  
knowing they have a language



“ I think that Japan has a role to play in guiding and leading other Asian countries, with a mind to cooperate with and strengthen one another.”



“The United States has  
the Americans with  
Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) which  
bans discrimination because of  
physical and  
mental disabilities”



**“I strongly believe  
Japan should have  
a law like the ADA.”**

What kinds of changes will such a leader bring to the deaf community?



Many deaf and HH people  
involved in **various activities**,  
sign language performances etc.

**More Internationally-minded deaf  
and HH persons,**  
promoting international  
exchange  
and globalization.



Promoted friendship among  
deaf and HH people.

Broader understanding of  
hearing disabilities among  
hearing people.

Thank you for  
your attention !

