

## AEC and Special Olympics Nippon–Okinawa Launch “Strike for Smiles”

Bowling beyond differences in language and ability

On January 18, 2026, American Engineering Corporation (AEC), in partnership with Special Olympics Nippon Okinawa (SON Okinawa), hosted the inaugural bowling exchange event, Strike for Smiles. Through sport, the event aimed to bring people together and foster genuine connection beyond differences in language and ability.



A total of 63 participants—including SON Okinawa athletes, AEC employees, and their families—came together for the occasion. The event opened with a message from AEC’s President, inviting everyone to “share high-fives that go beyond differences in language and ability.”

Cheers erupted with every great play, and spontaneous high-fives filled the venue, creating a lively atmosphere marked by warmth and unity.

### ■ Donation Ceremony

A donation ceremony was also held during the event, at which AEC presented a contribution to SON Okinawa.



Mr. Inamine, the Chairman of SON Okinawa, saying, “We are truly grateful for AEC’s continued support over many years. Opportunities like this help each athlete build confidence and take meaningful steps toward greater participation in society.”

Our President also shared his message, “At AEC, we believe that respect for diversity must be demonstrated through action, not just ideals. More than financial support alone, sharing time and experiences together is what truly represents the first step toward an inclusive society.”

Through high-fives, shared laughter, and celebrating one another’s efforts, the day became an experience that went beyond the roles of “supporter” and “recipient,” offering an opportunity for mutual learning. Moving forward, AEC remains committed to working alongside local communities and continuing initiatives that foster understanding, connection, and inclusion.