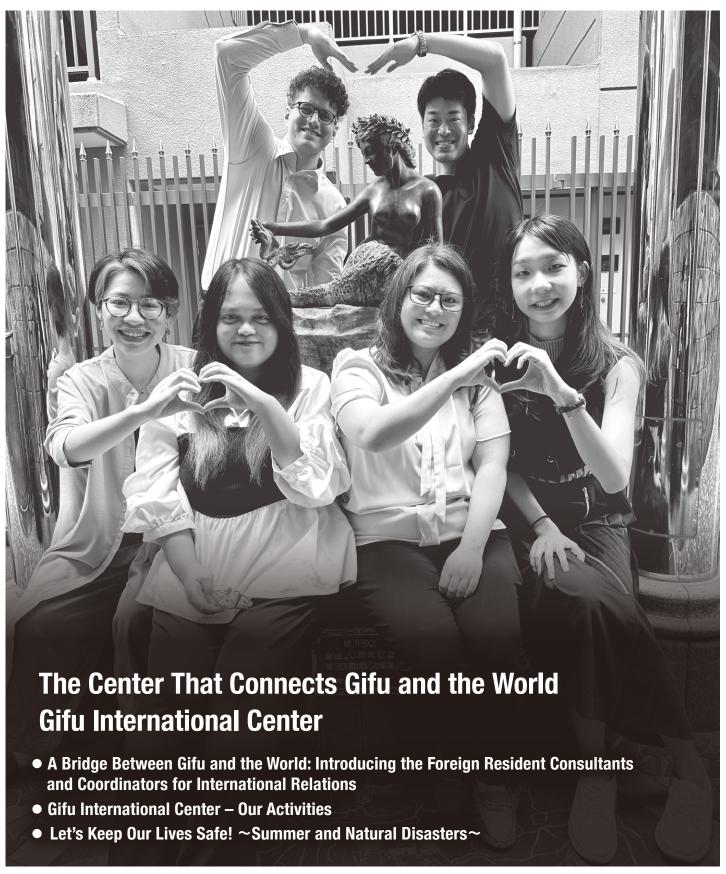


# Sekai wa Hitotsu

No.162



### A Bridge Between Gifu and the World

## **Introducing the Foreign Resident Consultants and Coordinators for International Relations**

What is a foreign resident consultant?

Foreign resident consultants provide consultations, as well as written and spoken translation services, so that foreign residents may live peacefully and happily.



Tsukamoto Eveline (Portuguese)

Hi, my name is Tsukamoto Eveline, and I am a foreign resident counselor. If there is anything in daily life, work, or education which has been troubling you, I am here for you to talk about it. I'm actively studying in order to provide clear and reliable information. I especially value the importance of connections built through mutual trust. When trouble comes up, I want you to consider me as someone you can turn to and talk with. My favorite place in Gifu Prefecture is the Minna no Mori Gifu Media Cosmos because of its beautiful and modern design. I'm looking forward to meeting you!



Nakada Vae (Filipino)

My name is Vae, and I have been serving as the Filipino-speaking foreign resident counselor since 1 year ago. I am here to listen to the troubles of foreign residents and provide translations for public institutions. I am doing my best each day to provide better services for more prefectural residents. I love Gifu for its relaxed feel and beautiful nature. There is lots of scenery which remind me of Davao City in the Philippines, and as I look at them I remember a nostalgic feeling. Especially, I like Yoro Park, whose beauty amazes me no matter the season. I am looking forward to talking with you!



Kubota Manabu (Vietnamese)

Các bạn ơi! ("Hello Everyone!" in Vietnamese)

Hi, my name is Kubota, and I have been working as a foreign resident counselor since April of this year. If there is anything which is troubling you, please stop by and have a conversation. My hobby is doing self-led food tours, and recently I tried Gifu's well-known "soul food": cold tanuki soba. The simple ingredients of the tempura scraps, sliced green onions, and fried tofu along with the cold broth bring about a very unique and delicious flavor. My favorite place in Gifu is Shirakawa village, especially the enchanting scenery you can see in the winter.

#### What is a CIR?

The CIRs(Coordinators for International Relations) at the GIC work to provide written and spoken translations for local organizations, introduce their cultures at local schools, hold foreign language classes and cultural exchange lectures, and plan and host international exchange events.



Tonarchi Sorato Gustavo Henrique (Brazil)

Hi, my name is Gustavo, or Tavo, and I'm from Brazil. I am currently working as a CIR for the Gifu International Center, and I'm happy to say that I'm starting my third year working here.

Gifu is a region surrounded by mountains, and there is beautiful scenery no matter which direction you look. Especially, the view of Gifu castle from a distance has a compelling beauty to it. As a result of this beauty, I became interested in mountain climbing. Up until now, my only experience of life in Japan was of the city life of Tokyo, but I was able to quickly get used to life in Gifu. I think it's because of the people here who offered me much warm support. I hope that from here on, I will be able to act as a bridge between Brazil and Japan though contributing to cultural exchange. Nice to meet you!



Pham Phuong Hien (Vietnam)

Xin chào! ('Hello!')

My name is Hien, and I am a CIR at the Gifu International Center. I am in charge of written and spoken translations, consultation support for foreign residents, Vietnamese language lessons, and cultural introductions. I am working every day to find fun events to share Vietnamese culture and make Vietnam feel more culturally close to Japan.

A place that I like in Gifu is the area around Kogane Shrine. Since there is lots of greenery, I often stop by there after work, but the reason I grew attached to it was because when I was feeling down at one point, I picked a fortune whose words really lifted my spirits and encouraged me on. I really love Japanese food which matches well with sake, and I have a deep love for tea as well. And as summer is getting closer, I have been enjoying sitting with friends, looking at the same scenery, and eating ice cream.



Sou Kiyuu (China)

大家好! (dàjiā hǎo; 'Hello Everyone!') My name is Sou Kiyuu, and I have been working as a CIR in the Gifu International Center. Please call me Kiyuu. I am in charge of Chinese-Japanese translation, and I am also holding Chinese lessons and cultural exchange events. I am hoping to contribute to the further development of international exchange in Gifu.

The place in Gifu I like the most is the Nagara River. Every day on the way to work, I cross over the river, and on clear days I can see the green of the banks and the blue of the river. It is a very beautiful sight.

I really love milk tea, so let's make a toastwith milk and tea!

干杯~ (gānbēi; 'Cheers' in Chinese)

## Let's Keep Our Lives Safe!

### **Summer and Natural Disasters**

With typhoons, earthquakes, and large rainstorms, Japan is a country with many disasters. It is very important to be well prepared before a disaster happens.

This time, we will share some useful information for protecting yourself from the summer disasters of typhoons and water-related disasters.

### yphoons

Typhoons come to Japan between July and September.

Lots of rain will fall.

Strong winds will blow.

The water level in rivers increases, and it is possible that rivers can overflow. Trains and buses may stop operating.

 Let's always double check the weather data on television and smartphones.





### Water-related incidents

Due to water-related incidents, many people drown every year. Rivers are the most dangerous places that are close to us. When playing at the river, let's follow the rules.

In an emergency, notify:



Wear a Life Jacket.

- Do not try to swim across a river under any circumstance.
  River: 119 Ocean: 118
- Do not drink alcohol by the river.
- Keep your eye on children at all times.
- Take garbage home with you. Do not throw it in the river.



### **Announcement**

To protect the lives of people who are important to us, let's look at the GIC's disaster information on Facebook.

At this center, to deliver easy-to-understand disaster information to foreign residents, we are using a system which automatically sends messages translated messages in 6 languages from our Facebook accounts.

### (Alert message contents)

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Emergency safety measures	→ Your life is at risk.
Evacuation notice	→ Please run to a safe place.
Flood danger water level	→ The river may overflow.
Evacuation decision water level	→ Water in the river is increasing.
Landslide disaster hazard level information	A landslide might occur.

### **Facebook QR Codes**











## **Gifu International Center – Our Activities**

The Public Interest Incorporated Foundation Gifu International Center (GIC) is a center rooted in the local region which uses Gifu Prefecture's beautiful natural environment, history, culture, and other resources to build a multicultural society, and to increase mutual understanding and friendly relations between countries.

### **Creating a Region of Multicultural Exchange**

- Supporting the children and parents of foreign residents; career education assistance
- Counsel with foreign resident consultants; conversations with legal specialists and specialist consultants
- Japanese study assistance; Japanese language assistance volunteer training, conversations about learning Japanese
- Disaster prevention strategies for foreigners (Facebook disaster information, disaster prevention seminars)

### **Designing an Environment for the Furthering of Internationalism**

- Publishing of "Sekai wa Hitotsu" International Exchange and Multiculturalism Information Magazine
- International exchange through language classes and foreign culture lessons
- Multicultural education (school visits)
- Cultural exchange events for Japanese and foreign residents

### **Promotion of Volunteer Group Activities**

- Training and mediation for medical translation volunteers
- Natural disaster foreign language volunteer training
- Assistance for multicultural coexistence and international exchange groups
- Registration of volunteers; introduction of volunteers to institutions and groups

### **(Searching for Supporting Members)**

The GIC is currently searching for individuals and groups who are interested in providing support.

Annual membership minimum payment of 1 unit

1 unit (Individual): 3,000 yen (2 units=6,000 yen)

1 unit (Organization): 5,000 yen (2 units=10,000 yen)

**Membership benefits** 

Delivery of magazine "Sekai wa Hitotsu", a discount for GIC events, etc.

For more details, please contact the GIC.



### **Foreign Residents Consultation Desk**

At the Gifu International Center (GIC), we accept all manner of consultation topics. Is there anything troubling you in relation to taxes, living situation, education, welfare, or everyday life? Our staff can converse in over 15 languages, so please come and talk with us.

Target Audience

Gifu Prefecture foreign residents

Phone Consultations

Over 15 languages

In-person Consultations English, Chinese, Portuguese, Filipino, and Vietnamese

#### We respond to special concerns with legal specialists.

We provide counselling about immigration matters (Immigration Services Agency), legal matters (Lawyer), paperwork filing (Administrative Procedures Specialist), as well as other specialist matters. Please reserve an appointment over the phone.

There are translators for Portuguese, Filipino, and Vietnamese, so please be assured.

### Heart-to-heart Consultation

If there is something at work or in your family which is causing you worry, please don't hold it in all by yourself. Counselors from Brazil, the Philippines, and Vietnam are available at no cost to talk with in your mother tongue. Without holding your troubles in, please come and talk. It is necessary to make an appointment for a consultation. Please call ahead and reserve a time.

Phone: 058-263-8066 Open: 9:30~16:30 (Mon.~Fri.)

#### **Publishing/Editing**

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Open: 9:30~18:00 (Sunday to Friday)

(Closed on Saturdays, holidays, and the new year period.)

Accepts languages: English, Chinese, Portuguese, Filipino, Vietnamese, and others

