

The Kawasaki City Representative Assembly for



Foreign Residents Newsletter No. 67

Colors, Future!

いろいろって、未来。

川崎市

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(Japanese) <http://www.city.kawasaki.jp/shisei/category/60-7-2-0-0-0-0-0-0.html>

(Simple Japanese) <http://www.city.kawasaki.jp/250/page/0000042748.html>

〈International Festival in Kawasaki〉

The "2019 International Festival in Kawasaki" took place on July 7th (Sun) in Kawasaki International Center. This year around 14,000 people came to visit.

On the day of the festival we did not only raise awareness for the Assembly, but we were also able to interact with many people by doing puzzles, painting flags and making fish figures out of ribbon.



〈Kawasaki Citizen's Festival〉

The 42th Kawasaki Citizen's Festival was held from November 2nd (Sat) to 4th (Mon) and the Representative Assembly participated on the 2nd day. During the opening parade the members, some wearing traditional costume and waving flags, raised attention for the Representative Assembly by waving their hands to the spectators on the side of the road smiling.

In our booth we had many projects for adults and children alike to enjoy, like trial of traditional costumes, puzzles, and drawing of flags. And the long customary tasting of hot teas from around the world was very popular this year as well.



The Open Meeting

The 2019 Open Meeting was held on November 10th (Sun) in Kawasaki International Center. This year we had around 95 visitors and the meeting took place from 2pm to 5pm.

As this year is the 2nd year of the 12th Term of the Assembly we introduced the members' thoughts about the topics which we are currently preparing as proposals to the City and received feedback from the audience. In the main meeting we first explained our proposal drafts in general. Next, we split up into 2 subcommittee meetings to do Q&A sessions and exchange opinions with the attendees. The topics were about "Medical Examinations for Infants" in the subcommittee A and "Japanese Language support for children at school" as well as "Employment and labor issues of foreign workers" in subcommittee B. At the end we shared the opinions in a plenary session and received comments from Mr. Junichi Shibuya, Lecturer at Tokyo University of Social Welfare, and Mrs. Chiho Ogaya, professor at Ferris University, who kindly acted as commentators.

At this Open Meeting we were able to get a lot of valuable and helpful opinions and input. We will discuss these thoroughly in the remaining sessions of the Assembly and work on good proposals.



In the survey of the Open Meeting there was a lot of feedback about our proposal drafts like "It would be easier to understand if we knew the reason for focusing on this topic", "I want to hear more about the background and subject of the proposal", or "I'd like to hear about the specific content in more detail". And about the Open Meeting in general we received the following impressions: "I was able to hear opinions from the meeting which made me realize new perspectives", "Japanese society tends to be closed-minded towards foreigners as a real-life issue. However, let us continue to discuss together toward further activity of foreigners and a multicultural society.", "It was good to hear a lot of different opinions. Through this meeting, we can think about how our own country is dealing with foreigners.", "I think that foreigners who have awareness of problems will contribute to society in the future. I felt the wish to create a good society for the next generation together, regardless of foreigners or Japanese."

After the Open Meeting a party was held. Even though the time was limited, a lot of meaningful exchange was possible. We wish to thank everyone who participated.

《Introducing the Multicultural Consultation One-Stop Center and the QR translator》

The consultation desk for foreigners at the Kawasaki International Center has been renewed as the "Multicultural Consultation One-stop Center" and available language support has been expanded to 11 languages.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
English	●	●	●	●	●	●
Chinese		●	●		●	
Korean		●		●		
Spanish		●	●			
Portuguese		●			●	
Tagalog		●	●			
Vietnamese		●			●	
Thai	●	●				
Indonesian		●	●			
Nepalese		●				●
Simple Japanese	●	●	●	●	●	●

【Consultation topics】

Any kind of trouble, issues which the consulting person doesn't know what to do, any necessary information (Medical care, health welfare, DV, administrative procedures, education, child care etc.)

【Fee】

Free of charge

【Location】

Kawasaki International Center (Kawasaki, Nakahara Ward, Kizuki Gion-cho 2-2)
10-12 minutes' walk from Motosumiyoshi Station, Tokyu Toyoko/Meguro Line

【Phone】

044-455-8811

【Consultation hours】

10:00~12:00、13:00~16:00
(Except between December 29th and January 3rd)

【HP】

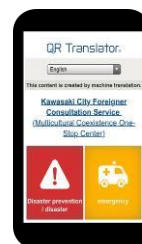
<http://www.kian.or.jp>

**On days were counselors of a certain language are not available, you can still consult at the desk by using interpretation service or interpretation apps.



QR Translator

You can access multi language information via Smartphone or Tablet easily.



Support system for pregnancy, childbirth and childcare in Kawasaki City



The birth of new life is a joyful event; however, it can also be accompanied by the anxiety whether economically everything will be alright. In this newsletter I want to introduce the several support systems existing in Kawasaki City.

First let's have a look regarding pregnancy. Once you're told by your doctor to get the "Mother and Child Health Handbook", you can go to the Ward Office and receive the "Mother and Child Handbook" (or Maternity Passbook; this is available in 10 languages apart from Japanese) and within this Handbook subsidy tickets of the pregnancy checkup subsidy system are included. When you use one of these tickets, the amount of the subsidy ticket will be deducted from the bill you have to pay at the hospital.

Next, how about childbirth? Anyone who has a health insurance can receive the "Lump-Sum Childbirth Allowance" (420,000 JPY per child). As for people insured by the National Health Insurance, in case of the following (1) or (2) please apply at the Ward Office or Branch. (1) If you have not used the system which allows the National Health Insurance to pay the necessary costs for childbirth directly to your medical institution. (2) If you have used the system to pay directly to the medical institution, but the cost for childbirth was below 420,000 JPY and you would like to receive payment of the balance. In my case, I was insured through my company, so I applied via my company. You can also receive the "Lump-Sum Childbirth Allowance" if you have given birth outside of Japan or in case of a stillbirth or miscarriage after the 12th week of pregnancy.

Lastly, regarding child raising there are the "Child-rearing allowance" and the "Medical expense subsidy program for children". The "Child-rearing allowance" is a system where an allowance is paid three times per year (in June, October and February) for all children until the 31st of March in the year the child turns 15 (Until graduation from junior high school). The "Medical expense subsidy program for children" is a system subsidizing the self-paid amount of insurance medical expenses for all children with health insurance. The amounts and contents of the "Child-rearing allowance" and "Medical expense subsidy program for children" may vary depending on the household income. For details please consult at your Ward Offices desk.

Once your child is born, you will get the birth certificate from your hospital. Write your child's name and birth date and make sure to submit it to the Ward Office within 14 days. At the same timing you can also check about the application method for the "Child-rearing allowance" and "Medical expense subsidy program for children" at the desk.

There are several support systems, but if you don't apply you cannot use them so let's make sure to apply. To all mothers and mothers-to-be living in Kawasaki, let's enjoy raising our children in Kawasaki together!

(Liu Ailing)

<Inquiries>

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Looking forward to your opinions or impressions about the Assembly and this newsletter.

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