





 $_{
m Vol.} 92$

< Edited and published by >
Fukuoka International Exchange Foundation
Secretary-General Yukiko KAMORI

< Date of issue > December, 2020

< Address > 8F ACROS Fukuoka 1-1-1 Tenjin,Chuo-ku,Fukuoka-shi

Bringing you the news of the foundation's immigration-related activities

We started web meetings with the overseas Kenjinkai members!

Due to the impact of the COVID-19, exchange opportunities with the Overseas Kenjinkais have decreased due to postponement of anniversary events with the kenjinkais and the cancellation of leader training program. In response, we held a three-day web conference with the overseas Kenjinkai on September 8, 10, and 11, in order to check the activities and current situation of each area and to exchange information.

The meeting was attended by the president, officials, and board members of each Kenjinkai, as well as, Executive Director, Mr. Fukushima, Secretary General, Ms. Kamori, and Manager Ms. Araki of the foundation. At the meetings, we explained about this year's activities and

future plans, and each Kenjinkai reported that they have been holding meetings of the board of directors by phone, email, and web, as it has been impossible for Kenjinkai members to meet due COVID-19. It was also agreed that the next meeting will be held in January of next year.

We will start online Japanese language classes!

With the goal to increase the interest in Fukuoka and Japan among the children of Kenjinkai members, an online Japanese language class will be held from January of next year. We hope that children who wish to participate in the program will utilize the classes as a tool to learn Japanese language and culture, so that they will be able to interact more when they arrive in Japan and hope they will be more motivated to learn more in the future.

<Planned> December: PR the classes to the Kenjinkais and recruit participants for Japanese language classes January-March: Japanese language classes will be held 4 times

Introducing the students for the 2020 Exchange Student Scholarships for Descendants of Immigrants from Fukuoka Prefecture!

Due to COVID-19, only one student from Bolivia, who was in Japan for entrance exams before the travel restrictions were enacted, was able to start studying abroad in April. Although life is different from that of previous years due to the COVID-19, she is enjoying her school life. Also, since entry into Japan has been permitted since October on the condition of quarantine measures, one student from Southern California will come to Japan and will start his life in Fukuoka in

December.

Susana Yuu Ogata Yonekura (Bolivia)



School life

Since I was able to come to Japan early, I was able to interact with the students from the previous year before they went back to their home countries. I was worried about my life in Japan, but I was taught how to ride the trains and buses and how to get to school from them, which I am very thankful for. Now I am enjoying school life and made friends. At school we have practical training three times a week and I make all kinds of bread and confectionery. I was also able to participate in tea ceremony at school, which was a lot of fun. It is a bummer that the other students were not able to come this year due to COVID-19, but I am having a great time going out to eat and shopping with the former scholarship students and their families in Fukuoka. My message to prospective recipients is to improve your Japanese language skills as much as possible before coming to Japan and if you don't understand something, just ask and everyone help you out.

《 Arriving in December 》

It's fun and interesting to participate in online classes with classmates from different countries. I'm looking forward to meeting everyone.

Chairpersons of the Overseas Fukuoka Kenjinkais have changed!

Brazil Fukuoka Kenjinkai Hawaii Shima Fukuoka Kenjinkai Peru Fukuoka Kenjinkai Mr. Minami Agostinho Toshio

Mr. Harold Uyeno Mr. Guillermo Makabe



Miles Kiyoshi Lee (Nanka)