



MAEBASHI FOCUS



Coordinator for International Relations (CIR) Newsletter

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Are there big differences in work culture between Hawaii and Japan?

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In Hawaii, clocking out on time is normal, and even for situations where overtime work is necessary, compensation or substitutive leave are provided in many cases. When meeting people for the first time or greeting others, we shake hands instead of bowing. Depending on the work environment, developing close relationships with other employees is common, and parting with a hug when coworkers leave the job or retire is not an unusual sight. In general, staff reshuffling systems do not exist, so one is able to master skills in a particular field over the course of many years. However, growing one's own career by changing jobs and acquiring new knowledge and experience at each workplace is becoming the norm in American society.

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What are Maebashi City's positive traits?

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To me, a positive trait of Maebashi City is the high frequency and varied themes of city events, compelling me to go out on weekends. At multiculturalism events, one can enjoy cuisine and interesting activities from other countries, allowing for chances to engage with many different cultures and customs. Moreover, events that introduce local restaurants and shops are held often, not just leading to new discoveries for the individual but also encouraging regional promotion and city revitalization.



August 6th marks the completion of my tenure as the Maebashi City Coordinator for International Relations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for supporting the CIR Newsletter. I appreciate all the warm words and thought-provoking questions from other city employees, and I hope this newsletter has increased your international awareness and interest in Hawaii. For the past two years, I am grateful to have been able to contribute to international exchange and support foreign residents in the city, and I intend to apply my experience and learned skills as a CIR when serving Japanese-speaking patients in healthcare settings. Publication of the CIR Newsletter will still continue, so please look forward to future volumes! Thank you so much for your continued support.