

## A Brief Introduction to the Miyazaki International Foundation

(宮崎県国際交流協会の紹介)

We hope everyone is keeping well! It seems lately that not a day goes by without seeing or hearing news about the current COVID-19 outbreak. Make sure to wash your hands, gargle and wear a mask!

The Miyazaki International Foundation (or “MIF” for short) operates the Miyazaki International Plaza, and the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents. We thought that this might be a good chance for everyone to get to know the MIF a little better, so in this month’s *Living in Miyazaki*, we decided to give a brief introduction to the Miyazaki International Foundation in a Q&A format:



**※The Miyazaki International Plaza and the free space at the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents will be temporarily closed until Wednesday May 6, 2020, to prevent the spread of COVID-19. For inquiries, please contact us by phone or email.**

**We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding and cooperation.**

Q1) Where is the Miyazaki International Foundation? Is there parking available?

The MIF is located on the first basement floor of the CARINO Miyazaki building (Tachibanadori-higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City, 880-0805).

Visitors can use the CARINO Miyazaki building’s parking lot, but unfortunately it is not free of charge.

Q2) When is the MIF open?

The MIF is open from 10:00AM to 7:00PM, Tuesday to Saturday. We are closed Sundays, Mondays, on national holidays and from December 29<sup>th</sup> to January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Q3) What sort of things can I do at the Miyazaki International Plaza?

- There is all sorts of information and resources available to help you with your daily life in Miyazaki:
  - ・ Resources to help you study Japanese, English, Korean or Chinese
  - ・ All kinds of information about Miyazaki Prefecture
  - ・ Information about Japanese culture and disaster preparedness
  - ・ Traditional costumes and flags from several countries are also available to borrow
- There is also a library corner:  
English-language newspapers, foreign books (in English, Korean, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Spanish and many other languages), books to help learning Japanese and various magazines are available to read and borrow. Some of the resources are for reference only and so can only be read at the Plaza, but apart from those, anyone can register and borrow up to two books at a time for two weeks.
- There is a noticeboard (plus, we have also recently redesigned our website):  
The noticeboard has information on various events as well as language courses and much more. The MIF also shares information via our website – make sure to check it out!



- Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs) are available:

Three times a week, CIRs are available to respond to enquiries in Korean, Chinese and English. So, even if you're not comfortable speaking Japanese, you can feel free to stop by.

Days/Languages available: Tuesday – Chinese, Thursday – Korean, Friday – English

\*Sometimes the CIRs might not be available, so please contact us to confirm beforehand!



Q4) I can't speak Japanese. Who should I ask if I have any problems or want to talk about something regarding life in Miyazaki?

Feel free to contact or visit the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents, operated by the MIF, any time. The Support Center is a one-stop advice center for anyone from overseas living in Miyazaki. The staff can offer help and advice for various problems, such as visas, employment, medical and healthcare enquiries, tax, education, housing, natural disasters and anything else. The staff speak English, and are also able to respond to enquiries in 18 other languages using a machine translator or phone interpreting service. Please get in touch for a list of available languages:

Phone: 0985-41-5901, Fax: 0985-51-5902

Email: [support@mif.or.jp](mailto:support@mif.or.jp)



If you have any questions, comments or suggestions regarding this column, please feel free to contact the Miyazaki International Foundation:

Phone: 0985-32-8457, Fax: 0985-32-8512

Email: [miyainfo@mif.or.jp](mailto:miyainfo@mif.or.jp)

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