

History of Sister City Relationship between Macon, GA and Kurobe, Japan

1977	May 10	Sister city signing ceremony; Goodwill delegation from Macon visits Kurobe (Mayor Buckner F. Melton and nine delegates)
1979	April 11	YKK Macon plant trainees visit Kurobe
	October 6	Goodwill delegation from Kurobe visits Macon (Mayor Okamoto and 34 delegates)
	November 2	Georgia Governor George Busbee visits Kurobe
1980	August 27	Director of the Macon Industrial Authority visits Kurobe
	September 12	Mike Mansfield, U.S. Ambassador to Japan, visits Kurobe
1981	November 20	Macon City Council Deputy Chairman and delegation visit Kurobe
1983	March 19-25	Kurobe Schools Superintendent and Kurobe City Hospital Director attend 1 st Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival (Kurobe donates 50 lanterns and 100 hand towels)
	October	Kurobe sends 30 children's paintings to Macon
	November 2-6	Macon sends items to display in the sister city corner at the Toyama International Trade Exhibition
1984	March	Kurobe sends 300 lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	May 21	39 th President of the United States Jimmy Carter visits Kurobe to hold dialogue with citizens and jog with them (May 22)
	May 22-23	Mayor George Israel, his wife, and 24 delegates visit Kurobe to attend Kurobe International Exchange Day
	August 20	Taido (Japanese martial art) team visits Kurobe
	July 28-August 14	Two Macon high school students visit Kurobe as exchange students (Angela Hough, Glen Atkinson)
	August 1-20	Two high school students from Kurobe sent to Macon as exchange students
1985	February 13	Kurobe sends 100 lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	August 1	Two Macon high school students visit Kurobe as exchange students (Rochelle McDaniel and Stephen Sineman)
	October 7-14	Goodwill delegation from Kurobe visits Macon (Mayor Ogino and 14 delegates)
1986	February 15	Kurobe sends 150 lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	August 1-20	Two high school students from Kurobe sent to Macon as exchange students
1987	February 16	Kurobe sends 100 lanterns and 20 <i>happi</i> coats to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	April 17	5 th Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival Queen and goodwill delegation visit Kurobe (1987 Cherry Blossom Queen Shannon Caldwell, her mother, Cherry Blossom Festival Chair Carolyn Crayton and her husband)
	July 15	Kurobe Deputy Mayor and Director of Administration visit Macon and tour American universities

	August 1-20	Two Macon high school students visit Kurobe as exchange students (Shanta Zimmer and Robert Carlton)
	October 5	Discussion with Georgia Governor Joe Frank Harris
	November 6	Carolyn Crayton visits Kurobe to discuss arrangements for Kurobe's participation in the 1988 Cherry Blossom Festival
	November	Kurobe sends 1000 tulip bulbs, 300 lanterns and 3000 artificial flowers to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
1988	February	Kurobe sends city publicity materials to Macon
	March 9-30	1 st Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip - 17 people visit Macon
	March 19-28	Goodwill delegation from Kurobe visits Macon (Mayor and 17 delegates)
	June 8-9	Mercer University President and delegation visit Kurobe (3 people)
	November	Macon and Kurobe exchange videos introducing their cities
	December	Kurobe sends 300 lanterns and 300 artificial flowers to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
1989	March 18-23	2 nd Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip - 17 people visit Macon
	May 22-28	Exhibition of Kurobe children's artwork in Macon (25 pieces)
	August 1-20	Two Macon high school students visit Kurobe as exchange students (Steven Barnes, Alison Hooker)
1990	January	Kurobe sends 300 lanterns and 300 artificial flowers to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	February 22	"Kurobe USA" meeting
	March 16-23	3 rd Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip - 17 people visit Macon
	May 15	Kurobe city representatives attend the welcome reception for the United States Conference of Mayors
	May 24-26	Macon mayor Lee Robinson and his wife visit Kurobe
	October 9	Macon-Kurobe sister post offices alliance formed
1991	January	Kurobe sends 300 lanterns and 300 artificial flowers to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	February 6	Kurobe donates tea set to Macon Cherry Blossom Festival Headquarters
	March 16-23	4 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip - 18 people visit Macon
	August 1-20	Two Macon high school students visit Kurobe as exchange students (Ben Withloose, Kelly Spivey)
	September 5	2 Macon citizens visit Kurobe
1992	January 28	Formation of partnership between Kurobe Central Elementary School and McKibben Lane Elementary School
	March 6-28	5 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip - 18 people visit Macon

	March 20-27	Goodwill delegation visits Macon for the 10 th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival (Superintendent of Schools, Head of Development Authority)
	April 13-15	10 th Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival Queen and goodwill delegation visit Kurobe (1992 Cherry Blossom Queen Kelly Jennings, her mother, Cherry Blossom Festival Chair Carolyn Crayton and her husband)
	July 10-September 27	Macon sends exhibition items to display at The First Japan Exposition in Toyama '92
	November 15	Kurobe sends 5000 tulip bulbs lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	October	Kurobe Central Elementary School sends kimono, dolls, and 30 pieces of children's artwork, such as calligraphy, to McKibben Lane Elementary School
	October	Kurobe sends <i>The History of Kurobe</i> (volumes on folk customs and history) to Macon
	December	Exchange of goodwill messages
1993	February 4	Kurobe sends 300 lanterns and 300 artificial flowers to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	February 24	McKibben Lane Elementary School sends children's artwork to Kurobe Central Elementary School
	March 8-29	6 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip - 18 people visit Macon
	April 13-14	Second visit of the 39 th President of the United States Jimmy Carter to participate in the "Town Meeting in Kurobe" (April 14)
	July 11-13	McKibben Lane Elementary School Principal O'Mahoney visits Kurobe
	July 30	Former Mayor of Macon Buckner Melton attends memorial for the late Tadao Yoshida, founder of YKK.
	July 30-August 14	Sister city exchange meeting held (Sneek, Netherlands; Macon, GA; Nemuro, Hokkaido); Former Macon Mayor Buckner Melton, former Georgia Governor George Busbee, and Bibb County Commission Chairman Larry Justice attend
	August 1-18	Four high school students from Macon visit Kurobe as exchange students (Stuart Lucas, William Mitchell, Rashana Furry, Bessy Perry)
	September 2	Alison Hooker, who came to Kurobe in 1989 as an exchange student, revisits
	October 5	Kurobe sends 2500 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	October 7	Macon Mayor Tommy Olmstead and his wife visit Kurobe
1994	February 3	Kurobe sends 150 lanterns and 150 artificial flowers to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	March 8-28	7 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip - 22 people visit Macon
	March 19-27	Goodwill delegation from Kurobe visits Macon (Mayor Ogino and 19 delegates)
	June 25-27	Bibb County Commission Chairman Larry Justice and his wife, George Lancaster, Director of the Tokyo Office of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, and Francis Sogi, attorney for YKK, visit Kurobe to attend the funeral for Hisamatsu Yoshida

	July 13	Kurobe sends a message of sympathy for the Georgia flood to the mayor of Macon and to the Bibb County Commission Chairman
	October 24	Kurobe sends 2800 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	November 5	Messages of congratulations on the 40 th anniversary of the establishment of Kurobe City arrive from former President Jimmy Carter and Macon Mayor Tommy Olmstead
	November 21	Kurobe sends telegram of condolences on the death of the mayor's wife, Mrs. Mary Olmstead
	December 28	Kurobe sends messages of congratulations to the new mayor of Macon, David Carter (inaugurated January 10, 1995) and to former mayor Tommy Olmstead, appointed the new Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Labor (inaugurated January 16, 1995)
1995	January	Messages of sympathy on the Great Hanshin Earthquake arrive in Kurobe from the mayor of Macon, the Bibb County Commission Chairman, Carolyn Crayton of the Cherry Blossom Festival, and Tom Moody, Chairman of the Macon branch of the American Red Cross
	February 9	Kurobe sends 150 lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival (Citizen advocate Chikako Kadomoto also sends 25 lanterns)
	March 8-29	8 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 20 people visit Macon
	March 17- 27	Kurobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry visits Macon (Chamber President Yoshida and his wife plus 16 delegates)
	August 1-15	Four high school students from Macon visit Kurobe as exchange students (Mandy Schmidt, Jennifer Wall, Emily Edwards, Daniel Falk)
	October 28	Kurobe sends 2500 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
1996	January 11-15	16 members of the Choral Society of Middle Georgia visit Kurobe for a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 during the Kurobe International Music Festival
	January 22	Kurobe sends a message of congratulations on the inauguration of the new mayor, Jim Marshall
	February 6	Kurobe sends 150 lanterns to the 14 th Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	March 5-26	9 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 16 people visit Macon
	April 11-14	Thirteen members of the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce visit Kurobe to discuss future collaboration between the two cities' Chambers of Commerce and to participate in the opening ceremony of the Miyano Mountain Festival
	September 7	Takase Middle School and Weaver Middle School begin exchanging correspondence
	October 29	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
1997	January 24	Kurobe sends 100 lanterns to the 15 th Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	March 5-25	10 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 15 people visit Macon
	April 15-20	Introduction to Macon exhibition held at Kurobe International Cultural Center

	April 17-19	15 th Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival Queen and goodwill delegation visit Kurobe
	July 29-August 5	Four high school students from Macon visit Kurobe as exchange students (Donell Reed, David Shineru, Amanda Kelly, Motokimu Sarabina)
	October 20-November 2	Kurobe city employee Nobuyuki Fujita is sent to work at Macon City Hall and the Cherry Blossom Festival Headquarters by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications' Local Officials Abroad Program
	October 31	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	November 27	25 pieces of children's artwork and one doll from McKibben Lane Elementary School arrive at Kurobe Central Elementary School
1998	February 2	Kurobe sends 214 carp banners to Macon for the 16 th Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	March 9-30	11 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 15 people visit Macon
	March 19-25	The Kurobe Machizukuri Council sends 16 th generation Japanese garden master Sano Touemon and a delegation of three to Macon
	March 20-27	The Colare Keyboard Orchestra is invited to perform at the 16 th Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival (54 people, including 24 orchestra members, leaders, ABE band, and parents)
	April 16-19	Macon Mayor Jim Marshall and his wife, Barbara Wood (former Macon City public relations manager), visit Kurobe and sign a Sister City Agreement on April 17
	April 18	16 members of the Choral Society of Middle Georgia visit Kurobe for a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 during the 5 th Annual Kurobe International Music Festival
	October 20	Kurobe sends 5000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
1999	March 9-27	12 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 16 people visit Macon
	April 10	Congratulatory message on the Kurobe HANA Festival arrives from Macon Mayor Jim Marshall
	July 27-August 3	Four high school students from Macon visit Kurobe as exchange students and stay with families of Sakurai High School (Sean Caulfield, Maurice Glover, Elizabeth Harper, Amber Jackson)
	October 21	Kurobe sends 5000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	December 21	Kurobe sends congratulatory message to the new mayor of Macon, Jack Ellis
2000	March 6-24	13 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 21 people visit Macon
	April 14-16	Bibb County Commission Chairman Larry Justice and Macon Cherry Blossom Festival Chair Carolyn Crayton and her husband pay a courtesy visit to Kurobe, and interact with citizens in at an event at YKK Kurobe dormitory
	April 14	The Kurobe Machizukuri Council invites Bibb County Commission Chairman Larry Justice and Macon Cherry Blossom Festival Chair Carolyn Crayton to a flower-viewing party on Mt. Miyano

	November 8	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	November 21	Kurobe sends 150 lanterns to Macon for the 19 th Annual Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
2001	March 6-24	14 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 18 people visit Macon
	July 25-August 1	Four high school students from Macon visit Kurobe as exchange students (Maren Baldwin, John Michael, Mallory Hope Mills, Renatta Alex Davis)
	August 24-26	Macon mayor C. Jack Ellis visits Kurobe, where he participates in a welcome ceremony (where he is named an honorary citizen of Kurobe), an opinion exchange meeting, a memorial tree planting, and a parade
	November 10	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
2002	January 12-15	Macon Symphony Orchestra conductor Adrian Gnam visits Kurobe
	January 14	Adrian Gnam conducts a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 at a New Year concert
	March 21-26	A 14 person delegation (including the mayor of Kurobe) visits Kurobe for the 25 th anniversary of sister city relations. The delegation attends a memorial ceremony where the mayors sign a sister city agreement commemorating the 25 th anniversary, and carries out research on community development
	May 21	Kurobe presents the results of their research on community development
	October 24	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	November 7-10	Former Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce Chairman and YKK Sr. VP Bill Wiley visits Kurobe
2003	March 20-25	40 members of Kurobe Daiku Choir visit Macon and participate in a joint performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 as one of the main events at the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	March 25-29	Doctors from Kurobe City Hospital visits Macon to discuss forming an alliance between Kurobe City Hospital and the Medical Center of Central Georgia and the Mercer University School of Medicine
	September 8-11	The dean of the Mercer University School of Medicine and spouse and an obstetrics and gynecology professor and spouse visit Kurobe to tour Kurobe City Hospital and to approve the agreement between the hospitals and university
	October 30	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	November 1-7	The director of Kurobe City Hospital visits Macon to sign the exchange agreement between Kurobe City Hospital and the Medical Center of Central Georgia and Mercer University School of Medicine
	November 4	Mayor Ogino sends a message of congratulations to Mayor C. Jack Ellis on being elected to a second term
2004	May 6 - November	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement between Kurobe City Hospital and the Medical Center of Central Georgia and Mercer University School of Medicine, the following activities are carried out in Kurobe: ① May 6-May 25: Training session by Ann Jobe, Dean of the Mercer University School of Medicine

		<p>② July 13-31: Training session conducted by Dr. James Upshaw, Mercer University School of Medicine Assistant Clinical Professor</p> <p>③ September 5-18: Training session conducted by Dr. William Roche, Mercer University School of Medicine Associate Professor of Family Medicine</p> <p>④ October 29-November 10: Training session by Dr. TJ Lin, Assistant Dean of the Mercer University School of Medicine</p>
	October 25	Kurobe sends 5000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	November 5-8	Mayor C. Jack Ellis visits Kurobe to attend the 50 th anniversary of the establishment of the City of Kurobe (November 6) and a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 commemorating the 50 th anniversary of the establishment of the City of Kurobe (November 7)
	November 5-8	Macon Symphony Orchestra conductor Adrian Gnam visits Kurobe to attend the 50 th anniversary of the establishment of the City of Kurobe (November 6) and a conduct a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 commemorating the 50 th anniversary of the establishment of the City of Kurobe (November 7)
2005	March 4-19	18 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 15 people visit Macon
	May to November	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, professors from the Mercer University School of Medicine conduct the following training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital:</p> <p>① May: Dr. Ann Jobe, Dean of Mercer University School of Medicine (specialty: family medicine)</p> <p>② June 25-July 9: Dr. Robert Hash (specialty: sports medicine)</p> <p>③ August 19-September 3: Dr. William Rawlings (specialty: internal medicine)</p> <p>④ September 17-October 1: Dr. Sabry Gabriel (specialty: family medicine, orthopedics)</p> <p>⑤ October 12-26: Dr. James Lin (specialty: obstetrics and gynecology)</p>
	October to December	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia:</p> <p>① October 2 - 30: Ryosuke Komiya, MD</p> <p>② October 22 - November 20: Keiko Takachi, MD</p> <p>③ November 12 - December 11: Naruhiko Hashimoto, MD</p> <p>④ December 3 - January 1: Yukihiko Yoshimura, MD</p>
	October 25	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
2006	March 3-18	19 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 13 people visit Macon
	May 21 - November	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, professors from the Mercer University School of Medicine conduct the following training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital:</p> <p>① May 21-June 3: Dr. Ralph Griffin (specialty: emergency medicine)</p> <p>② September 3-16: Dr. Frank Bowyer (pediatric specialist)</p> <p>③ November 5-18: Dr. David Burtner (specialty: family medicine)</p>
	June 5	Chip Cherry, President and CEO of Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, and his wife pay a courtesy visit to the City of Kurobe and the Kurobe Chamber of Commerce
	October to December	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① October 2 - 27: Akihiro Seki, MD ② October 23 - November 17: Mizuo Emae, MD ③ November 11 - November 9: Koyo Sugita, MD ④ December 4 – December 31: Hidetoshi Nakagawa, MD ⑤ December 25 – January 21: Takahiro Furusawa, MD
	November 9	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
2007	March 2	20 th Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 11 people visit Macon
	May 13 - November	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, professors from the Mercer University School of Medicine conduct the following training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① April 10-14: Dr. Martin Dalton (lung surgery) ② May 13-26: Dr. Roy Powell (plastic surgery) ③ July 16-28: Dr. Macram Ayoub (surgery) ④ September 2-15: Dr. Harold Katner (internal medicine) ⑤ October 27-November 9: Dr. Ralph Griffin (emergency medicine)
	September 30 to December	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① September 30-October 28: Manabu Ono, MD ② October 20 - November 18: Shunkan Fujimoto, MD; Mari Shimanose, RN ③ November 10 - December 9: Gentaro Taniguchi, MD ④ December 1 – December 30: Yo Chatani, MD ⑤ December 22 – January 20: Mikio Kido, MD
	October 30	Kurobe sends 3000 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	December 11	Mayor of Kurobe sends congratulatory message to Robert Reichert on his election as mayor of Macon
2008	March 7-20	21 st Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 15 people visit Macon
	March 26-31	A seven member delegation, led by the mayor of Kurobe, visits Macon to pay a courtesy call to the mayor of Kurobe, participate in the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival, and tour the YKK factory.
	May 14-19	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, Medical Center of Central Georgia Chief Nursing Officer Barbara Stickel, RN visits Kurobe to discuss the future of the nursing exchange and to exchange opinions with nurses in Kurobe
	June 1- September 6	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, professors from the Mercer University School of Medicine conduct the following training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① June 1-14: Dr. David Burtner (family medicine) ② June 30-July 11: Dr. William Butler (OB/GYM) ③ August 24-September 6: Dr. Fred S. Girton (family medicine)
	September 20 to December	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① September 20-October 19: Kazutoshi Yamada, MD; Shiori Iwai, RN and Shizuho Kawabata, RN ② October 4 - November 2: Hiroki Chiba, MD ③ October 18 - November 16: Takashi Kusayama, MD ④ November 1 - November 30: Kenta Watanabe, MD

		<p>⑤ November 15 - December 14: Kana Hiroki, MD</p> <p>⑥ November 29 - December 24: Hisashi Kataoka, MD</p>
	October 26- November 2	8 junior high school students and two chaperones from Kurobe visit Macon and pay a courtesy call to the mayor, stay with host families for four nights and visit Macon schools (Chiharu Kyozyuka, Yukino Tamura, Rina Daijougo, Haruna Takahashi, Haruka Yagi, Daigi Yokota, Airi Uchimura, Erina Morita, accompanied by Yasuko Satake and Nobuyuki Fujita)
	December 25	Kurobe sends 100 lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
2009	March 6-19	22 nd Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip
	March 20	Ambassador of Japan to the United States Ichiro Fujisaki visits Macon
	May -	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, professors from the Mercer University School of Medicine conduct the training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital ① July 5-18: Dr. Edward Clark (pediatrics) ② September 7-18: Dr. Delanor Doyle (emergency medicine) ③ October 23: Dr. John Hudson (cardiovascular internal medicine)
	September 26 – December 21	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia ① September 26-October 25: Noboru Takata ② October 3-31: Sakiko Masumoto ③ October 24-November 22: Tadashi Yada ④ October 31-November 29: Sayaka Nakamura ⑤ November 21-December 20: Yasuhito Miyake ⑥ November 28-December 21: Koji Yoshida
	September 26- October	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, Michiko Tobi, RN visits the Medical Center of Central Georgia for training
	September 30 - October 2	Mayor Robert Reichert and his wife visit Kurobe
	October	Kurobe sends lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	November 24 - 29	Five middle and high school students and two chaperones from Macon visit Kurobe and pay a courtesy call to the mayor, visit schools and stay with host families (Julie Cherry, Sarah Alston, Emma Brown, Logan Thomas, Caitlin Burtner, Morgan Burgamy, Katy Hutto, Leah Parris)
2010	March	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, Hisako Nakahira, RN visits the Medical Center of Central Georgia for training
	April 7-9	Dr. William Bina, Dean of the Mercer University School of Medicine and his wife visit Kurobe and tour Kurobe City Hospital
	May 10 - September 10	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, professors from the Mercer University School of Medicine conduct the training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital ① May 10-21: Dr. Felisha Kitchen (OBGYN) ② July 5-16: Dr. Ritu Kumar (infectious disease) ③ August 30-September 10: Dr. John M. Van de Water (surgery)
	June 14-25	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, two nurses from the Medical Center of Central Georgia visit Kurobe City Hospital for training

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Vickey Vaughan, RNC, MSN, FNP-C ② Susan Broughman, RN-BC
	September 25 - December 16	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① September 25-October 24: Takashi Fuchigami, MD ② October 2-October 31: Yoshitaka Okabe, MD ③ October: Go Kajikawa, MD ④ November 20- December 19: Katsura Tsuda, MD ⑤ Kyoko Takemura, MD ⑥ Yusuke Miyagawa, MD
	October 31 - November 8	<p>Eight middle school students and two chaperones from Kurobe visit Macon and pay a courtesy call to the mayor, visit schools and stay with host families (Aya Sasaki, Koki Yamada, Nana Takase, Shota Terada, Yakumo Tsuji, Toru Konokawa, Akari Nabetani, Mikako Noto, accompanied by Junichi Takarada and Yasuko Satake)</p>
2011	January 6	Kurobe sends 2300 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	March 4-17	23 rd Annual Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 16 students and 2 chaperones visit Buffalo, NY, Macon and Atlanta
	June 20-July 1	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, two nurses from the Medical Center of Central Georgia visit Kurobe City Hospital for training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① Memory Garcia, RN, BSN ② Nyssa Hattaway, RN, BSN
	May 30 - September 9	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, professors from the Mercer University School of Medicine conduct the training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① May 30-June 10: Dr. Rogelio dela Cruz (pediatrics) ② July 4-15: Dr. David Burtner (family medicine) ③ August 29-September 9: Dr. Jason Gardiner (emergency medicine)
	October 1- December 5	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① October 1-17: Seiko Yoneyama, MD ② October 3-31: Mai Tsutsui, RN ③ October 8-31: Koichi Sato, MD ④ October 15-November 14: Shutaro Shibata, MD ⑤ October 31-December 2: Haruka Hikiyama, MD ⑥ November 14-December 5: Ken Tanaka, MD
	November	Robert Reichert wins re-election to his second term as mayor of Macon
2012	January 13	Kurobe sends 100 lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	May 14 - July 13	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, doctors from the Medical Center of Central Georgia conduct the training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① May 14-25: Dr. Harold Katner (infectious disease) ② July 2-13: Dr. Michael Makii (OBGYN) ③ September 6-14: Dr. Don Ken Nakayama (pediatric surgery)
	June 4-July 26	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, three nurses from the Medical Center of Central Georgia visit Kurobe City Hospital for training:</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① June 4-6: Head nurse Judy Paull ② July 18-27: Karen Matson, RN, BSN, CPN and Chaka McGruder, RN
	September 22-December 17	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① September 22-October 22: Kazuhiko Makimoto, MD ② September 24-October 5: Junko Fujii, RN ③ October 6- November 5: Tomoko Takemura, MD ④ October 20-November 17: Tomomi Masatani, MD ⑤ November 5-30: Shota Nakamura, MD ⑥ November 17-December 17: Shintaro Onishi, MD
	October 28 - November 5	Eight middle school students and two chaperones from Kurobe visit Macon and pay a courtesy call to the mayor, visit schools and stay with host families (Yuki Hamahira, Marina Sanmi, Erika Kyojuka, Sayaka Densho, Hirokazu Ishikawa, Saki Yokota, Kanori Naka, Emina Futakuchi)
2013	January 8	Kurobe sends 100 lanterns to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	March 2-15	Sakurai High School Overseas Trip – 15 students and 2 chaperones visit Buffalo, NY, Macon and Atlanta
	May 20 – September 13	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, doctors from the Medical Center of Central Georgia conduct the training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① May 20-31: Dr. Margaret Borgia ② July 1-12: Dr. Ritu Kumar ③ September 2-13: Dr. Kimathi Blackwood
	June 5-14	Sandra Bloomfield, RN, cardiology, and Sheila Sanders, RN, clinical coordinator, of the Medical Center of Central Georgia visit Kurobe City Hospital.
	October 6-11	Drs. Hiroshi Tsuji, Shin-ichi Takeda, Maiko Inami and Tatsuhiko Kohno, Mr. Daisuke Tomita RN, Ms. Masako Kato & Ms. Sachiko Nishimura visit Macon to pay a courtesy call to the Mercer University School of Medicine and the Medical Center of Central Georgia
	October 8-December 6	<p>In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ① October 8- November 1: Tatsuhiko Kohno, MD ② October 8 to October 10: Maiko Inami, MD ③ October 14 to November 8: Haruna Ueno, MD ④ November 4 to November 29: Takahiro Yuasa, MD ⑤ November 11 to December 6: Tomomi Nakagawa, MD
	October 15	Robert Reichert is elected the mayor of the newly formed “Macon-Bibb County,” and mayor of Kurobe sends a letter on congratulations.
2014	January 1	The City of Macon officially merges with Bibb County to become “Macon-Bibb County,” and Robert Reichert becomes new mayor.
	January 17	Kurobe sends 50 lanterns and 1300 tulip bulbs to the Macon Cherry Blossom Festival
	February 14 - 22	7 students from Rutland High School and 3 chaperones visit Kurobe and pay a courtesy call to the mayor, visit school and stay with host families (Lydia CREECH; Sydni DOZIER; Loland FOUST; Hunter HART; Justin LITTLE;

	Macy WATSON; Laura WILSON; Rebecca MORGAN; Keith MOFFETT; Melinda ROBINSON)	
May-September	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, doctors from the Medical Center of Central Georgia conduct the training sessions for residents at Kurobe City Hospital: ① May 19-30: Dr. Turk ② June 18-28: Nurses ③ July 7-18: Dr. James Upshaw ④ September 2-13: Dr. Stephen Williams	
September 28 – October 3	Hiroshi TSUJI, MD; Masako KATO, RN; Mr. & Mrs. Toshio SAWAI; and Ms. Sachiko NISHIMURA visit Macon to pay a courtesy call to the Mercer University School of Medicine and the Medical Center of Central Georgia	
September 30 – January 23	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, residents from Kurobe City Hospital are sent as trainees to Medical Center of Central Georgia: ① September 30- October 24: Machiko TANI, MD ② October 6 - October 31: Makoto YONEZAWA, MD ③ October 27 - November 14: Kanto SHOZU, MD ④ November 3 - November 28: Yoshiaki SAITSU, MD ⑤ November 24 - December 19: Kazuha KIZAKI, MD ⑥ December 1 - January 2, 2015: Yuichi TEMMA, MD ⑦ December 22 - January 23, 2015: Masahiro MORITA, MD	
September 30 - October 24	In accordance with the medical exchange agreement, one nurse from Kurobe City Hospital is sent as a trainee to Medical Center of Central Georgia: ① Yukari FUGO, RN	
November 2-8	Eight middle school students and two chaperones from Kurobe visit Macon and pay a courtesy call to the mayor, visit schools and stay with host families (Chaperones: Emi Murakami and Taiyo Aoki; Students: Yusuke Murata, Fuka Nishide, Atsuya Honmoto, Momoko Yamazaki, Genki Horiuchi, Hinano Hara, Shun Sasaki, Mai Morita)	
2015	January 15-18	Mayor Yasuo Horiuchi, Akira Ishikura (Kurobe Marathon Committee Manager) and Kiyoko Kobayashi (YKK Kurobe) visit President Carter and Georgia Governor Nathan Deal
	March 15-17	15 students from Sakurai High School visit Macon: Yudai Takami; Rikako Tanbo; Takuto Hamaya; Noko Kamiya; Noriko Matsumoto; Hina Komatsu; Chusato Tanaka; Akari Moriuchi; Chihiro Yanagawa; Takamizu Amano; Akane Kitao; Kyoka Nakagawa; Rika Muranaka; Mizuki Kodake; Ayuka Nakao
	March 20-24	YASUO HORIUCHI (Mayor); NOBUAKI KIJIMA (City Council President); YASUHISA TSUJI (City Council Member; KIYOKO KOBAYASHI (Kurobe Communications Group Manager, YKK Corporation); YOSHIMI HORIUCHI (Mayor's Wife); KEIKO KIJIMA (City Council President's Wife); Lawrence Denes (Assistant Language Teacher); HITOSHI NAGATA (Kurobe City, Policy & Planning Division) visit Kurobe for Cherry Blossom Festival
	May 23- June 2	Rogelio Cruz (Pediatric Critical Care Medicine) of Navicent Health visits Kurobe
	June 2-5	Drs. Ninfa Saunders & Fady Wanna of Navicent Health visit Kurobe City Hospital

	June 9-12	Tracey Blalock of NavicentHealth visits Kurobe City Hospital
	July 4-15	Daniel Chan (Orthopedic Trauma Surgery) from Navicent Health visits Kurobe
	September 5-16	Vishwas Sakhalkar (Pediatric Hematology Oncology (Hope)) Monali Sakhalkar (Ophthalmology) from Navicent Health visit Kurobe
	September 29 – January 8	7 residents and 1 nurse from Kurobe City Hospital visit NavicentHealth: Yuri HIGASHI, MD (September 29 to October 23, 4 weeks, cardiology); Shoko KISHI, MD (October 5 to October 30, 4 weeks, infectious disease); Mai ANDO, MD (October 26 to November 6, 2 weeks, infectious disease); Akari MURATA, MD (November 2 to November 27, 4 weeks, infectious disease); Miho ZAIMOKU, MD (November 9 to December 4, 4 weeks, trauma & orthopedics); Sayaka TACHI, MD (November 30 to December 18, 3 weeks, infectious disease); Toshinori FUKUDA, MD December 7 to January 8, 2016, 5 weeks, radiology); Noriko Ii, RN (September 29 th to October 23 rd , 2015)
	October 1-10	9 students and 3 chaperones from Macon visit Kurobe (Macon-Bibb County Assistant County Manager Charles Coney; Macon-Bibb County Clerk Erica Woodford; Rebecca Morgan, teacher at Rutland High School; Aaron Haugabrook; Anthony Haugabrook; Timothy Foust; Edwin Lopez; Faythe McCallum; Hayley Harrod; Jamini Patel; Leroy Brooks, Jr.; Meagan Carter)
2016	October 16	Yumi MAHAR, MD (Oct 16-Nov 12; hospice); Yuichiro HISHIKAWA, MD (Oct 22-Nov 17; infectious disease); Kazuhiro WATANABE, MD (Nov 12-Dec 10; family medicine); Asuka TAKARADA, RN (Oct 16-Nov 12; nursing); Masayuki UESHIMA, PhC (Oct 16-Oct 21; pharmacy); Yoshiko TANAKA, RN, CNO (Oct 16- Oct 20); Mr. Wataru KOMORI (Oct 16-Oct 20); Ms. Sachiko NISHIMURA (Oct 16-Oct 20); Hiroshi TSUJI, MD (Oct 16-Oct 20) from Kurobe City Hospital visit Navicent Health
	November 7-12	16 students and 3 chaperones from Kurobe visit Macon (Chaperones: Ryu Jimbo, Junko Niwata, Taiyo Aoki; Students: Satsuki Kawamoto, Tetta Shimoshiro, Rin Yonezawa, Momoka Kizu, Shunsuke Kurobe, Takeru Kobayashi, Ayuka Kimura, Kurumi Moro, Syogo Kawata; Yutaro Chida, Honoka Matsuda, Reina Shimazu, Ayane Adachi, Aika Okami, Fuka Nitta, Ayuka Nozawa)
2017	March 16-19	15 students and 2 chaperones from Sakurai High School visit Lawrenceburg, KY (Shihono Yoshimatsu, Kako Kamishima, Keita Kozawa, Miku Matsui, Miku Tsujii, Rina Kakuma, Ai Tachibana, Momo Nakada, Yui Maruyama, Minami Miyazaki, Mai Morita, Kelly Katsuda, Runa Nihonmatsu, Marina Hamahira, Haruki Kondo, Toshihiro Kawahira (teacher), Masami Kanayama (teacher))
	March 20-27	15 students and 2 chaperones from Sakurai High School visit Macon, GA (Shihono Yoshimatsu, Kako Kamishima, Keita Kozawa, Miku Matsui, Miku Tsujii, Rina Kakuma, Ai Tachibana, Momo Nakada, Yui Maruyama, Minami Miyazaki, Mai Morita, Kelly Katsuda, Runa Nihonmatsu, Marina Hamahira, Haruki Kondo, Toshihiro Kawahira (teacher), Masami Kanayama (teacher))
	June 26- July 8	15 high school students and 3 chaperones from Macon-Bibb County participated in the Japan-U.S. Grassroots Summit in Nara and also traveled to Kurobe (Anderson, Eleanor; Brown, ZaKiya; Fabian, Faith; Hart, Eric; Jellum, Kaylee; McKay, William; Neel, Kaitlyn; Patel, Rushabh; Pointer, Ashley; Summerow, Jonathan; Summerow, Stephen; Washington, Grant; Williams, Madison; Zambrano,

		Veronica)
	July	Christopher Hendry, MD, Jason Gardiner, MD, and Muhammed Ali, MD from Navicent Health visit Kurobe
	October-January	Nozomi KOHAMA, MD (Infectious Disease, October 2-16); Takashi FUNAMOTO, MD (Radiology, October 2-30); Harue MIZOKAMI, MD (Otolaryngology, October 16-November 13); Ryusuke MINAMIKAWA, MD (Cardiology, November 6-20); Hayato HONGO, MD (Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, November 13-December 11) Genki OYAMA, MD (Family Medicine, December 4-January 8); Hatsumi SAIKI, RN, MW (October 2-30); Yoshiko TANAKA, RN (October 2-9); Shin-ichi TAKEDA, MD (October 2-9) Ms. Sachiko NISHIMURA (October 2-9); Hiroshi TSUJI, MD (October 2-9) from Kurobe City Hospital visit Navicent Health
	October 5-14	15 students from Rutland High School and the Macon-Bibb Youth Commission and 3 chaperones visit Kurobe: Charles Coney (Assistant County Manager); Erica Woodford (Clerk of the Superior Court); Rebecca Morgan (Teacher, Rutland High School); Alexis Dickerson; Caleb Creech; Carol Pyon; Chandler Wood; Eujin Pyon; Gia Jackson; Grant Alexander; James Hurley; Krupa Patel; Phoenix Crowe; Phoenix Murray; Rashaun Neville; Rashmi Patel; Rima Kaura; Veronica Zambrano Loor
	October 9 - 14	Robert Reichert (Mayor); Helen "Dele" Reichert (First Lady); James Bumpus, Sr. (Director of the Office of Small Business Affairs; Tubman Museum Board Member); Lisa Golphin, Senior Executive of Strategic Planning at Macon Water Authority visit Kurobe for the 40 th anniversary of the sister city relationship
2018	October-January	Kazuyoshi MITTA, MD (cardiology, October 22-Nov 5); Kensuke DOMAE, MD (cardiology, October 15-Nov 5); Koki NOJIMA, MD (surgery (November 12-December 10); Koki YAMAGATA, MD (infectious diseases (December 3-December 31); Ryotaro NAKAZAWA, MD (infectious diseases (December 10-January 7); Madoka OSHIMA, RN (October 15- November 5); Daiki MIYAZU, Medical Tech. (October 15-October 22); Yukiko TAKAYAMA, RN (October 15-October 22); Miyako YOSHIZAWA, MD (October 15-October 22); Ms. Sachiko NISHIMURA (October 15-October 22); from Kurobe City Hospital visit Navicent Health
	November 4-10	16 students and 3 chaperones from Kurobe visit Macon (Chaperones Hitomi Serisawa, Takeo Maebayashi, Mami Kamada); Students: Hikari Kimoto; Oto Yonezawa; Yuri Inoue; Misato Komeya; Rio Moriuchi; Ai Hirosawa; Mirai Nakaya; Asaki Chida; Yumeka Takemaru; Yuka Tanaka; Noa Tanaka; Junpei Shimoshiro; Kousei Yoshimoto; Shion Nakano; Toshimizu Yanagisawa; Sora Tomikawa)
2019	May-September	Dr. Thomas Oliver (May 13 to 24); Dr. Jennifer Nunn Tarbutton (July 1 to 12); Dr. Reg Gilbreth (September 2 to 13); Nurses (June 5 to 14, 2019) from Navicent Health visit Kurobe
	March 14-24	15 students and 2 chaperones from Sakurai High School visit Lawrenceburg, KY and Macon, GA (Yutaro Omura; Kiyo Yamagata; Ayano Osaki; Komei Sakashita;

		Sakura Noto; Aika Kawaguchi; Nao Takahashi; Yuka Yanagida; Riko Ishikawa; Yuka Yamazaki; Akari Izumi; Yui Hotta; Neneka Takagi; Haruna Tabuse; Fuka Hirose; Motoyoshi Kozawa (chaperone); Chieko Toi (chaperone)
	June 5-14	Mark Christmas, RN (Emergency Care Unit) and Willy Yougang, RN(ICU) from Navicent Health visit Kurobe
	October - January	Kazuki GOUHARA, MD, Infectious disease; Yuta TAMARU, MD, Infectious disease; Keiichiro KANAMOTO, MD, colorectal surgery; Manabu INABA, MD, otolaryngology; Nozomi MATSUI, MD, ob/gyn; Komugi OKEYA, MD, Psychiatrics; Rie Kurihara, RN; Keiko NAGATA, registered dietitian, Yukiko TAKAYAMA, RN; Miyako YOSHIZAWA, MD; Ms. Sachiko NISHIMURA; Hiroshi TSUJI, MD from Kurobe City Hospital visit Navicent Health
	October 3-15	14 students from Rutland High School and 4 chaperones visit Kurobe: Kimberly Hernandez (Rutland High School teacher); Cheryl Norfleet (Rutland High School teacher); Sam Henderson (City of Macon); Eva Henderson; Taylor Autry; Alyssa Gammie; Tyler Howard; Emily King Hannah Newberry; Harsh Patel ; Harsh Pravin Patel; Ronak Patel; Eujin Pyon; Jenny Pyon; Sabrina Rutledge; Marina Terraza; Bethany Wood; Chandler Wood