



Saki (Sakurako) Yagi, Junior (Communication – Public Relations) Community Relations Assistant Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation

## "Local employers care about students and provide good experience."

When she began her internship at the Northern Chautauqua Community Foundation, Saki was tasked with helping our community to better understand the history and pride in donating to the foundation. She had a plan to make connections throughout the learning process, stating, "I will learn how we can keep growing and how we communicate with people and community." She learned how to do research to prepare for annual reports, and events, and most notably how to host an active community blog.

Saki's role and benefit to the organization extended globally, as she was involved in establishing ties to the Kyoto Foundation for Positive Change near her hometown in Tokyo. With research, and through communication, she learned "in Japan there seems to be a number of barriers to making a 'donation.' At the same time, they feel there are many people who want to donate. In thinking that 'making a donation is an important means of participating in society,' it can be said that the current situation does not guarantee the right to donate." With a better understanding of the process of giving and establishment of grants, Saki reported "Kyoto Foundation's mission is making opportunities to give grants."

During the annual Community Foundation Week Saki prepared from start to finish learning about the requirements of event planning, and personalization.

"I made a game board with questions about NCCF. I decorated it so people would have more fun. People had fun and learned about NCCF. Many people came to the open house and I met people who read my blog. We celebrated 100 years of Community Foundations in the U.S. It takes community support and involvement for another 100 years and more. I'm glad to help NCCF and celebrate together with the community."

The first-ever NCCF blog included topics and reviews such as; "The Future of Philanthropy", "NCCF reaches out to local schools", "Celebrating Community Foundation Week!", "Honoring local Veterans", "Give Where You Live!" and many more! (https://nccf212.wordpress.com/)

