



Nakai Town
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Dr. John Beard
Director of the department of Ageing and Life Course
World Health Organization
Avenue Appia 20
CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

Dear Dr. Beard,

It is great pleasure for us to write this letter that supports the process required for Nakai Town to join the WHO Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Here we send the mayor's letter which assures Nakai Town's commitment to the process.

We look forward to Nakai Town joining the WHO Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities and working together with WHO.

Sincerely,

Satoshi Mori
Director, Health Division
Nakai Town

Dr. John Beard
Director of the Department of Ageing and Life Course
World Health Organization

Dear Dr. Beard,

Japan is the most ageing country in the world, and the proportion of people aged 65 and over in Nakai Town is estimated to be over 40% in 2040.

In the Western Area of Kanagawa Prefecture where Nakai Town is located, municipalities have a close relationship historically and geographically. Kanagawa Prefectural Government positioned this area as a “strategic area for improvement of ME-BYO” and has promoted projects to revitalize this area in order to extend healthy life expectancy of the people living in and visiting to the area.

In line with this movement, Nakai Town is implementing various measures to create an environment where residents can be active in society for a long time even as they get older.

Also, the town is promoting to develop infrastructure for a community-based integrated care system that provides people in need of support with medical, nursing care, prevention, housing and life support in a comprehensive manner.

In order to enhance these measures and to let the international community knows that the elderly can live safely in Nakai Town, I agree with WHO values and approach to creating age-friendly cities and communities, and assure that Nakai Town, which has sectors implementing welfare programs and services for the elderly, will commit to an approach consistent with the WHO four steps to create age-friendly environments and to participating in the global network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

I also commit myself to making Nakai Town more age-friendly, based on a basic philosophy of “a city where the elderly can live safely in their own way.”

Sincerely,

August 21, 2017

杉山 祐一; Mayor

Nakai Town