



Zushi City
5-2-16 Zushi, Zushi City
Kanagawa Prefecture, 249-8686 Japan
Phone +81-46-873-1111

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 Zushi City to join the WHO Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Here we send the mayor's letter which assures Zushi City's commitment to the process.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Shouji Suda". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Shouji Suda
Director, Elderly Care Division
Zushi City

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 Zushi City's population aged 65 and over is estimated to exceed 31.5% in 2025.

Zushi City has implemented various projects collaborating with local communities so that older people can live a long and healthy life in the city.

In addition, we also has built community-based integrated care systems that can provide medical and nursing care, prevention, housing and living support in an integrated manner when they become in need of support.

In order to accelerate our efforts and raise international awareness of Zushi City's advanced programs, I agree with WHO values and approach to creating age-friendly cities and communities, and assure that Zushi City, 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 that Zushi City will commit to participate in the global network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

I also commit myself to making Zushi City more age-friendly, based on our basic philosophy, "A town where the elderly can age in place safely."

Sincerely,

August 31, 2017

Ryuichi Hirai, Mayor
Zushi City