



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

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

Sincerely,

中川 禎久

Yoshihisa Nakagawa
Director, Welfare Division
Hayama 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 Hayama Town's population ratio of people aged 65 and over is estimated to be 31.3% in 2025.

In this situation, to develop a town where people can live happily with a smile as they get older, Hayama Town is implementing various measures valuing people's caring minds in their communities.

From the planning phase, communities and Hayama Town government work together exchanging opinions on welfare activities, and the Town government then encourages residents to work on their own, respecting communities' capabilities. In this way the Town promotes widely its preventive care programs led by residents' initiatives.

In addition, the government and long-term care insurance facilities work together from project planning to operation to build a community-based integrated care system that enables total services including medical, nursing care, preventing nursing care, housing and life support for people in need of support.

In order to accelerate our efforts and raise international awareness of Hayama Town's advanced programs, I agree with WHO values and approach to creating age-friendly cities, and assure that Hayama Town, which is actively implementing welfare measures and care services for the elderly, will take an approach in line with WHO's four steps to develop the age-friendly environments, and that Hayama Town will commit to taking part in the global network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

I also commit myself to making Hayama Town more age-friendly, based on the principle, "care each other and stay healthy and enjoy life."

Sincerely,

August 30, 2017

山梨 崇仁, Mayor
Hayama Town