



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

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

Sincerely,

Haruko Yamanouchi  
Director, Care Elderly Division  
Isehara 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 Isehara City's population ratio of people aged 65 and over is estimated to exceed 28% in 2022.

Isehara City is implementing various projects, collaborating with local communities so that older residents can continue an active, healthy life in the city.

For the elderly in need of support, we are establishing a community-based integrated care system that can provide total care services such as medical, nursing, and preventive care as well as housing and living support.

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

I also commit myself to making Isehara City more age-friendly, based on the principle, "Isehara, where people can live long happily and in good health with everyone's caring support".

Sincerely,

August 21, 2017

Matsutarou Takayama, Mayor  
Isehara City