

Dear Sir or Madam,

Namhae-gun is located in the southernmost part of South Korea and is a beautiful city called as "The best Korean Treasure Island".

The area of the city is 357km<sup>2</sup>, which is more than half of the South Korean capital city, Seoul, and has a population of around 43,000 peoples.

The elderly population who is older than 60 years old was 45.1% of the total population when the project was first proposed in July, 2018, however, the elderly population is rapidly increasing to 46.3% in November, 2019 when we applies for designation as an age-friendly city and communities.

Namhae-gun conducted research project related to the formation of an aged-friendly city and communities for six months from May, 2019 to designate the WHO's Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

In order to designate Age-Friendly City and Communities, we have held three FGI sessions with a group of experts in eight major areas of the age-friendly cities, which were presented by WHO. In addition, we established 52 tasks related to eight major areas with the three year implementation plan (2020 through 2022) after continuing discussions with civilian groups and administrative officials.

Namhae-gun's vision for an age-friendly city is "Vital 100 years old city, Treasure Island Namhae-gun". The three main goals are to create a pleasant and safe life, a vibrant and healthy old age, and a community of friendly participation and communication.

We will no longer look at population aging as a social problem, but we will continue to maintain our self-esteem and independence as an elderly city, and create a city where all citizens including senior citizens, can achieve secure life.

In October, 2019, we established the "Act on the Establishment of Age Friendly City in Namhae-gun" and formed an age-friendly city formation committee composed of eight experts to lay the foundation for the

promotion of the city's development.

In addition, we will set up a monitoring unit for the Age-Friendly City in December, 2019 and monitor the project to create an age-friendly city from January, 2020.

There is a saying that "crisis is an opportunity". Namhae-gun will create a city where you can live a beautiful and shining life even when you are old, along with the WHO's Age-Friendly City Network.

With WHO's designation of the Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities, we are going to share information among member cities and best practices to obtain technical support necessary for the implementation process of the Age-Friendly Cities and useful information on programs that can improve the quality of life for the elderly.

Namhae-gun's citizens hope to push ahead with implementation plans for the development of an age-friendly urban environment starting in 2020.

We are very pleased to apply for the designation of the Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities and appreciate the WHO for promoting the Global Network for Age-Friendly Cities, which can effectively cope with the rapidly increasing elderly population in the world.

Mayor,  
Namhae-gun, South Korea

JANG, Chung-Nam

장충남