

Applying for WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

- Dear WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities. This is Sang-don, Kim, Mayor of Uiwang.
- Uiwang City is a small, but active city with a population of 160,000. We have an open-administration that communicates and empathizes with citizens and cares for their welfare, culture, physical education, safety, environment, etc. We are moving forward vigorously with the aim of becoming a city in which all citizens can be happy by improving the city's infrastructure that will increase the quality of life for our citizens.

- As of February 2021, Uiwang's 65-year-old or older population amounted to about 22,000, and about 13.82% of the total citizens (163,208), and the aging society is approaching.

- This means that new and systematic changes are needed in promoting policies in all areas of Uiwang City. It is now time to move from the existing growth-centered and efficiency-centered social system of the productive population to a new type of social system and a system to build a healthy and active aging society.

- These changes are part of WHO's age-friendly city and direction of promotion. The best central task of local governments is to create policies, infrastructure, and services that enable all citizens, including the elderly, to lead a healthy and prosperous life physically, emotionally, and socially.

- Accordingly, Uiwang City established a mid-to long-term plan for the welfare of the elderly as a pledge of the 7th public election. It reflects the various opinions and desires of the elders sufficiently based on the eight guidelines for the elderly-friendly city proposed by the WHO. Hence, the Uiwang-type Age-Friendly City Development Plan was promoted in order to create an environment where people can live together, and harmonizes all generations.
- In addition, in March 2021, the 「Ordinance on the Creation of an Age-Friendly City in Uiwang City」 was enacted in March 2021 to initiate the promotion of Uiwang City's age-friendly city and systematize the age-friendly policies.
- In addition, we are doing our best to establish a foundation as an aged-friendly city by forming and operating the “Uiwang City Age-Friendly City Development

Monitoring Group” to share matters related to the promotion of an aged-friendly city with the elderly and various citizens.

- Uiwang-si hopes to join the age-friendly city network through cooperation and harmony, and we will share our city's efforts with its members.
- We look forward to continuing the close ties between WHO's Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities and Uiwang City.
- Thank you.

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Sang-don Kim, Uiwang Mayor 