

A letter of commitment to rejoin WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities

Dear Officials of the WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities,

This is Ryu Sunghun, the mayor of Geumcheon-gu district, Seoul, South Korea.

Geumcheon-gu is an industrial center where IT and knowledge and information industry are booming around Gasan digital Complex. Anyangcheon river and Hoamsan mountain provides places to rest and enjoy nature for the residents. The district office is trying our best to create an environment where all the residents are happy and local communities continues to thrive, following the district slogan of "Everywhere happy city Geumcheon."

Geumcheon-gu has been trying to build an age friendly environment since 2022, when we had been accepted into WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities. During the past 3 years, 21 departments of the District office joined together to apply age friendliness principles to city planning and services, and carried out 57 age friendly projects in WHO's 8 areas.

Geumcheon-gu enacted 'the ordinance on age friendly city building of Geumcheon-gu, Seoul' in 2021, and has been operating the age friendly city monitoring group, composed of 30 district residents, since 2022. The monitoring group holds monthly meeting to check the progress of the projects, to provide feedback, and creates

proposals to improve projects. Monitoring group's efforts and inputs enabled us to better accommodate feedbacks and demands of the residents to the projects.

Geumcheon-gu is planning to pursue 2nd phase age friendly city building, under the vision of 'Happy plus senior life, a city of excellent welfare.' Geumcheon-gu pledges continued commitment to building of an age friendly city.

The three main goals of Geumcheon-gu is as follows:

1. Energetic and Proud Aged Life: we will provide job opportunities and diverse welfare programs to support an energetic and proud aged life.
2. Convenient and safe environment: we will make our transportation system more accessible and more user friendly.
3. Community of respect and inclusion: we will provide opportunities of cooperation among residents to create inclusive local communities.

Geumcheon-gu is proud of what we achieved during past 3 years as a member of WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities. We wish to share our experiences with other members of the network and learn from them as well, to build a local community that improves lives of the aged. Thus, we officially and humnly ask for a renewal of our membership of WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

We hope for a closer relationship and continuous cooperation

between Geumcheon-gu and WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

July, 2024

Mayor of Geumcheon-gu district, Seoul,

Ryu Sunghun

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized Korean characters, positioned to the right of the printed name 'Ryu Sunghun'.