A letter to join WHO Global Network of age-friendly Cities and Communities

Dear WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities, This is Chai, Hyunil, the Mayor of Yeongdeungpo-gu in Seoul, the capital city of the Republic of Korea.

Yeongdeungpo-gu, one of the three major cities in Seoul, is the center of South Korea's politics, economy, industry and transportation and it vigorously opening the future of Yeongdeungpo-gu with the vitalization of specialized zones in medical and financial sectors.

Yeongdeungpo-gu, with a population of 380,000, entered an aged society with the population of seniors over 65 years old accounting for about 18% of total population. In response, for the goal of 'realizing livable Yeongdeungpo-gu where seniors and every citizen can live together', Yeongdeungpo-gu is now trying to create an environment where all generations including seniors can lead physically-emotionally-socially healthy and happy lives throughout their lives.

To begin with, we enacted 「Ordinance for creating an age-friendly city in Yeongdeungpo-gu, Seoul」 to lay institutional foundation to join WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

Also, through age-friendliness survey, we received all the opinions from seniors and established a three-year-plan to create an age-friendly city that reflects policies which can be seen and experienced in reality.

In line with guidelines of eight areas presented by WHO, we will try our best to create a safe and happy city for all residents including children, adolescents, the disabled and women, and ultimately seniors.

Through the affiliation of WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities, we hope that it will be a good opportunity to share our efforts

with members and to explore solutions toward aging issues together.

Thank you 2021. 10.

The Mayor of Yeongdeungpo-gu, Chai, Hyunil

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