

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

Dear WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities, This is Yoo Dong-Gyun, the Mayor of Mapo-gu in Seoul.

Mapo-gu is the central city of Seoul with a history of over 70 years.

Since old times, it has been a major transportation hub as a gateway to Seoul, a business center in the city, and a representative city in Korea that has become cultural tourism.

We put 'Bigger and Happier Mapo through communication and innovation' as an objective of district administration so that all residents, from children to seniors, can fulfill happy lives in Mapo.

As of November 2021, the population of age over 65 years in Mapo-gu is about 54,000, which is about 14.6% of the total population(369,238), meaning that Mapo-gu has already entered an Aged Society.

For this, Mapo-gu has put great efforts and preparations to establish an action plan for Mapo-gu's own age-friendly city in line with age-friendly city guidelines presented by WHO.

Last February, 「Ordinance for creation of an age-friendly city in Mapo-gu」 was enacted, and

'Mapo-gu Age-friendly City Creation Monitoring Group', consists of various age groups from young people to seniors, was operated to discover various ideas and to conduct activities that reflect district administration.

Also, we launched Mapo Aging Think Tank Alliance(MATTA), which consists of various experts and groups, to establish practical plans for the creation of age-friendly city.

Mapo-gu established its vision 「with 100 years old, Mapo, an age-friendly city」to realize the value of old age which is **worthy**, and to create a **healthy** 100-year-old city where children, adults and seniors live **interesting** and active lives **together**.

The three-year action plan for an age-friendly city includes 37 projects which focus on four goals: A city with safety and convenience; a city with intergenerational sharing and communication; a city with vibrance; and a city with future preparation.

The public-private plan to create an age-friendly city in Mapo-gu, which reflects various opinions, will be constantly complemented in the field to create an age-friendly city that realizes everyone's happiness.

Mapo-gu hopes to be with the Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities through cooperation and harmony. Also, it will do its best for the successful settlement and spread of the age-friendly city.

We hope that there will be closer ties between WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Mapo-gu.

Thank you

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Yoo Dong-Gyun 유 동 권

Mayor of Mapo-gu