



7.3.2022

Kalajoki City Application for Age-friendly Municipal Network

About 34% of the residents of the Kalajoki city are over 60 years old, and the share of the elderly in the population will increase in the next 10 years. As the population ages the age-friendliness of residential areas has become an increasingly important development target.

We have two private projects in Kalajoki for the housing of the elderly. An age-friendly living environment supports the activity, well-being and safety of the elderly, and takes into account their needs and resources.

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the Association of Finnish Municipalities have issued a new quality recommendation to ensure good aging and improve services in 2020-2023. At the same time, a cross-administrative Age Program was published to prepare for the longer-term societal change that will follow the aging of the population. The thematic areas promoted in the Quality Recommendation and the Age Program are the same. They also define the goals of the city of Kalajoki. Ensuring functional aging, utilizing technology to improve the well-being of the elderly, strengthening the role of volunteering and customer-oriented services are essential.

The law on supporting the functional capacity of the elderly population and on social and health services for the elderly also defines the tasks of the municipality. According to it, the municipality must draw up a plan of measures to support the well-being, health, functional capacity and independent performance of the elderly population and to organize and develop the services and family care needed by the elderly.

The city of Kalajoki has a strong will to develop its operations, and has been assisted by diverse projects.

The city of Kalajoki wants to develop the age-friendliness of its area. The city government has decided to demonstrate its commitment to age-friendliness by applying to the World Health Organization's network of age-friendly municipalities.

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Jukka Puoskari
Mayor