

Letter of Application for Joining the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities & Communities

- Dear respected members of the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities!

Greetings. This is Kang Sung-tae, the Mayor of Suyeong-gu in Busan Metropolitan City.

- Suyeong-gu envisions “Beautiful City, Happy Suyeong,” where all residents can enjoy happiness through culture and become the main actors, while living in a city that embodies both history and advanced social culture, tourism, and maritime culture. We are making great efforts to make Suyeong where all residents of all ages are happy.

- As of the end of December 2022, the total population of Suyeong-gu was 174,806, with a 65-year and older population of 40,697, which accounts for 23.2%, making us a super-aged society.

- Although we have implemented various policies to improve the welfare of the elderly, we aim to pursue more systematic and innovative measures to better accommodate an aging society.

Thus, we wish to apply for the WHO "Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities" to become a more globally age-friendly city.

- To achieve this, Suyeong-gu enacted an ordinance for creating an age-friendly city in December 2021, and formulated a 3-year plan to be certified as an age-friendly city in December 2022.
- The 3-year plan for creating an age-friendly city in Suyeong-gu is based on the 8 guidelines for age-friendly cities proposed by the WHO, and reflects the diverse opinions and desires of the elderly for a “Happy Age-friendly City through Generational Integration.”
- We hope to share our efforts with other member cities and local communities of the WHO Global Network to create a higher level of age-friendly cities together. We look forward to building a closer relationship and providing a good opportunity for Suyeong-gu to become a true age-friendly city where growing old is never an inconvenience and the elderly are respected.
- Sincerely,

2023. 3.

Mayor Kang Sung-tae of Suyeong-gu 