



CHEONGYANG-GUN

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We would like to thank you for your support in creating an age-friendly city. We are submitting this application to join the WHO Age-Friendly Cities International Network.

Recently, Korea's persistent problem of low birth rate and rapid aging has become a major policy issue for the government. This should prompt local governments to pay utmost attention and consideration with regards to their policies. As of November 2023, Cheongyang-gun has an aging rate of approximately 38%. This rate is expected to continue to rise in the future. Transforming Cheongyang-gun into an age-friendly city to respond to the present and future situation has become an essential policy requirement.

As a leader in domestic 'Community Care¹⁾' services, Cheongyang-gun has promoted various policies to respond to demands related to the elderly. Now, we are closely preparing to join the age-friendly city network by reexamining policy demands and fragmenting policy projects into four policy goals and eight areas under the vision of 'Building Happiness Together: 100-year-old Cheongyang.'

1) Cheongyang-gun's integrated Community Care project is a welfare system that allows people in need of support to receive housing, health care, nursing, and care services where they live rather than sending them to welfare or medical facilities. It is a successful model in Cheongyang, which lacks social resources. It was published as a leading example in the standard textbook for community integrated care by the Ministry of Health and Welfare of the Republic of Korea, and has been requested for benchmarking by various local governments in Korea.

By systematizing it into 47 detailed implementation tasks, we aim to promote cooperation between departments and promote synergy between policy projects to increase policy awareness among residents. Through this, we want to improve the quality of life of Cheongyang-gun residents and establish a global standard as a WHO age-friendly city where everyone can thrive regardless of age, and a vibrant and healthy life is guaranteed for the elderly.

In 2023, Cheongyang-gun enacted the ordinance for the “Creation of an Age-Friendly City in Cheongyang-gun.” Through this, a creation committee was formed to research and analyze the age-friendliness of Cheongyang-gun according to the WHO guide, identify the policy requirements of Cheongyang-gun residents, and collect opinions from experts. The plans adopted through the above process consisted of 4 strategic goals, 8 major areas, and 47 detailed implementation tasks. These plans will serve as a basic and core guide for Cheongyang-gun to create an age-friendly city over the next three years. A policy monitoring group comprising of citizens and experts will monitor the project implementation process, and reflect the opinions of various citizens through the evaluation and feedback process. We will continue to communicate with our residents and do our best to create a leading age-friendly city.

Lastly, I sincerely hope that Cheongyang-gun will be accepted in the WHO International Network of Age-Friendly Cities to be able to work together with the international community. In becoming a member of an international network, we will do our best to become a positive influence to each other.

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Mayor of Cheongyang-gun, Republic of Korea

Don Kon, Kim

