



Eindhoven, April 19, 2024

Dear officials of the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities,

With this letter I want to express the commitment of the City of Eindhoven to join the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

The motivation to become a member of your Network is initiated by five political parties from the Eindhoven City Council. In Eindhoven the aging population is becoming increasingly prevalent and the trend in this shift is happening much faster than anticipated by policymakers. Following our vision "from caring for to making sure that", Eindhoven is focusing on developing a healthy lifestyle and a safe, healthy living environment for our elderly population. At the same time, we want to promote social connectedness through meetings and the opportunity to participate in activities. We offer the opportunity to learn lifelong, develop new skills and share their own experiences and knowledge. We focus on what elderly people want and can do themselves (or with the help of their social network), so that the quality of their life is guaranteed.

Our aim for the coming years is to focus on reaching the elderly of the future and creating awareness among this group. The additional efforts will initially focus on reaching the elderly of the future and creating awareness among this group. Based on the need and reciprocity of this group we will, step by step, develop a so called "learning to get older" programme. Finally, we focus on the group of support staff and question informal caregivers, identifying their needs and finding solutions for those who contribute to ensuring that the vulnerable elderly can live in their familiar environment for as long as possible.

We realize that creating an age-friendly city is a continuous process, in which sharing of information and experience with others is crucial. Not only on regional or national level but also on international level. The Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities provides a platform to share knowledge and experience with about 1500 cities in 51 different countries and has a central focus on the involvement of end users in developing and implementing age-friendly policies. Therefore this Network will offer us a great opportunity to share innovative ideas and best practices in an age-friendly environment.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J.R.V.A. Dijsselbloem".

ir. J.R.V.A. Dijsselbloem
Mayor of Eindhoven