GEMEENTE TILBURG

**Subject**
Application membership Age -friendly Cities

**Date**
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Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

**Case number**

**Department**
Sociaal

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Dear Sir, Madam,

With this letter I would like to submit the city of Tilburg to become a member of the Global Age-friendly City and Communities Network. As mayor and citizen of Tilburg I have the responsibility for the welfare of all residents and therefore certainly also for the elderly people in the city.

Just as in other cities in the Netherlands the residents of Tilburg are aging. As life expectations rise, the number of elderly citizens increases too. In 2040 one-fifth of our population will be over 65 years old. To deal with these changes, we are proud that our city has an integrated view of the elderly, that focuses on staying Healthy and Happy old in Tilburg. This program addresses all seniors, but we particularly focus on the frail elderly. Residents suffering from dementia, who are lonely, who have a different cultural background or need extra attention to continue living at home longer, have our special attention. Also good to mention that we implement this program with the many partners working in the city for and with the elderly.

Our integrated program already provides us with many starting points to deal with the aging population, but we are always looking for more innovative insights, information and experiences for now and in the future. We believe that other cities and communities can provide us with these insights, as much as we can share our achievements and lessons with the network.

It is therefore with pleasure that I hereby confirm our commitment to becoming a member of the WHO's Network of Age-friendly City and Communities. I look forward to working with the Network partners on our goal of making the city of Tilburg age-friendly.

With the highest regards,

Theo Weterings
*Mayor of Tilburg*



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