



The Alliance for Healthy Cities

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Report

Alliance for Healthy Cities gives awards to 19 cities and organizations and 1 expert for their efforts in the Healthy Cities movement

Wonju, Korea – August 29, 2016 --- The Alliance for Healthy Cities has worked with its member cities and organizations to advocate the “Healthy Cities” approach and has extended projects and programs for planning, implementations and evaluation for the improvement of health and quality of life of the people in the cities.

AFHC Awards for Healthy Cities recognize the diversity of practices of Healthy Cities, the progress of respective Healthy Cities initiatives based on process evaluation, and “pioneers” work in Healthy Cities.

On August 29, 2016, during the 7th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities, hosted by Wonju City, Republic of Korea, the Chairman of the Award Committee of the Alliance for Healthy Cities, Professor Albert Lee, from Chinese University of Hong Kong, announced the award winners in three categories: Progress, Creative Developments and Pioneering work.

Awards for Progress of Healthy Cities

The approach of “Healthy City Programme” (HCP) is based on philosophy with assumption in enhancement in the health occurs (1) through improvements in certain social, cultural and economic conditions with changes in human attitudes; (2) through initiatives in improvement of personal and environmental health; and (3) when health is regarded as an integral part of development in the community. The Ottawa Charter for Health provided the strategic framework defining health promotion as “the process of enabling people to take control over, and to improve their health”. Therefore, a Healthy City is not necessary one that has achieved a particular level of health but is conscious of health and is striving to *improve* it. HCP and healthy setting literature states that when such long-term development projects are evaluated during the first few years, the focus should be on process rather than outcomes because improvement in health status is only likely to change in longer term. The following awards were given with recognition of the city’s progress on their reports. This year, progress awards were given to 9 cities.

Award for Progress of Healthy Cities- Healthy City with Good Infrastructure was presented to City of Obu, Japan for its outstanding and successful work involving wide range of sectors in implementing ‘Healthy Obu 21 Plan’.

Award for Progress of Healthy Cities- Healthy City with Good Dynamic is presented to cities that successfully demonstrated policies are placed in the infrastructure of Healthy City to push the healthy city movement forward. This time five cities won the award: Changwon City, Korea; Marikina City, Philippines; Yamato City, Japan; Yangsan City, Korea; and Yuseong-gu, Daejeon, Korea.

Award for Progress of Healthy Cities- Healthy City with Strong Action is presented to cities that have active participation from professional groups such as academic and private sectors for advanced development of Healthy City, aiming to become an integral part of city planning and development. Two cities were awarded: Ulsan Metropolitan City, Korea; and Gangdong-gu, Seoul, Korea.

Award for Progress of Healthy Cities- Healthy City Expert was presented to Owari-asahi City, Japan. This award was given to a city already received AFHC Progress Award, and showed their progress as an expert by continuously reporting the results of their self-evaluation and upgrading the Healthy City program accordingly.

Awards for Creative Developments in Healthy Cities

There are many creative developments and good practices by Healthy Cities worldwide and this award recognizes creative developments in Healthy Cities that arise from diverse socio-cultural, environments and development backgrounds. The following points were evaluated for selection of awardees: (1) Relevance to the city's needs; (2) Originality and innovation; (3) Influence to other cities; and (4) Support by evidence. This year, 14 cities and organizations received this award in four areas.

Award for Creative Developments in Healthy Cities – Evaluation was given for outstanding work in evaluation of Healthy Cities programmes. There are three awardees this year: Logan City, Australia, for evaluation of “Active Logan Participation Study”; Owari-asahi City, Japan, for periodic evaluation of its Healthy City activities; and Tainan Healthy City association, for evaluating its breastfeeding-friendly environment.

Award for Creative Developments in Healthy Cities – Healthy settings and non-communicable disease control was given to cities that showed progress in prevention and control of non-communicable disease (NCD) in selected settings involving multiple departments of local governments. There are four outstanding award awardees: Taicang City, China for their exploration and practice of self-management in community health; Yamato City, Japan, for the city's home visits projects by public health nurses and registered dieticians; New Taipei Healthy City Promotion Association, for their oral healthcare mobile clinics; and Taoyuan Healthy Promotion Association, for its project on “healthy eating and exercising toward a healthy body and slim waist”.

Award for Creative Developments in Healthy Cities – Good Health Systems was given to cities which developed good health systems in a local context by addressing at least one of the followings: reduce social disparities in health, in addition to national programs; meet local health needs; integrate health into other sectors in relation to health care services; pursue collaborative models of policy dialogue; and increase stakeholder participation. This award was won by five cities: Busanjin-gu, Busan Metropolitan City, Korea, for “100 years life expectancy” project by a dental health care center; Kwai Tsing District, HKSAR, China, for “Kwai Tsing Health System” to enhance community health; Kaoshiung Healthy Harbor City Association, for “Kaoshiung Loves Fitness Walking” project; and Taoyuan Healthy Promotion

Association, for “Medical Housekeeper for Taoyuan Citizens” project to develop home-based medical services, and Wanhua Health Promotion Association, for their community based dementia coordinated care services for older adults.

Award for Creative Developments in Healthy Cities – Planning for Resilience and Emergency Preparedness was given for outstanding work in planning for resilience, emergency preparedness, response, or recovery at local level. There are two awardees this year. Kaoshiung Healthy Harbor City Association, for promoting solar photovoltaic policy for a sustainable and ecological health of the city; and Tainan Healthy City Association, for developing integrated public utility database on disaster prevention.

Award for Pioneers in Healthy Cities

Healthy Cities continuously need pioneering spirits and efforts to make things happen in the real world. This award recognizes individuals/groups that have more than 10 years’ experience directly related to Healthy Cities and have contributed to international developments of Healthy Cities. This year, one expert received an award for contributions on expanding Healthy Cities world-wide.

Honorable Dr. Mitsuyuki Chiba, President of NGO Healthy City Support Organization and former Mayor of Ichikawa City, Japan, started Healthy City Project of Ichikawa City in 2003. Then, his city joined the Alliance for Healthy Cities as a founding member. He contributed to launch the Japan Chapter of the Alliance for Healthy Cities and encouraged activities of chapters in other countries. As the Mayor of Ichikawa City, he hosted the 3rd AFHC Global Conference in 2008, which is now a model of our Healthy Cities Conferences, showing how community members can contribute to Healthy Cities. After he left his mayor’s office, he founded an NGO to support Healthy Cities to involve the private sector, and has developed international exchange and capacity building programs. Hon. Dr. Chiba has devoted himself to develop, disseminate, and expand Healthy Cities programs globally in the last 12 years. He will continue to help cities and communities to have better places to live.

The AFHC Award Ceremony was held at Hansol Oakvalley Resort, Wonju City, Republic of Korea, during the 7th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities. More than 500 participants from 14 countries from all over the world and WHO professionals honored the awardees.

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