

Activities of the Alliance for Healthy Cities, Japan Chapter (April 2020 to March 2021)

1. The 16th General Assembly of the Alliance for Healthy Cities (AFHC) Japan Chapter

For the 16th General Assembly and Conference of the AFHC Japan Chapter, which was scheduled to be held in Izumisano City, Osaka, the General Assembly was held in writing on July 16, 2020, and the Conference was cancelled as preventive measures against the spread of COVID-19.

41 member municipalities and three cooperating organizations participated in the General Assembly in writing and deliberated on and unanimously approved activity reports and settlement of accounts for FY 2019 and activity and budget plans for FY 2020.

2. Seminars and Conferences

On August 18, 2020, the AFHC Japan Chapter co-hosted an online seminar with the WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Urban Policy Research about using information provided by WHO on preventive measures against the coronavirus disease. The seminar was attended by 22 municipalities, organizations, and individuals (of which 16 municipalities and organizations were members of the Japan Chapter).

At this seminar, information was exchanged as Dr. Tatsuma Chino, a medical officer at the WHO Kobe Centre, provided an overview of the novel coronavirus disease and Dr. Haruka Sakamoto, a physician involved in research at the Department of Global Health Policy in the University of Tokyo's Graduate School of Medicine, introduced websites for healthy child-rearing during the novel coronavirus outbreak and multilingual information.

A total of five effect verification meetings for reviewing data health issues and measures hosted by Healthy City Support Organization, a non-profit organization and cooperative member of the Japan Chapter, were held online from September to October 2020 with the cooperation of 10 member municipalities of the Japan Chapter.

3. FY 2020 Main Activities of the AFHC Japan Chapter Secretariat

The AFHC Japan Chapter Secretariat translated and shared newsletters sent by the AFHC. Furthermore, in order to raise awareness of the efforts of the AFHC, the secretariat established communication and coordination with related organizations.

4. Main Activities of the AFHC Japan Chapter Working Committees

(1) Membership Recruitment Working Committee headed by Aisai City, Aichi Prefecture

The Membership Recruitment Working Committee provided information in response to inquiries regarding membership in the AFHC and the AFHC Japan Chapter. The committee also organized a scheme to quickly provide information on materials and procedures.

(2) Public Relations Working Committee headed by Myoko City, Niigata Prefecture

The Public Relations Working Committee shared information domestically on the efforts regarding healthy cities of the Japan Chapter member municipalities and cooperating organizations on the AFHC Japan Chapter website and shared information between Japan Chapter member municipalities and cooperating organizations.