



# Section Meeting Report



## Koryo Town—Welfare and Medical Treatment Section Meeting

**YAMAMURA, Yoshiyuki** Town Mayor of Koryo Town

On August 29, the Welfare and Medical Treatment Section Meeting was held in Koryo Town with representatives from 3 cities, 3 towns, 1 village and Nara Prefecture. We invited Dr. KONDO Yuji of Tenri University, who has been helping the town with its health promotion plan, to coordinate the meeting; Prof. TAKATORI Katsuhiko of the nearby Kio University, who has been assisting with the town's preventive care and health promotion efforts; Prof. Moon Jong-Seong; and Prof. MATSUMOTO Daisuke.

Koryo Town is working to promote opportunities for interaction and exchange to create a town where residents can become happy and healthy. An increasing number of young families are moving into the town for its abundant greenery, but despite this, the population continues to age. As such, cooperative regional welfare activities involving local governments, residents, and related organizations are essential to counter the various issues the town is facing.

The Section Meeting was split into three themes courtesy of Koryo Town and Kio University: (1) An activity report on the Koryo Town Genki Juku, a health promotion class that travels throughout the region; (2) A report on nurturing KEEP preventive care leaders with the aim of promoting self and mutual support among residents; and (3) A report on the KAGUYA Project, an initiative to build the foundation for an effective, comprehensive care system by Kio University. All those present exchanged opinions on the various topics.

Next, participating regional governments shared their own examples of efforts to support their localities. These included activities to create resident-led spaces for interaction, promote development of mutual support, and improve health stations.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Kondo stated, "A major issue in regional activities is how to heighten awareness among residents of local support and efforts to improve medical and welfare facilities. A key element in doing so is social capital—that is, the creation of links between residents in the region. This Section Meeting was a great opportunity to learn about cases where regional resources have been used successfully, and a range of other new initiatives. In addition to Japan, China and Korea are also seeing low birth rates, aging societies, and an increasing number of so-called nuclear families. It would be great if the plenary congress could use today's issues as topics for further discussion."

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### OUTLINE

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- **Date:** Thursday, August 29, 2019
- **Organizer:** Koryo Town (Co-organized by Nara Prefecture and assistance by Kio University)
- **Venue:** The Sawayaka Hall (the General Health & Welfare Center), Koryo Town
- **Participants:** Nara City, Tenri City, Gose City, Miyake Town, Asuka Village, Shimoichi Town, Koryo Town, and Nara Prefecture
- **Coordinator:** KONDO, Yuji (Part-time lecturer, Tenri University)
- **Lecturers:** TAKATORI, Katsuhiko (Professor, Kio University)  
Moon Jong-Seong (Associate professor, Kio University)  
MATSUMOTO, Daisuke (Associate professor, Kio University)