

# Our Town Promotion Plan

Takamiminami Elementary School Zone  
Community Development Committee

Our Town Promotion Plan was formulated with three years from fiscal 2013 to fiscal 2015 as the first term and five years from fiscal 2016 to fiscal 2022 as the second term, and activities based on the Plan have been conducted. This time, the Our Town Promotion Plan for the third term has been drawn up.

## ● Community development goals

### (1) Slogan

Aiming to be a caring and connected community where no one is left behind

### (2) Specific goals

In what is called the “Age of the 100-Year Life,” advancements in medical care and other technologies have brought a greater possibility that we would live longer, but with more years spent dealing with serious illness or disabilities. To become seriously ill or cognitively impaired or to fall into a situation in which one is unable to work due to caring for a family member is not something that only happens to others. We live in an age in which any one of us could become part of the minority and where we never know when we may suffer a physical, financial, or mental strain. Such being the case, it is important to develop a community that allows us to see problems of the entire community as our own, think about and discuss with others what we or our community should be like in 10 years or 20 years so that we will be able to feel happy, joyful, and contented, and translate such ideas into practice.

This school zone is home to many social resources, including public/government facilities [Yasunaka Human Rights Community Center, Yasunaka Senior Citizens Welfare Center (Yasunaka Rojin Fukushi Center), Yasunaka Youth Center, General Welfare Center for Persons with Disabilities (Shogaisha Sogo Fukushi Center), and Yasunaka Hikari Center for Early Childhood Education and Care (Yasunaka Hikari Kodomoen)], Yu Yasunaka Higashi Center for Early Childhood Education and Care (Yu Yasunaka Higashi Kodomoen), and Regional Comprehensive Support Center [Senior Citizen Relief Center]. We would like to conduct activities in combination with these social resources, while evaluating their sustainability, so that we may provide people with a sense of meaning in what they do and in their lives, and a place where they feel they belong.

Takaminami Elementary School Zone is an area where many people face various human rights challenges. It is important to promote community development by making use of such distinctive features and building our community brand as such. By cultivating a sense of human rights and giving consideration to education, welfare, and the global environment, we need to develop a community where people adopt a people-friendly attitude, a community that everyone is glad to live in and wishes to continue to live in, and a community where no one is left behind.

Goal 1. A community that everybody can live in with peace of mind and wish to continue to live in, and where no one is left behind

Goal 2. A lively community that enables everyone to live with a sense of meaning in what they do and in their lives

Goal 3. A community that watches over and supports child-rearing and parents’ growth through child-rearing

Goal 4. A community that has a strong sense of human rights

Goal 5. A community that thinks about disaster prevention and mitigation

## ● Details of activities for achieving the goals

### **Goal 1. A community that everybody can live in with peace of mind and wish to continue to live in, and where no one is left behind**

In the Takamiminami district, there are many social resources, including public facilities. Whether they are really user-friendly for everyone needs to be verified. To ensure their user-friendliness, we will work to incorporate barrier-free design and improvements thoroughly based on the concept of universal design into roads, parks, public facilities, and other facilities that residents often use in their daily lives. By doing so, we will aim to create a community that everyone can live in with peace of mind, that everyone is glad to live in and continue to live in, and a community where no one is left behind.

(Activities in the school zone)

1. Create a map of facilities (stores) that are barrier-free and that thoroughly utilize universal design
2. Promote zero illegal waste dumping and environment beautification campaigns and conduct biannual group community clean-ups
3. Conduct a friendly-greeting campaign
4. Conduct a year-end night watch campaign and an as-needed night patrol campaign
5. Develop events and facilities such as the *Fureai* (interaction) Festival, Summer Festival, Yao International Exchange *Yayu-sai* Festival, and the historical records room in the elementary school into community assets that every resident can be proud of.
6. Improve gardening activities in the school grounds, thereby facilitating interaction between students and community members

### **Goal 2. A lively community that enables everyone to live with a sense of meaning in what they do and in their lives**

People living in the school zone are diverse. Efforts are needed to make the community more comfortable to live in for everyone, from newborn babies to older adults.

Among inhabitants in the school zone are also older adults living alone or in need of nursing care or assistance and people/children with disabilities. This requires improvements in the mutual support and consultation systems for these people, and various social resources that can be easily consulted are available in the school zone.

We will pursue worthwhile community development, hopefully resulting in a community that we can live in with a sense of meaning in our lives and wish to continue to live in.

(Activities in the school zone)

1. Establish a system in the community that enables the provision of support responding to problems encountered by older adults living alone and people with disabilities in their daily lives
2. Create a place that provides preventive nursing care and is designed to relieve anxiety or isolation felt by older adults living alone, households composed of older couples, and people with disabilities, and where they feel they belong.
3. Organize lectures at which older adults' experience is utilized, thereby helping to develop a sense of meaning in their lives through inter-generational exchange

### **Goal 3. A community that watches over and supports child-rearing and parents' growth through child-rearing**

We will aim to create a community where the whole community is involved in rearing children. Also, there is a need to watch over not only the children but also the parents rearing them. Accordingly, by leveraging social resources in the school zone, we will work toward creating a community that supports both child-rearing and the parents' own growth through child-rearing.

(Activities in the school zone)

1. Create a system or network (provisional name: SODACHI-MINAMI-NET) irrespective of generation that supports the raising of children in the school zone
2. Encourage inter-generational exchange
3. Promote the passing-on of traditional Japanese children's games
4. Organize hands-on classes and events for parents and children to make handmade toys, etc.
5. Work with educational institutions to offer child-rearing consultations and school choice and career counseling and organize educational lectures

#### **Goal 4. A community that has a strong sense of human rights**

Those living in the Takamiminami Elementary School Zone include people with disabilities, LGBT people, foreign nationals, people from Buraku (discriminated communities), and older adults. We must think about the human rights challenges of each of these groups as an important issue for community development. We will aim at a community that promotes initiatives to that end, with people in the entire school zone involved, and communicate and share these initiatives with the rest of Yao City.

(Activities in the school zone)

1. Deepen interaction with the many foreign residents living in the school zone through discussion meetings with them, with the aim of achieving a multicultural community
2. Organize human rights lectures and ‘heart-warming photograph exhibitions’ (provisional name) with the aim of improving human rights awareness
3. Organize a Takamiminami Peace Week (provisional name) and Takamiminami Human Rights Week (provisional name) to think about peace and human rights

#### **Goal 5. A community that thinks about disaster prevention and mitigation**

Since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake and the Great East Japan Earthquake, it has been suggested that disaster reduction and mitigation efforts need to be enhanced. Furthermore, in thinking about disaster prevention and mitigation, those vulnerable to earthquake disasters and those having difficulty evacuating must be given first consideration. It is also necessary to consider human rights challenges that may arise during an evacuation. Thinking on a daily basis about disaster prevention and mitigation is of course important, but doing so in regard to possible human rights challenges is also important. We will therefore aim at a community that gives constant consideration to human rights issues during emergencies.

Performing activities specified under Goals 1 through 4 is expected to facilitate smoother community management even in the event of an earthquake disaster.

(Activities in the school zone)

1. Conduct hands-on fun learning lectures for children and adults
2. Conduct lectures to think about human rights issues (those vulnerable to earthquake disasters and those having difficulty evacuating) that require attention at the time of an earthquake disaster
3. Conduct disaster drills focusing on those vulnerable to earthquake disasters and those having difficulty evacuating

### **Let's achieve our goals through connection and partnership!**

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