

Joonpil Cho
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The Center for Community Safety Promotion
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Dear Professor Joonpil Cho

I would first like to express my deepest gratitude to you and all the researchers at the Certifying Center for International Safe Community and the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion for doing your utmost to make people's lives safer and more secure.

The people of Jeju, located in East Asia, are proud of the splendid natural beauty of their island, which is considered to be one of South Korea's greatest treasures, and could rightfully be called a 'museum of nature'. Jeju holds three UNESCO designations, being a Biosphere Reserve, World Natural Heritage Site and Global Geopark. Given such global recognition of the value of Jeju's environment, we are endeavoring to preserve it with the help of the world community, under the slogan 'Jeju to the World, and the World to Jeju'.

Since being designated as a WHO Safe Community in 2007, we have been seeking the participation of citizens from all sectors of society to form an improved safety network, and have established regulations regarding the Jeju Safe Community project and fire prevention. The Jeju Safe Community Committee, whose members include representatives of our fire and police departments and the Office of Education, as well as other experts from government and the private sectors, was formed in order to evaluate and provide direction on Safe Community policy-making and injury prevention programs.

Our Injury Surveillance System, linking general hospitals and the Jeju Emergency Management Office, was established in order to share real-time information about injuries. It is the first system in Korea. Subsequent safety policies have produced very positive results, which demonstrated a 7% decrease in the number of fatalities from injuries, from 79.1 per 100,000 people in 2007 to 73.6 in 2010.

We are also supporting for safety training programs for teachers responsible for ensuring the

safety of students, and we are modifying safer school environments. Other projects underway focus on high-risk groups and suicide prevention, the formation of traffic expert networks, policy-planning forums and safety awareness events.

As governor of the province, my foremost duty is to ensure the safety of all residents and visitors to Jeju; I have therefore promised to double our efforts to realize our Jeju Safe Community project goals, and we are striving to make this island one of the safest places in the world, where all people can live peacefully.

I sincerely request your support in achieving our aim of seeing Jeju Special Self-Governing Province become selected as an International Safe Community. I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Woo, Keun-min 
Governor, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province