

Ageless Society

Pi-Yun Yang

Specialist, Department of Education , Taipei City Government

What is “Ageless”? “Ageless” means never retire. It consists of Health, Working ability and Will, Awareness of Social Contributions and Beneficial Vocations. To identify “Ageless”, the elders, they are willing to undergo treatment when they are ill. Meanwhile, they can do their housework, volunteer and something they’re interested in. On these conditions, we can name it “Ageless”. The elders can gain their self-satisfaction and self-enrichment through this good cycle.

In order to lengthen and enrich their life, the Japanese start to promote the policy which is “Ageless” to the elder society. The function of this policy is activating the aging society and leading to Ageless Society. No matter which areas of working, volunteering, lifelong learning and physical education, “Ageless Society” is for people who have working willingness and ability to nimbly use.

There is a national organization named “The Council of The Elders Negotiation”. It consists of about 60 groups of the elders in 1998. In 2000, they change the name to “The Council of The Elders Society Negotiation”. The purpose of this organization is to help the elders to get jobs, social activities, human rights and the environment that they lived; also, they suggest the government improving the elders’ society. The government plays as an agent to establish SMC (Silver Manpower Center), and offers short-term jobs to the elders by set up communicating sections. For examples: convenience store, parking lot, administrator officer...etc. There are about 1,500 The Elders Human Resources Centers in Japan so far. It emphasizes that the elders not only need to keep healthy but improve their own self-worth.

Besides, based on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, Tanabe Yasuo, the headmaster of Ageless Society Cram School, he puts forward the five stages of contribution to apply in the Ageless Society.