

# Yeosu Web Contents

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## Yeosu City Opens Jihyemaru, a Day & Night Protection Center for the Elderly with Dementia

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- 1.7 billion won invested to get the 2F building with a total floor area of 498.82m<sup>2</sup> that accommodates 45 people
- Various programs available to improve cognitive and physical function of the elderly with dementia

Yeosu City (Mayor Kwon O-bong) announced that Jihyemaru, a day and night protection center for the elderly with dementia, which was built in line with the aging society, would start operating with the opening ceremony on the 11th.

To prevent the spread of Covid-19, the opening ceremony was held with a minimum number of persons, including Mayor Kwon O-bong, Yeosu City Council Chairman Jeon Chang Gon, provincial and city councilors, and village residents.

Yeosu City applied for a project to the Ministry of Health and Welfare in 2018 in step with the national responsibility system for dementia. The city completed the construction of the 2F day and night protection center for the elderly with a total floor area of 498.82m<sup>2</sup> with a total project cost of 1.7 billion won on a 6,189m<sup>2</sup> site on Seobu-ro in Soramyeon.

The social welfare corporation Bomun Welfare Association (CEO Kim Jeong-wook) will be in charge of its operation for five years until 2025.

Its maximum accommodation includes 45 seniors with dementia and 20 ordinary seniors. It has residential rooms, a program room, an office, a restaurant, and a shower room.

There are 16 specialists including facility manager, nursing care workers, physical therapists, and program managers who have completed dementia related training. It operates various programs to improve cognitive and physical functions of the elderly with dementia.

Yeosu Mayor Kwon Oh-bong said, "Dementia is now a problem that is not limited to individuals or their families, but a task that society must help with." The mayor added, "I will actively work to become a reliable helper for the elderly and their families so that they can have a happy old age even with dementia."

Meanwhile, the number of registered dementia patients in the city is 3,764, and the number of residents in nursing homes for the elderly is 576, and 3,100 elderly people are being protected at home.

The city opened Yeosu City Dementia Relief Center in November 2017. In addition to supporting early dementia screening programs and covering treatment management expenses, we are working to create a dementia-friendly environment such as improving dementia awareness and partner training by designating a dementia relief village.



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