

## 15. Local community

### ( 1 ) ”Jichikai” Residents' association

In our legion, there are various issues in order to construct a livable community. The government can handle only few problems; therefore, the endorsement of local community is very important.

*Jichikai* is an association running in order to achieve residents' common wishes such as “I would like to make a city livable.”, “I would like to provide environment for children that they can study and play safely” or “I would like to make a city clean.”

*Jichikai* activities differ depending on each *Jichikai*. In the broadest sense, there are two areas of activities; activity to develop friendly relations and deepen their exchange among neighbors, the other is an activity to solve the community problems.



### ( 2 ) *Jichikai* activities (partial)

- Management of *Jichikai*, maintenance of facilities, etc.
- Providing information by *Kairanban* and distributing the city information booklet or information about community events, etc. (*Kairanban* is a way of communication by passing a file containing notice, etc. among neighbors.)
- Cleaning activity, providing instructions how to separate/dispose trash, maintaining /cleaning the designate garbage collection area, etc.
- Conducting disaster prevention drill for natural disasters or fire, check on the damage, and lead residents to get shelters at the same time of disaster.
- Patrol the community and give traffic safety guidance.
- Hold a cultural event such as festivals or sports events aimed to communicate among residents.

*Jichikai* also have a *Kodomokai* which is a group aimed at communicating parents and children or *Roujinkai* which is a senior citizen's group aimed at managing their health or welfare.



### ( 3 ) Benefit to become a member of *Jichikai*

- By knowing each other, it would be possible to recognize unknown people (suspicious person, etc), which may lead to a securer and safer community.
- You can help each other when disaster happens.
- You can get to know your neighbors by participating *Jichikai* activities, and make a city livable with cooperation.

### ( 4 ) *Jichikai*-hi (fee) / How to become a member of *Jichikai*

*Jichikai* runs on *Jichikai*-hi (membership fee) which community residents pay. The amount of fee or the money collection system differ depending on each *Jichikai*. Let's join and cooperate with *Jichikai* in order to make a community beautiful and livable. Most of residents of Nagahama City join *Jichikai*. We would like foreign residents to join *Jichikai*. In order to join *Jichikai*, please consult your neighbors or *Shimin Katsuyaku-ka* at Nagahama city hall

Shimin Katsuyaku-ka	0749-65-8711
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