

Shiga Prefecture Human Rights Promotion Plan: Second Revised Version (Outline)

~Towards a Shiga where everyone can shine~

Section 1 Project Revisions

In Shiga Prefecture, we are planning an organized promotion of human rights, based on the “Shiga Prefecture Human Rights Promotion Plan.” This plan serves as a more concrete form of the “Shiga Prefecture Ordinance for the Establishment of a Society that Respects Human Rights” and the “Shiga Prefecture Human Rights Policy Agenda,” the latter of which was formulated in order to structure more comprehensive implementation of human rights policy.

In order to respond to changes in social conditions, such as the enactment of various human rights-related laws like the “Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of Buraku Discrimination,” outbreaks of human rights violations related to the Coronavirus infection, the intensification of human rights violations on the internet, growing concern about sexual orientation and changes in gender identity, as well as the results of surveys on human rights awareness among citizens of the prefecture, the previous plan was reviewed and the “Shiga Prefecture Human Rights Policy Promotion Plan: Second Revised Edition” has been formulated.

The plan’s term is from the 2024 fiscal year to the 2028 fiscal year.

Section 2 Basic Approach of the Plan

A Respectful and Secure Society

We will strive to realize a society that values life, where all citizens can live in safety and security, and we will work to ensure that future generations inherit a society that respects the natural environment and human rights.

A Society Where Everyone Can Shine

We will strive to realize a society that respects individuality, where all citizens can live purposeful and prosperous lives, in addition to promoting the development of citizens’ potential and talents.

A Diverse and Harmonious Society

We will strive to realize a society that transcends various generational and cultural differences, recognizes individual diversity, and where all citizens live in equality through mutual respect, understanding, and support.

A Cooperative Society

We will strive to realize a lively and active cooperative society where private citizens, organizations, industry, and the various constituents of the government plan to work closely together, while making the most of their respective strengths, and aspire towards a rich Shiga where human rights are respected.

Section 3 Human Rights Policy Promotion

- We will promote measures respectful of human rights throughout all policy areas.
- We will work closely with other organizations to comprehensively promote the effective implementation of human rights policy.

《 I Basic Policy Promotion 》

1 Promote Human Rights Education and Awareness

- We will promote the general awareness of human rights and advance the understanding of fundamental human rights principles.
- We will cultivate behavior that promotes personal development and the realization of personal fulfillment among all citizens.
- We will acknowledge diversity among individuals and values, and encourage behavior that takes into consideration the perspective of others.
- We will create environments conducive to self-motivated learning.
- We will actively engage in home-, school-, and community-based human rights education.
- We will promote effective measures to raise awareness of human rights by making use of various opportunities so that each individual can gain a sense of human rights awareness that will lead to concrete actions.

2 Establish a Consultation/Support System for Human Rights Infringements

- We will support the establishment and operation of comprehensive consultation services.
- We will endeavor to improve specialized consultation services.
- We will promote coordination between consultation organizations.
- We will work to publicize consultation services.
- We will plan improvements concerning the training of consultation workers and the counseling system structure.

《 II Handling Essential Topics 》

1 Women

- Respect for human rights and realization of a safe and worry-free life
- Promotion of substantive gender equality in all areas
- Realization of diverse ways of living and working for each individual
- Spreading of gender equality awareness
- Promotion of comprehensive related policy.

2 Children

- Assistance with childcare and child-rearing by society as a whole
- Promotion of social care
- Healthy upbringing of children and youth
- Handling of truancy.
- Handling of bullying.
- Promotion of support for single-parent households.
- Promotion of child poverty countermeasures.
- Promotion of comprehensive related policy.

3 Senior Citizens

- Creating a society where everyone can actively participate and coexist
- Building a society where those with dementia and their families can live their own lives
- Building a system that supports their ways of living
- Promotion of comprehensive policies for senior citizens.

4 Disabled Citizens

- Creating a harmonious society
- Living together.
- Growing and learning together
- Working together.
- Acting together.
- Comprehensive promotion of policies for persons with disabilities

5 Buraku Discrimination(*dōwa mondai*)

- Promotion of education that encourages understanding and awareness towards discriminated communities and respect for human rights.
- Support for community- and citizen-development programs.
- Responding to discriminatory posts online
- Elimination of the fraudulent receipt of benefits or services under the pretext of “community discrimination.”
- Comprehensive promotion of administration for discriminated communities (*dōwa gyōsei*).

6 Foreign Residents

- Support for communication of thoughts and feelings, for deeper understanding.
- Support for a safe and comfortable lifestyle.
- Supporting the active participation of foreigners
- Nurturing the next generation
- Building of a society with thriving multicultural coexistence.
- Promotion of comprehensive policies for multicultural coexistence.

7 Medical Patients

- Expansion and modernization of medical services.
- Sponsoring of safe and dependable medical welfare services.
- Improvement of public awareness towards accurate knowledge.
- Promotion of support for patients dealing with intractable diseases.
- Promotion of comprehensive healthcare, treatment, and welfare policies.

8 Crime Victims

- Support for the restoration of peace and normality to the lives of the victims.
- Molding a society that is supportive of victims of crime.

9 Those Who Have Served Their Sentences/Are on Probation/Etc.

- Strengthening the partnerships between the national government, cities and towns, and NGOs
- Securing employment and housing
- Improving the promotion of public health, welfare
- Delinquency prevention and implementing educational support
- Promotion of activities of non-governmental collaborators, public relations, and public awareness

10 Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity

- Promotion of education and public awareness to increase understanding of sexual diversity
- Promotion of initiatives to aid concerned parties, such as the development of consultation systems

11 Human Rights Violations on the Internet

- Promotion of education and awareness measures to stop human rights infringements on the internet.
- Responding to discriminatory posts and videos and online slander
- Promotion of coordination of activities among the national government and related agencies

12 New Infectious Diseases (Coronavirus, etc.)

- Dissemination of correct information
- Education and public awareness

- Improving consultation and support systems

13 Hate Speech

- Education and awareness for the prevention and elimination of hate speech
- Improvement of consultation support in coordination with the national government and related agencies

14 Harassment

- Education/public awareness for harassment prevention
- Consultation support in coordination with related organizations

15 Human Rights Issues During Disasters

- Strengthening of emergency support systems for people who require them.
- Promotion of public relations, education, and awareness.
- Promotion of comprehensive related policies.

16 Human Trafficking (e.g. forced sexual services or labor)

- Consultation support, education and public awareness for the prevention of human trafficking

17 The Ainu People

- Education and public awareness to deepen understanding of the Ainu people

18 Victims of Abduction

- Education and public awareness to deepen concern and recognition in resolving the issue of abduction victims

19 Protection of Personal Information

- Education and awareness to prevent human rights violations due to the leaking of personal information, as well as raising awareness of consultation services

20 Other Human Rights Issues

- Solitude/Isolation
- Suicide
- Social withdrawal
- Addiction
- Homelessness

Section 4 Human Rights Policy Promotion Structure

1. In our role as the headquarters of human rights promotion in Shiga Prefecture, we will establish cooperative ties between related organizations and plan the comprehensive and effective promotion of human rights policy.
2. We will support human rights seminars and information provision for workers intimately connected to human rights issues.
(Public servants, school educators, social educators, medical and healthcare workers, welfare workers, firefighters, police officers, and the mass media)
3. We will establish cooperative ties between the national government, local governments, businesses and NGOs where each party can make the most of their unique strengths.

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