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## International Home Care & Rehabilitation Exhibition

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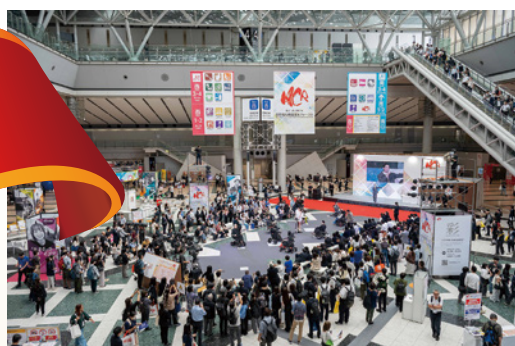


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## Social Welfare Practice Paves the Way for Realizing a Society of Community Coexistence!

The year 2026 will be a year where the challenges of an increasingly aging society, the full onset of population decline, and the weakening of community bonds become even more clear. Given these circumstances, rebuilding local communities based on welfare will become increasingly necessary to foster regional connections and mutual support.

Therefore, promoting community-based integrated care — which involves collaboration and system development across medical, nursing care, and welfare services — along with safeguarding the rights of the elderly, dementia countermeasures, preventive care, health promotion, and realizing an inclusive society for all, will become challenges tailored to each region's specific characteristics.

In particular, with the aging rate approaching 30%, the number of users of long-term care insurance services has exceeded 5.3 million, and the demand for home-based care and support for independent living will continue to grow significantly in the future.

Securing care workers is becoming increasingly difficult in the face of rising demand for care services. Looking ahead to 2040, when a shortage of approximately 600,000 workers is projected, the important challenge lies in securing diverse labor sources while maintaining high-quality care provision.

However, the utilization of assistive devices in nursing care facilities, disability welfare facilities, and home-based welfare services has yet to advance significantly. In particular, the introduction of ICT and the use of digital technology must be actively pursued to support care and reduce administrative burdens.

Therefore, the government is promoting the adoption of ICT in areas such as streamlining record-keeping tasks at welfare, nursing care facilities, etc., and sensor-linked monitoring systems that support safety, and AI-based fall prediction. There is growing expectation for the increased utilization of welfare equipment.

## H.C.R.2026 – Pave the Way for the Creative Future – Held at the Tokyo Big Sight, East Exhibition Halls

H.C.R.2026, the “53rd International Home Care and Rehabilitation Exhibition & Forum”, will be held at the East Halls of the Tokyo Big Sight. With the assistance of everyone, last year's H.C.R.2025 had participation from over 400 companies and organizations across 10 countries and 1 region, welcoming 120,000 visitors over the three days. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the stakeholders who contributed to the success of the exhibition.

The purpose of H.C.R. is to showcase the latest assistive devices and disseminate information that contributes to realizing local communities where all people, including the elderly and those with disabilities, can live with peace of mind, to promoting independent living, and to improving the quality of care. Furthermore, we plan diverse programs as the “Forum” where attendees from various fields can exchange information. These include seminars introducing the latest topics in social welfare, an international symposium focusing on welfare for persons with disabilities, specialized courses for frontline care

workers to enhance skills and prevent accidents, and a campaign conveying the charm of welfare work to recruit talents.

Additionally, we will continue to host our Web-based Exhibition, leveraging its convenience to provide information anytime, anywhere, accessible to anyone. We will also enhance convenient features that integrate with our In-Person Exhibition. H.C.R.2026 will be held for three days from Wednesday, October 7 (Wed.) to October 9 (Fri.) at the Tokyo Big Sight, in East Hall 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8. Due to renovation work at the Tokyo Big Sight exhibition facilities, there will be some impacts on venue usage. However, we will make every effort in planning and operations, giving careful consideration to the zone layout and visitor flow. We would like to kindly ask all the related parties involved, including exhibitors, for continued support and cooperation.

✂ For Details on Exhibitor Applications, please see the page 8.