Membership Application

Join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities

AARP Livable Communities

When a town, city, county or state joins the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities, it is joining a global effort to be a more livable and age-friendly community.

The AARP network is an organizational affiliate of the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. (Communities wishing to join the global network instead of or in addition to the AARP program can find application information on the WHO website.)

To enroll your community in the AARP network, please complete and submit the application below.

Note: Since content added to this form cannot be saved, we advise that you review the questions in advance, gather the materials and information you’ll need, and draft the narrative responses offline for later pasting into the applicable fields.

Section 1: Community Details

Application Submission Date

8/6/21

State

Select a State

Georgia

Community Name

City of Centerville

Total Population

7,751

Percentage of Residents Age 60 or Older

17%
Community Governance Structure (choose one)

- [ ] Borough
- [X] City
- [ ] County
- [ ] Town
- [ ] Township
- [ ] Village
- [ ] Other (explain below)

**Note:** The option for City is currently selected.

**Explain here if you selected "Other"**


Community Type (Check all that apply)

- [ ] Urban
- [ ] Mixed
- [ ] Suburban (offices, apartments and shops)
- [ ] Suburban (mostly residential)
- [X] Small Town
- [ ] Rural
- [ ] Remote/Frontier
- [ ] Other (explain below)
- [ ] Not sure

**Note:** The option for Small Town is currently selected.

**Explain here if you selected "Other"**


**Elected Official Signing the Community’s Letter of Commitment**

**Name (elected official)**

**John Harley**

**Title**

**Mayor**

**Office Mailing Address**

**300 E. Church Street, Centerville, GA 31028**
Kate Hogan is responsible for Economic Development, Community Development and Marketing for the City of Centerville. For Community Development, Kate ensures all housing no matter a person's socioeconomic status is attractive and attainable. Making Centerville the place to live for all ages starts by making a home for residents in our communities. In addition to these tasks, Kate runs all social media and communications with our residents. Marketing initiatives also include our annual events calendar at Center Park at Centerville.
Section 2: Community Activities, Engagements and Collaborations

Briefly describe your existing community policies, programs and services that are targeted toward older people. Please identify how your community plans to become more age-friendly. (250-300 words required)

Centerville is a community that has always had a robust senior population but we find our quality of life initiatives are enjoyable for all ages. Centerville's seniors meet twice a month at Centerville City Hall to have a potluck and fellowship. This is organization also provides free exercise classes for seniors with a physician's approval supported by our local hospital.

How will older adults be involved in the community's efforts to become more age-friendly? (250-300 words required)

Seniors are always invited to be civially engaged, as are residents of all ages. Over the past 5 years we have had numerous public input opportunities including focus groups and surveys. With the active senior community, they are a well represented demographics in our public input opportunities. These public input opportunities included a housing survey in one of our neediest communities, a focus group style feedback session on Center Park events, and a Citizen's Academy that gave a behind the scense look at Centerville Departments.

These opportunities will continue to be prevalent during the planning and implementation of initiatives and policies. Our all-encompassing approach to communication ensures that senior residents are in the know about what public input opportunities there currently are. They can connect with the city in person at City Hall, online at our website, online with social media and via our monthly newsletter.

Section 3: Network Membership

Your answers to the following questions will help us complete your community's membership in the age-friendly network and enable AARP to better understand how to support the network.

1-a. What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities (100 words minimum)

Collaboration is a core value in the City of Centerville. Often departmental collaborations with other departments or external organizations to further the mission and goals of the City of Centerville. Efforts to become more age-friendly can increase our collaboration as we investigate ways to be a stronger community. This designation will hopefully raise awareness in our community, surrounding communities and throughout the State that Centerville wants to listen and be a part of the solution. We need to be living in place, not just aging in place. Sometimes, it can be difficult to find new initiatives and programs that can support Centerville's senior population. But, we have much we can learn from other local organizations and communities in our area. Hopefully, this program will be an invitation for continued collaboration and coordination among community agencies and our city departments.
Yes, we met and collaborated with the AARP GA State Office and worked closely with Kay Sibetta, Associate State Director, Community Outreach and Myrtle Habersham, Age-Friendly Ambassador.

Our community was motivated to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States & Communities because we felt we provide an exceptional quality of life but have an opportunity to learn from other communities. There is so much a community can provide to their residents and we want to ensure we stand out as the best community for seniors and individuals of all ages to live, work and play.

Section 4: Required Materials

1-a. Letter of Commitment
Provide a digital file (PDF preferred) of the signed document.

[Attach]

1-b. Resolution or Proclamation (optional)
If your community issued either document in addition to the commitment letter, provide a digital file (PDF preferred) here.

[Attach]

2. Logo or Image
Provide a digital file (JPG preferred) and/or a link to a downloadable logo or other image that represents your community and for which you have reprint rights and permission to provide for use by AARP and the World Health Organization.

[Website URL]
www.centervillega.org

Section 5: Social Media

Provide the most applicable Twitter handle(s) and Facebook account(s) for your community (i.e., an age-friendly coalition, the local government, key elected officials and/or local partners).
Section 6: Agreement

I have read and understand the requirements for my community to become a member of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities, including the need to conduct a community assessment, develop and acquire approval of an action plan, implement the plan, submit an annual best practice and provide periodic updates, including a five-year progress report.

Yes, I understand the requirements.

SUBMIT YOUR COMMUNITY’S APPLICATION TO THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY STATES AND COMMUNITIES

Receipt of the application will be acknowledged by AARP within 24 hours of submission or during the next business day.