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Morie Pierce Smile
AARP State Director
AARP Colorado
303 E. 17th Ave Suite 510
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Mrs. Morie Pierce Smile,

On behalf of the City and County of Denver, I am happy to express our excitement about the opportunity to join with AARP Colorado and the World Health Organization (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community. Like other communities across the nation, Denver is committed to promoting policies that ensure we are the best city for all ages,

With 134,000 baby boomers turning 65 years of age by 2020, Denver is striving to be a model city for older adults to create a community of engagement, empowerment, and enhancement of necessary services and amenities. To address the changing demographics of our community, we have recently begun to update the report "Age Matters," which was first published in 2010. This report will become the blueprint for future steps and engagement to ensure that Denver is the best city to live in at any age. In doing this, we hope to provide older adults with the resources to be healthy, independent, and well-integrated members of our community.

As a participant in the National network of communities, it is our intent to:

- Include the active engagement of older adults in Task Force and Stakeholder groups associated with the "Age Matters" update;
- Establish a plan of action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community through the update of the "Age Matters" Report; and
- Commit to measuring activities, reviewing action plan outcomes and reporting on them publicly.

We look forward to working with AARP Colorado State Office members, volunteers, and stakeholders to create a plan of action that responds to needs in the community. I believe that in our collaboration, the City and County of Denver will be a wonderful example of age-friendliness.

Respectfully,

Michael B. Hancock
Mayor