June 18, 2014

Mr. Gene Veralta
NM AARP Director
535 Cerrillos Rd., Suite A
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Mr. Veralta:

I am writing this as a letter of intent to express our interest in applying to the World Health Organization to become an Age-friendly City and Community. At our City Council meeting on June 12, 2014, the Council adopted the attached resolution in support of this initiative. Carlsbad can be described as “aging in place.” This is indicated by an increasing age and a rise in the 65 and over age groups. Carlsbad has the largest percentage of residents age 55 and older in the region.

It is the goal of the City, as a participant, to:
- Establish an advisory citizens’ committee to actively engage older adults
- Conduct “town hall” meetings to determine action items
- Develop a Plan of action that responds to the needs of citizens in the community
- Utilize citizen input to guide development of pedestrian and bicycle pathways through the City
- Measure and review action plan outcomes and report to the public
- Partnership with Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce in their retirement endeavors

We look forward to working with the New Mexico AARP volunteers and staff to continue on the path of making Carlsbad a place of citizens to age with grace and dignity.

Sincerely,

Dale Janway, Mayor
City of Carlsbad, NM

Enclosure
RESOLUTION NO. 2014-29

A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF CARLSBAD TO PROMOTE AND ENGAGE IN THE INITIATIVES OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION’S AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES AND COMMUNITIES NETWORK.

WHEREAS, The City of Carlsbad, New Mexico has adopted a Greater Carlsbad Comprehensive Plan: Strategy 2030; and

WHEREAS, community services and facilities contribute to the quality of life for residents by providing safety, protection, recreation, leisure, meeting places, social services, educational and cultural opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City has established a “Long Term Planning Implementation Committee”; and

WHEREAS, Carlsbad shall appoint an ad hoc citizen advisory committee to guide development of pedestrian and bicycle pathways through the City; and

WHEREAS, the Carlsbad area is home to the following amenities:
   Two continuing care retirement communities;
   A respite care facility
   Senior recreational centers
   Two National Parks
   Two New Mexico State Parks
   34 public parks, open spaces, and a dog park
   Sports complexes
   Neighborhood playgrounds
   The Riverwalk Recreation Center
   Tennis courts and golf courses

WHEREAS, Carlsbad shall continue implementation of the transportation improvement plan to connect current and future needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, active aging is a life-long process, whereby an age-friendly community is not just “elder-friendly” but intended to be friendly for all ages; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a program and policies to encourage age-friendly communities.
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CARLSBAD, COUNTY OF EDDY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO, THAT:

I, Dale Janway, Mayor of the City of Carlsbad, New Mexico, with the approval of the governing body, do hereby support the initiatives to promote and engage Carlsbad in the World Health Organization's Age-friendly cities and communities network.

INTRODUCED, PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED this 12th day of June 2014.

DALE JANWAY, MAYOR

ATTESTED:

Annette Baird
CITY CLERK
City contact details:

1) Name of Municipality / City and Country: *

   Carlsbad, Eddy County, New Mexico

2) Mailing address: *

   P. O. Box 1569
   Carlsbad, NM  88220

3) Name of Mayor: *

   Dale Janway

4) Full name, role and title of contact person: *

   Janell E. Whitlock, Director of Retirement

5) E-mail of contact person: *

   retirement@carlsbadchamber.com
   The e-mail format is "xxxx@yyyy.zzz"

6) Please indicate your official web site and any other web site that relates to Age-friendly Cities initiatives:

   http://www.retimeCarlsbad.com; or CityofCarlsbad_NM.com
   The URL format is "http://xxxx".

7) Is the city a member of a national programme? *

   Yes  No

8) Please attach a letter from the Mayor and municipal administration indicating formal commitment to undertake and/or complete the above noted four steps within the next two-years:

   [File size is limited to 5MB. ?]

If possible, also please provide the following additional information:

1) What is the percentage of older persons (age 65 and above) residing in the city?

   16% in 2010

2) Is there any funding available to assist with this project?

   yes

3) Are there other related projects currently being planned or implemented in the city that specifically target older people? If yes, please describe them?

   Activities at senior centers; Senior Circle; Southeast NM Community Action; NMSU-C reduced rates for senior citizens; Senior Olympics; Mayor's Long Range Plan and Implementation Committees

4) Have you already started a baseline assessment process of the age-friendliness of your city?

   Yes  No

http://www.who.int/ageing/application_form/en/
If you require further information, please send an email to GNAFCC or send us a mail at:

FCH/ALC  
Main Building  
WHO  
Avenue Appia 20  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland  
Fax: (41) 22 791 4839

Related links

WHO Age-friendly Environments Programme
Global Network of Age-friendly Cities®
Global Network of Age-friendly Cities® Process
   The brochure
   pdf, 1.72Mb