



Tompkins County Legislature

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March 30, 2015

Ms. Beth Finkel
State Director
AARP New York
780 Third Avenue
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. Finkel:

It is with great pleasure that I write to you today to express Tompkins County's interest in pursuing admission into the World Health Organization and AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative. Along with other selected communities in the nation, Tompkins County is committed to promoting policies to make our community friendly to aging populations.

Tompkins County is home to approximately 12,522 people age 65 and older, and it is our fastest growing demographic. To address the needs of our older adult population, the Tompkins County Office for the Aging has recently convened 8 consensus conferences on different topics related to aging, bringing together a total of 145 community stakeholders, including older adults, business leaders, service providers, law enforcement, academia, and many others. Out of this process, we have crafted a Strategic Plan for Aging in Tompkins County. Through the Age Friendly Initiative, we hope to continue engaging our community to make progress on the recommendations of this plan.

We look forward working with the World Health Organization and AARP New York to continually improve our community so all citizens can age with dignity.

Sincerely,



Michael Lane, Chair

Tompkins County Legislature

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Inclusion through Diversity