



Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities** and the **World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

- If you have questions while completing this form, please email livable@aarpp.org or call 202-434-2430
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 10/17/2016

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: City of Fremont

STATE: California

POPULATION SIZE: 214,089 (2010 data)

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 15%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor Bill Harrison

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 3300 Capitol Avenue Fremont, CA 94537

Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT FOR THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

The community contact is the local staff member or volunteer who is primarily responsible for carrying out the community-level work — it is not the responsible AARP staff member.

NAME: Karen Grimsich

POSITION: Administrator, Aging and Family Services

EMAIL ADDRESS: KGrimsich@fremont.gov

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 510-574-2062

Please describe the named person's role in the city or community's age-friendly initiative:

The City of Fremont's Human Services Department is comprised of three divisions: Youth and Family Services, Family Resource Center and the Aging and Family Services division. The Director of the Human Services Department is Suzanne Shenfil. The Administrator of the Aging and Family Services Division is Karen Grimsich, and she is the community contact for the AARP Network of Age-Friendly communities. Ms. Grimsich will take the lead to organize community-based efforts.

Section 3: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ENGAGEMENTS and COLLABORATIONS

1) Please provide a brief summary of the community policies, programs and services that are targeted toward older people and how the community plans to become more age-friendly.

The City of Fremont's Human Services Department (HSD) has been providing community based services since 1978. The HSD's grounding principles are: providing support through partnerships; promoting community engagement; building capacity; and leveraging resources. The HSD's Aging and Family Services (AFS) Division exemplifies these core principles through the services it provides to older adults and their families and the partnerships it has established in the community. The AFS service base consists of service linkage, care coordination, and counseling services primarily provided in the home of older adults; wellness programs provided in congregate settings; and mobility and transportation services. The Human Services department plans to become more age-friendly through discussions with older adults and strategic planning across City departments.

2) How will the community engage and involve older people in the process of becoming a more age-friendly?

Community engagement is a core principle of the Human Services Department and we have existing working partnerships within our community. One way we will engage and involve older people is through our Community Ambassador Program for Seniors (CAPS). The CAPS program, established almost 10 years ago with a Robert Wood Johnson Fresh Idea grant, is an award-winning program in which the City partners with affinity groups to establish information, referral and assistance to older adults in 13 affinity groups. The affinity groups, often faith and/or culturally based, build on existing relationships where older adults naturally congregate. The City has trained almost 200 ambassadors to provide linkages to older adults. The CAPS groups will participate in establishing community focus groups and conversation. The second primary avenue to engage people will be through our Senior Center, which has 2,000+ members and, on average, 300 visitors a day.

3) Briefly describe the mechanisms the community has or is planning to put in place to facilitate collaborative planning and implementation between different agencies and departments.

Several years ago, the Human Services Departments, was chosen in a competitive bid process to participate in the Robert Wood Johnson 'Community Partnerships for Older Adult' initiative. At that time we learn a lot in how to plan for and facilitate collaborative planning. We will build on what we have learned. The City staffs a Tri-City Elder Coalition that represents over 60 local agencies providing services to older adults. This Coalition, along with the City's Senior Commission, will be key partners in the planning and implementation of the Age-Friendly project. Within the City structure, there are avenues in place, such as regular Department Head and City Managers meetings, to facilitate planning efforts.

Section 4: NETWORK MEMBERSHIP

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

4) How do you hope to contribute to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

The City of Fremont is a very culturally diverse community. There is not an ethnic majority. And we have existing partnerships with a diverse group of affinity groups that support age-friendly ideals. We feel one way we can contribute to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities is through established avenues of communication in which we receive input and 'hear' from a diverse group of older adults. We hope to identify more ways in which we can contribute to this important effort.

5) What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

Participating in Robert Wood Johnson's 'Community Partnership for Older Adults' initiative was educational and inspirational. We feel participating in the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities is a natural next step for our City. We are also currently participating in a Countywide effort to develop a County Plan for Older Adults in Alameda County, in which one of the core strategies in the planning effort is to establish Age-Friendly Cities within our county to provide input from older adults.

6) Please provide a digital file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community.

The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here's ours >



See attached