



## 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](mailto: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: 7/27/2016

### Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** Boulder County

**STATE:** Colorado

**POPULATION SIZE:** 321,872

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 19.4%, or 62,493 people.

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

### 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.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

Laura coordinates and oversees the Age Well Boulder County initiative. This includes managing collaborations with local partners, presenting to local businesses, engaging the community in Age Well activities, monitoring progress towards achieving goals, and updating the plan every four years.

### **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.**

Age Well Boulder County is a collaborative, countywide strategic planning initiative with the Boulder County Area Agency on Aging, local senior centers, community non-profits, local senior advisory boards, and other service providers in the aging network. The Age Well plan represents input from over 200 older adults, community members, service providers, organizations, and leaders. The plan is intended to be a starting point for an interactive, community-driven process that lays out a roadmap for creating new, innovative programs and partnerships, developing action steps for policy work, and identifying resources to make Boulder County a community where all can age well. The Age Well plan identifies 17 broad goal areas and 88 strategies to help our communities become more age friendly, organized in four priority areas: basic needs, personal connections & community involvement, health & wellness, and aging in community.

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

For years, older adults have been key in identifying priorities and developing programs under the Age Well Boulder County initiative. The Age Well Boulder County strategic plan was initiated in 2006 with feedback gathered from hundreds of community members through a variety of methods. In 2010, input was once again gathered from hundreds of older adults stakeholders through focus groups and surveys. This information was central to the update of the plan. In the summer of 2014, a similar public engagement process was conducted. More than 260 older adults participated in community conversations, contributing their insights and ideas about creating vibrant communities here in Boulder County, and thousands more completed a survey about their experience of aging in Boulder County. This data, combined with information from other community stakeholders, resulted in a re-refresh of the Age Well Boulder County plan, published in early 2015. Now that the plan has been released to the public, local senior advisory boards are encouraged to adopt the plan and identify priority areas within their city or town.

**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.**

There is a rich history of collaboration amongst and between the Boulder County Area Agency on Aging and the municipal senior service departments in Boulder, Lafayette, Longmont and Louisville. For more than a decade, an innovative group of managers from these municipalities and other aging service agencies has been collaborating to identify community priorities, solicit input from community members through a comprehensive public engagement process, ensure a collective vision for the future of our aging communities, and set priorities for aging well moving forward. Since the plan was first released, the community has celebrated many successes which have made Boulder County more age friendly, including: streamlining access to information and assistance for older adults and their caregivers, improved communication between senior resource specialists and transportation providers, and the City of Longmont using the Age Well plan as a starting point for including aging strategies in their comprehensive plan update. Additionally, Boulder County is home to multiple professional groups and associations that foster collaborations between different agencies and groups, including: Folks in Aging, Interagency, and the Transitions Collaborative.

#### 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 Age Well Boulder County initiative represents a multi-pronged, collaborative and strengths-based approach to create a shared community vision of the future of our aging communities across the county. Older adults are active participants in setting priorities and envisioning the future. The insight and experience we have gained over the past decade of successful collaboration and planning efforts could potentially benefit communities who are just starting to plan for the aging of their populations. We are happy to share our successes and failures in hopes to aid other communities in their process to become age-friendly.

#### 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?

A staff member from the Denver chapter of AARP suggested we might be a good fit for the network. For years, Age Well Boulder County has been recognized locally and regionally as a best practice for creating communities in which all can age well. We are applying to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities to honor the great work we have accomplished and gain access to resources as we continue to implement in the future.

#### 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 >



<http://www.allagewell.com/images/agewelllogo.png>