

CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

MAYOR
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

October 3, 2016

Jeff Johnson
State Director
AARP Florida
200 West College Avenue, Suite 304
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On behalf of Miami-Dade County, I am pleased to offer this letter of commitment to creating an age-friendly community and to request membership into the World Health Organization (WHO) and AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative.

Miami-Dade County is home to the largest population of older adults age 60 and over in the state, more than half a million, with that number expected to rise to over 800,000 by 2040. To begin to address our changing demographics, Miami-Dade County has been working with the Miami-Dade Age-Friendly Initiative, which is comprised of a diverse group of stakeholders including executives from non-profit organizations, funding agencies, policy makers, academia, and staff from key County departments. Our collective goal is to create a Miami-Dade County where older adults can stay active, engaged, and healthy with dignity and enjoyment.

The County has a strong track record for working to address the needs of the aging population. My Initiative on Aging provides resources and information on programs and activities for seniors throughout the County. In 2015, the County's Comprehensive Development Master Plan was modified to ensure that older adults are considered in long-range planning efforts. Our Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open-Spaces Department has also been a leader in identifying and advocating for age-friendly standards in parks. In addition, Miami-Dade County recently adopted the *Local Action Plan for Safer People, Safer Streets* to address the mobility and safety needs of County. An important component of this local action plan is considering the needs of residents of all ages and abilities.

Through the efforts of the Age-Friendly Initiative and the County, we have developed a comprehensive framework to build upon in addressing the WHO's eight domains that help influence the health and quality of life of older adults. As a participant in the national network of communities, it is the County's intent, together with the Miami-Dade Age-Friendly Initiative, to:

- Include the active engagement of older adults in our planning processes and committees;
- Conduct a baseline assessment of age-friendliness of the community;

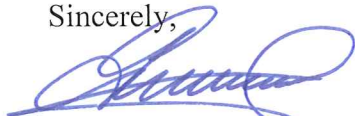
AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative

- Update and finalize our *Action Plan for an Age-Friendly Miami-Dade* based on the findings of the community assessment; and
- Identify key indicators to track so progress in the plan can be monitored and reported.

We look forward to working with the AARP's Florida Office, its members and volunteers, and our stakeholders to create a plan of action that responds to the needs of our community as we work to build a great Miami-Dade County for all ages.

Thank you for your consideration of this request

Sincerely,



Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

- c: Russel Benford, Deputy Mayor, Office of the Mayor
Michael Spring, Senior Advisor, Office of the Mayor