



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 me@aarp.org or call 866-554-5380
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 1/9/2017

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Town of Dover-Foxcroft

STATE: Maine

POPULATION SIZE: 4,213

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 20% over 55, 16%+- over 60

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Elwood Edgerly, Board of Selectmen Chair, unanimous vote of the Board of Selectmen, all members signed.

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 48 Morton Avenue, Suite A. Dover-Foxcroft Maine 04426

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:

The Town Manager's role is to implement the policies and initiatives adopted by the Board of Selectmen. The Town Manager will seek to utilize existing resources to make the community more age friendly through steps identified in the age friendly assessment and action plan. When possible and appropriate, the town manager will seek additional resources to address items within the action plan in order to improve circumstances for residents of all ages including seniors. The Town Manager will report to the Board of Selectmen on the progress of these initiatives and will work with the resources available through the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities towards continuing its progress toward identifying and removing barriers we are able to identify.

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.

Perhaps the most significant effort the town made toward becoming more age friendly is its support of the Maine Highland Senior Center Project currently underway. This project first began in 2010 and resulted from a group of interested residents having meetings regarding how this building could best serve the community. This resulted in the effort to establish a Senior Center that offers Adult Day Services using a medical model as well as meeting space for seniors and an event center upstairs that would be multigenerational and host functions such as weddings, music, receptions etc. The town currently dedicates space to seniors involved in the Senior Network at its municipal offices and there are lunches and other functions at this space on a regular basis. The town provides direct support to its local YMCA such that it can provide programming for people of all ages, including seniors. The town does not have its own recreation programs thus it is very important to the community that programming is offered and available to everyone in the community. Dover-Foxcroft is fortunate to be supported by the work of the Piscataquis Thriving in Place Collaborative, a large task force funded by the Maine Health Access Foundation to help older and vulnerable adults age in place. The goals of the TiP are to develop a robust resource and referral network and to increase capacity and access in the following areas: transportation; home-based services; caregiver support; volunteerism; community engagement; and person-centered planning. The Charlotte White Center facilitates the TiP project and shares the funding with various partners that are charged with leading specific aspects of the work. These funded partners include Pine Tree Hospice; Community Health and Counseling Services, Penquis, the Maine Highlands Senior Center, the University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Services. The University of Maine Center on Aging is the contracted project evaluator. The TiP has urged the town of Dover-Foxcroft to join the Network of Age-Friendly Communities and has offered to deploy some of its evaluation resources and its overall capacity to provide in-kind support for the initial community needs assessment and the process of convening a community advisory committee.

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

In addition to its current support of the Senior Network Program, the town will form a committee that will be a part of the age friendly community assessment and recommendations for implementation. The committee will be a source of feedback on the town's activities, investments and policies and can help identify what is needed and help assess what the town has in place and whether efforts are working as intended. Committee members will have the benefit of the feedback they get from their personal networks and be able to make this information part of the town's decision making process. Projects that involve use of grant funding require public hearings as part of community participation. This committee will be helpful in having these hearings better attended in terms of those who will be affected by/benefit from the investments we propose to make. The Piscataquis Thriving in Place Collaborative has offered to assist with this process by contributing the skills and talents of its over fifty partners and through sharing its evaluation resources. Through the TiP, in-kind support from the University of Maine Center on Aging is available to assist Dover-Foxcroft in facilitating its initial assessment.

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.

The Town has several sub-committees that focus on specific policy areas within the town i.e. recreation, promotion and development, public safety, etc. These subcommittees encourage collaboration when possible in order to maximize resources. One example of collaboration between organizations is how Dover-Foxcroft offers recreational programs. The town owns and maintains several recreational facilities however the programming is accomplished through partnerships with both the YMCA and our local high school instead vs. a municipal recreation department. The town partners on a regular basis with organizations within the community to facilitate their efforts to benefit from grants or other financing opportunities for their organizations. The town has often served as fiscal agent when appropriate to make these opportunities possible. The town is frequently asked for representatives to serve on strategic planning committees for organizations. This has been a great way for the town to understand the environment of the organization and what their needs are both short and long term.

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 Town of Dover-Foxcroft envisions active participation in this initiative and that its efforts can become an example to other communities in the Network or to Communities considering joining the Network. We hope to learn from those who are experienced in implementing age friendly policies and programs and we look forward to sharing the successes we have.

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?

Dover-Foxcroft became aware of the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities through an initial meeting with Livable Age Friendly Community Specialist Patricia Oh, myself and others involved in similar initiatives. After our initial meeting with Patricia Oh, we presented the AARP Network and its opportunities for Dover-Foxcroft to the Dover-Foxcroft Board of Selectmen. It was clear that the town is currently working on initiatives to make the community more livable for our older residents and the Network would add structure and resources to this effort. The committee that we form through our participation in the Network will provide valuable feedback as to our policies and investments and how they can be done in a way that enhances the experiences of our older residents. We feel that we will be much better able to pursue our goals to make our community more age friendly as a participant in the AARP network and we are excited about the opportunity to get started as a network participant and make great progress on our initiatives in 2017.

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 >



[Click here to paste the JPEG image or the link to one.](#)