



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: March 24 1014

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: TOWN OF NEWRY

STATE: MAINE

POPULATION SIZE: 340

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 130

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Amy L Bernard

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 422 Bear River Road, Newry, Maine 04261

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:

Brooks Morton has worn many hats in the Town of Newry; he is a former Select Board Member; the secretary for the Planning Board, He serves on the cemetery committee along other roles for the Town. He has lived in Newry his whole life and plans to retire here in Newry. He has a lifetime history in Newry and would like to make his hometown a friendlier place to retire to. He has been appointed to the aging in place transportation subcommittee.

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 Newry area already offers many services and programs for its senior population through MSAD #44 and the area churches. Some of the services we are currently offering the senior population are an active Senior College which offers courses across a broad range of topics, all taught by senior volunteers. Western Maine Transportation does offer van service on an appointment basis for seniors, along with the Mountain explorer in the winter peak months for seniors to use to get around Town and to the Bethel Area Health Center. The Town is blessed to border Grafton State Park and a National Forest. These two facilities offer ample hiking opportunities for all ages and skill levels. Those requiring hospitalization may utilize Stephens Memorial Hospital in Norway or Rumford Community Hospital where the Bethel area health center maintain strong relationships.

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

We have worked with the Town of Bethel to do a survey on aging in place. During that survey the results determined that transportation was the # 1 problem facing the aging population. We are looking forward to moving on to the next steps. Our plan is to engage the various interested parties and groups to better identify the areas the community believes are in need of improvement. This way it will be easier to prioritise our efforts on future projects.

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.

Newry is fortunate that its neighboring communities are strong believers in collaboration on many levels. In agreement with these groups, we are certain we will be able to develop specific projects to accomplish our mission. The Age-Friendly Community Project will focus on the needs of our seniors. However, we will also form partnerships with organizations whose missions may be to provide healthy food, transportation, affordable housing. These organized efforts will build awareness of their availability, and build off what we already have.

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?

By building a network of people and services to take care of one another's transportation needs when mobility becomes restricted. Because of the challenges we face in a rural population our model will be beneficial to others. It is anticipated that the transportation network will be an amalgamation of private, for profit and volunteer drivers. We realize the best option will be to improve and coordinate existing services under one banner so one phone call or e-mail will be all that is needed to assist anyone to find transportation when the need arises.

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?

The aging population in our town became involved with the conversations going on in Bethel regarding aging in place. A survey that was conducted among area towns concluded that transportation in our rural setting was a chief concern. Since the Town of Newry historically participates in a tourism based seasonal transportation program with these towns it make sense to do what we can to provide the same service to its aging population.

Click here to enter text.

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 >

