



## 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@aarp.org](mailto:livable@aarp.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: 6/22/2016

### Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** City Of Maple Grove

**STATE:** MN

**POPULATION SIZE:** 61,567

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 12.72%

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** Mark Steffenson, Mayor  
and Bill Lewis, Maple Grove Park & Recreation Board

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway, PO Box 1130, Maple Grove, MN 55311

### 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.

*Kris Orluck*

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

Kris Orluck is a 20 year employee of the Maple Grove Parks and Recreation Board. She serves the older adult population in the Recreation Department, planning classes, programs, events and trips for older adults in Maple Grove. As a co-lead on the Age Friendly initiative, she convenes the meetings, helps shape and guide the initiative as it develops, manages grant funding dedicated to supporting the initiative, handles the email distribution, and keeps the City aware of the work of the initiative.

### **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 Maple Grove has had services for seniors for many years, with direct staff involvement in the past 20 plus. The City owns an 80-unit senior highrise apartment building, and the 55Foward (Senior Program) has over 55,000 participants in programs including education, fitness, arts, discussion, social/recreational and special events. The City of Maple Grove provides a dial-a-ride transportation program to citizens of all ages within the city limits. The Community Development Department has worked with developers to provide housing options for older adults, including single-level townhouses, market rate, subsidized and housing with services. The City hopes to learn from our Age-Friendly work what we are doing well, and how we can improve as we see the increasing numbers of older adults aging in place and moving to our community.

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

Age-Friendly Maple Grove will engage and involve older adults in a variety of ways. Three older adult representatives currently serve on our Age-Friendly Maple Grove committee, which guides the development and implementation of the initiative. This summer we will undertake our community assessment of the city's age-friendliness. The assessment design was crafted specifically to engage not only older adults at large but also segments of the older population who are often underrepresented – e.g., those who are lower-income, ethnic and racial minorities, and homebound or particularly isolated. The assessment involves several distinct means of gathering older adults' input as well as helping City departments evaluate their own work through the lens of older adults. We will use one-on-one in-person conversations, focus groups (small groups), community consultations (large groups), and the AARP assessment tool, which will be sent to all AARP members in Maple Grove. Older adults will help carry out aspects of this work, and we plan to recruit additional older volunteers in the process.

**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 Age-Friendly Maple Grove committee currently includes representatives from the local hospital, various health care providers, and different churches, as well as a number of older adult residents. The City is represented by Kris Orluck, whose work centers on the city's older adults, and various department heads/staff have attended meetings to learn about the initiative, share information about their work, and show support. It is our hope that in later phases of the work we will engage representatives from local businesses as well as senior housing and senior in-home services. We hope to provide the City of Maple Grove with tools for City Departments to use to evaluate their work through the lens of age-friendly principles.

#### 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?

We hope to learn from and use some of the best practices already established by the Age-Friendly Communities work that exists. It is our desire to share what we learn as a suburban community with the network. We believe we can contribute learnings about how the framework can be successfully applied in a suburban setting as well as how it might be adapted to make it more effective for a suburban area.

#### 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?

An older adult resident and now co-leader of the work group, Goytree Hakim, heard about the work and asked our then-City Administrator if she could initiate the work. We now look forward to officially joining the Network and taking advantage of the framework and support to help us advance this important work.

#### 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://mg-int/Online\\_Resources/Logos%20and%20Graphics/CityOfMapleGrove\\_Logc](http://mg-int/Online_Resources/Logos%20and%20Graphics/CityOfMapleGrove_Logc)