



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: 9/13/2016

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Oneida County

STATE: New York

POPULATION SIZE: 232,871

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 22.9%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Anthony J. Picente, Jr.,
County Executive

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 800 Park Avenue, Utica, New York 13501

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 Director of Oneida County Office for the Aging/Continuing Care, Michael Romano, will facilitate the process in collaboration with Office for the Aging/Continuing Care staff, Parkway Center, and Oneida County Department of Planning.

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.

Community policies, programs and services that are targeted toward older people include Aging Services Case Management; Transportation; In home services; Volunteer Services; Nutrition and Information and Assistance through NY Connects. Gaps in program and service delivery will be identified and addressed by the Age-Friendly Coalition and recommendations will be made in order to develop strategies to make these services more age friendly. A strategic plan will be developed by the Oneida County Age-Friendly Coalition to implement community initiatives to better serve the Oneida County senior population and create an improved age-friendly community and environment.

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

The Oneida County Age-Friendly Steering Committee, which will be a part of the larger Oneida County Age-Friendly Coalition, plans to engage and involve older people by including Office for the Aging Advisory Council members; Senior Center Board of Director members; Senior Center Directors; as well as members of Senior Centers and Clubs as part of the planning process. Individuals from the aforementioned groups will be invited to participate on Age-Friendly Planning Committees to ensure seniors, caregivers, and providers are engaged in this process. Focus Groups and Town Hall style events will be conducted to receive input from older residents to assist with identifying potential improvement areas. These will be designed as Q & A style sessions with the older adults driving the discussion. Surveys will also be sent to consumers to ensure input from those who are unable to participate in committees or have an active role in the Age-Friendly Community strategic planning 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 mechanisms the Oneida County community will implement to facilitate collaborative planning and implementation between different agencies and departments include establishing an Oneida County Age-Friendly Steering Committee. The Steering Committee has representation from Oneida County Office for the Aging/Continuing Care (OFA/OCC), The Community Foundation of Herkimer-Oneida County, The Parkway Center, Oneida County Department of Planning, and Oneida County Health Department. In addition to establishing a Steering Committee, Oneida County will collaborate with additional community coalitions such as, the OFA/OCC Aging and Special populations subcommittee of the Advisory Council, The Oneida County Health Coalition, and the Anti-Poverty Task Force. In addition, the Steering Committee plans to partner with other health and human services agencies such as, Oneida County Youth Bureau, Oneida County Department of Social Services, and the Oneida County Veterans Service Agency. The result of these collaborations will be the ability to use and share data that has been collected to evaluate the gaps and needs of the older population, caregivers, and families to build upon their strategies for an Age-Friendly Community.

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 Oneida County Age-Friendly Community Initiative plans to contribute to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly initiatives by sharing information and data collected by the Steering Committee and Age-Friendly Coalition. The Oneida County Office for the Aging plans to present findings from its community assessment processes through community presentations, development of webinars, and through the Office for the Aging AgeNet Digital Health and Wellness Program.

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?

Factors that motivated Oneida County to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities included the current population trends in Oneida County, New York State and throughout the United States. The prevalence of the changing needs of elderly, caregivers and families in Oneida County has become apparent through current data from individual case assessments, community needs assessments, and existing data from community collaborations in Oneida County and the Mohawk Valley region. Having Oneida County lead the Age-Friendly Initiative will enhance and build upon the findings and successes of initiatives currently in place to improve the communities' ability to become more diverse and improve the quality of life for seniors, caregivers, and families in our community through community partnerships.

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 >



See attached image