



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@arp.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: 7/21/2016

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: City of Seattle

STATE: Washington

POPULATION SIZE: (2015 estimates) 662,400

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 17%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor Edward B. Murray

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 600 4th Ave, 7th Floor, Seattle, WA 98014

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 Seattle Human Services Department (HSD) holds the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) designation for Seattle/King County. This federal designation is operationalized through the department's Aging and Disability Services (ADS) division. The ADS Director and their staff will be responsible for coordinating Seattle's age-friendly initiative. This role will be responsible for managing all phases of the initiative, including convening internal and external stakeholders, conducting the assessment, development and implementation of an action plan, and evaluation. This role will work in partnership with and be supported by leadership from the Mayor's Office for Policy and Innovation.

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 AAA receives \$38 million in federal, state and local resources, including \$4.8 million in funding for aging services from the City of Seattle. These investments support the policies, programs and services which are outlined in the AAA's Area Plan, including goals and objectives to help our communities become more age-friendly. AAA staff and aging advocates have been working to achieve this goal through outreach to non-traditional partners outside of the human services and aging networks to raise awareness about the needs of older adults in areas such as the built environment, housing, and mobility and transportation. The WHO's age-friendly framework and designation process provide an opportunity to raise the visibility and expand the scope of the work of the AAA in coordination with other City initiatives, including the Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda, Move Seattle, and the Digital Equity and Race and Social Justice Initiatives.

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

The primary forum for engaging older adults will be the Advisory Council on Aging & Disability Services (ADS). This twenty-seven member volunteer citizen group represents older adults and people with disabilities in Seattle and King County, providing a key link with the community to inform the policies and programs of the AAA, the City and the County. In addition, priority will be on coordinating with ongoing community engagement efforts across City departments, as well as leveraging and building upon recent grassroots initiatives led by community partners, such as Aging Your Way from Sound Generations (formerly known as Senior Services).

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.

Mechanisms to facilitate collaborative planning and implementation include: 1) Age Friendly Communities Task Force: led by ADS staff, this stakeholder workgroup includes agency and community representatives from a cross section of sectors, including transportation, housing, health, research and data, and social services; and 2) Internal working group: comprising representatives from City Departments (including Human Services, Human Resources, Economic Development, Planning and Community Development, and Parks and Recreation) the workgroup will be supported by leadership from the Mayor's Office on Policy and Innovation; and 3) AAA Sponsors, which serves as the policy board for the AAA and is represented by leaders from King County, United Way and the City of Seattle.

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 City of Seattle looks forward to playing a regional leadership role by becoming among the first communities in Washington State to join the network (The City of Puyallup joined in March 2016). Cities in this region and across the country are facing many complex issues that impact the ability of older adults to both benefit from and contribute to their communities. The City of Seattle has demonstrated a commitment to working in partnership with other cities and communities across the country to address some of our nation's most challenging issues. These efforts have provided a forum to share ideas and learn from each other about promising approaches related to homelessness, housing, transportation, education, environmental sustainability, and equity and social justice. An age-friendly community intersects with all of these efforts, and we look forward to bringing an age-friendly perspective to the forefront of these regional and national efforts.

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 framework for Age-Friendly Communities aligns with our core vision for a Seattle that is: 1) safe and secure for all; 2) affordable for all, and provides opportunities for people of all backgrounds to live in the city, raise a healthy family, and lead a productive, fulfilling life; 3) vibrant, with clean and healthy communities, active livable neighborhoods, and a thriving economy that grows from the middle out; 4) an interconnected city, where people and goods can move from place to place safely and sustainably and without being bottled up in traffic; and 5) an innovative, accountable city government that delivers on its public commitments smartly and transparently, while harnessing the power of technology. Each element of this vision intersects with one or multiple age-friendly domains; the designation process provide a framework to help the City of Seattle strengthen this vision and make it a reality for people of all ages and abilities.

6) Please provide a digital file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community.

See attached file