



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.
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 8/9/2017

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Eagle County

STATE: Colorado

POPULATION SIZE: 59,921

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 4% and quadrupling by 2035

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Jill Ryan, Kathy Chandler-Henry and Jeanne McQueeney – Eagle County Board of County Commissioners

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: PO Box 850 Eagle, CO 81631

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]

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

Ms. Rietmann has been involved in the Eagle County Aging Well Initiative since it's inception in 2015. She has been working for Eagle County Public Health's Healthy Aging Program since 2011, so is well versed on the needs and interests of the senior community. She is currently the lead staff member overseeing the work and staff of the initiative. She is very passionate about the senior population and ensuring that everyone can live healthy, meaningful lives throughout the lifespan.

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 vision of the Eagle County Aging Well Initiative is that Eagle County older adults age in place with the highest possible quality of life. The initiative began in 2015 with the formation of a steering committee and committed staff members. The steering committee identified 9 priority areas to focus the work around. These were identified by reviewing local data sets and conducting one on one phone interviews with senior adults throughout the county. The areas include: Housing, Transportation, Connection to Resources, Social & Community Engagement, Healthcare, Employment, Home Services, Preventive Health, and Community Design/Built Environment. To further prioritize these areas, a community convening was held where community members attended to narrow this list to four areas to take action on. These four were Housing, Healthcare, Connection to Resources, and Social & Community Engagement. Each area included an overarching goal along with various objectives to complete to address the goal. Working groups were then formed for each area to begin working on the objectives. To date, three of the four (Housing, Connection to Resources, Social & Community Engagement) work groups accomplished the objectives under their goal. The Healthcare group is continuing work on a very successful project and will incorporate preventive health into their future endeavors. We have also created a strong partnership with our county Planning Department and have made great progress on some of the community design/built environment work through a policy scan that pointed out age-friendly policies in the various municipalities master plans. It also gave recommendations on how to enhance or expand those policies. Overall, we are trying to change the perception around aging, working to show our community that we are all aging and how this work benefits us all in the long run.

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

We encouraged senior community members to sit on our action teams and were very successful. Most of the action teams were comprised of a staff member, other community partners and senior community members. We also operate 3 senior sites in the county where we interact with and involve senior adults throughout the week. This helps keep them involved in the work and helps the staff get direct feedback from the participants. In 2018, we are planning a series of community educational events that tie to the plan priorities to bring a greater awareness to the work and involve our senior community members.

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.

See number 1 above. This is being accomplished through our Aging Well Initiative efforts. Also, since our Healthy Aging unit sits within Public Health, we are working collaboratively with our Public Health colleagues to make community-wide impacts for people of all ages. We are at the table representing the senior population and advocating for their place at the table whether it's for affordable housing, community design, transportation, or healthcare. We also have strong partnerships with other community organizations such as our library district, the local area agency on aging (AAA), medical providers, in home care providers, local municipality leaders (there are 5 municipalities in Eagle County) to name a few. Internally, we frequently partner with the Housing Department, the Community Development Department, and the local transportation authority, Eco Transit. The full report can be viewed here: <http://www.eaglecounty.us/flipbook/AgingWell2017ReportFlipbook/index.html?page=1>

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 are excited for the opportunity to partner with other communities who are passionate about serving their senior residents. Interested in progressive, cutting edge policies and practices, we feel there is much to learn from partners around the country. We also support the mission of AARP and the World Health Organization and find their work to be smart and forward-thinking. We would love the chance to be able to learn from others to advance our work and also be a partner for the other communities.

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?

Our changing demographics and the speed in which they are changing motivated us to put a strong focus on our aging population to make sure we have the necessary policies in place to help our community members thrive as they age and also help them stay in our county and their communities for as long as they wish to do so. This also has an economic impact to our communities. When older adults move away, we lose their economic contributions. We felt that joining the Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the WHO would help get us to the next level to provide the best life experience for our residents as possible.

6) Please provide a digital (JPG, PNG or PDF) 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 >



Unable to insert here. Will include as an email attachment.