October 22, 2017

Mike Festa
AARP Massachusetts State Director
One Beacon Street, Suite 2301
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. Festa

On behalf of the Town of Arlington, I am pleased to offer this letter of our ongoing commitment in creating an age-friendly community. We respectfully request membership to the World Health Organization’s Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. Arlington recognizes the importance of encouraging and promoting age-friendly planning and policies to address changing demographics and ensure all citizens are thriving in their communities. We are committed to a process of continual improvement to support active and healthy aging in order to sustain economic and social vitality.

Over a quarter of Arlington’s population is over the age of fifty-five, a demographic that is higher than the Massachusetts state average. Such trends beg us to consider the ways we can build capacity. To address this, our community is conducting a data analysis to identify need and create an action plan to help bridge any gaps. We will work to foster equitable and sustainable resources, services, and programs for people of all ages to flourish.

We have developed a strong framework to build upon in addressing the World Health Organization’s eight domains that help influence the health and quality of life of older people. We look forward to joining this global network of communities committed to giving all residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive, and safe lives.
Thank you for your consideration of membership for the Town of Arlington to the World Health Organization’s Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Adam Chapdelaine
Town Manager