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 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: 10/13/2017

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS
NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Raymond

STATE: Maine

POPULATION SIZE: 4436

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 34% (2015 est)

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Theresa Sadak, Chair, Select Board

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 401 Webb Mills Road, Raymond, ME 04071

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.

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

Lead member of the community group of 40 citizens of the Town organizing around this initiative. Presented to Select Board to obtain elected official support.
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.

Currently there are no specific Town programs or policies. The age friendly group is working towards a community assessment so that these can be developed. Currently the group is working on Domain 7 pulling together available resources that can be made available via paper, email and website. The Raymond Village Library (spate nonprofit) is a part of this initiative and is providing electronic platforms for the work. The library is working on community programming for this population (o.e. bringing programs to our senior housing building etc.) to increase social participation. Additionally, preliminary discussions have stared with our public safety officials (Fore Dept.) about voluntary safety inspections and recommendation. Our group consists of app. 40 citizens, the library and our state representative. We do not assume we know the needs or the solution of our community until we have completed an assessment.

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

As noted, we have a community group consisting of app 40 citizens. Nearly all are in the senior population. Our plans are to engage this group into all activities, assessments and recommendations. We also plan on extending the membership of this group as more concrete plans are developed and finalized. This will be a senior citizen driven initiative.

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.

Our core mechanism is the citizen group. The Select Board of the Town provided official support for our application in their September 12th meeting. Our public safety group led by our Fire Chief is on board. Our public library has been a key player in this effort. Our approach is to involve all parties in planning and development of a community wide assessment. Individual implementation plans based on the assessment would also be a combination of public and private individuals. To succeed we need widespread participation and shared responsibilities.
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 wish to share our experiences, methodology and successes and failures. We have a large senior population. We wish to move our Town, its policies and programs towards supporting this population. We strongly believe that it is critically important to be prepared to support our citizens before there is a crisis. Our rural nature provides unique challenges to aging in place. We wish to build community support and are seeking the experience of others.

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?

We recognized that we can not do this alone. The experiences that others have gained are available to us through AARP. We had a presentation by the organization at one of our community meetings and recognized that we need to properly assess our needs and not assume we know what those needs are nor the solutions that might be developed. The experience and resources that are available to groups such as ours to educate ourselves and learn are sought. We want to do this and do it right.

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 >

Click here to paste the JPEG image or the link to one.