

Paul York, Chairman
Darla Pickett, Vice Chairman
Betty Austin
Gene Rouse
Soren Siren

Town of Skowhegan Board of Selectmen

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Skowhegan, Maine 04976



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Lori Parham
AARP Maine State Director
53 Baxter Blvd.
Portland, ME 04101

Dear Ms. Parham,

On behalf of the town of Skowhegan, Maine, we are pleased to submit this letter of interest and commitment in the AARP/World Health Organization Network of Age-Friendly Communities.

Skowhegan recognizes the importance of encouraging and promoting age-friendly planning and policies to address changing demographics and to enhance independent living. We are committed to a process of continual improvement to support active and healthy aging. We currently are in our first year of a Betterment Foundation grant for establishing a senior gathering place through Somerset Public Health and Redington Fairview General Hospital. We are the county location for Spectrum Generations, we have additional senior housing being added to our community, and we work diligently to ensure our town businesses and organizations are handicap accessible. Led by Somerset Public Health, our community is the host site of Somerset Counties Senior Strong committee. This committee is made up of a diverse group of agencies, organizations and aging adults designed to address the issues of aging in place.

As part of our involvement and commitment, we have already conducted some baseline assessment of age friendliness. We have an active planning committee and now hold regular senior gatherings in the community to continually engage this population in planning and program implementation. We wish to have AARP's assistance in continued assessment and action planning across the 8 domains of livability based on the findings of the assessment. With Somerset Public Health leadership, our very active group of involved older residents is deeply engaged in the planning process and we commit to monitoring progress toward implementing the action plan. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,




Paul York, Chairman

Darla Pickett, Vice-Chairman



Betty Austin, Selectman



E. Gene Rouse, Selectman



Soren Siren, Selectman