



# City of Arnold

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Ron Counts, Mayor

September 20, 2017

On behalf of the city of Arnold, MO, I am pleased to offer this letter of our commitment to creating an age-friendly environment and respectfully request membership to the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The city of Arnold 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 and sustaining economic and social vitality.

The City of Arnold appointed a Commission on Aging and Disabilities in 2002. This community has implemented and designed strategic plans to address the needs of our citizens who are aging and those with a disability. Their mission is to promote full participation in the community and in their homes, without barriers. The Commission has promoted educational opportunities within the community, consulted with providers of services for the aging population, promoted changes within the city's ordinances and policies. It is our intent to continue our growth and planning through the resources and information available as a member of the World Health Organization Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

We have developed a strong framework to build upon in addressing the eight domains, identified by your organization, as we look to influence the health and quality of life of our citizens as they age. We look forward to joining this global network of communities who are committed to giving their older residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive, and safe lives.

Thank you for your consideration of membership for the city of Arnold, Missouri to the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

Sincerely,

Bryan Richison  
City Administrator

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**City Hall**  
2101 Jeffco Blvd.  
Arnold, MO 63010  
636/296-2100

**Parks and Recreation**  
1695 Missouri State Rd.  
Arnold, MO 63010  
636/282-2380

**Public Works**  
2900 Arnold Tenbrook Rd.  
Arnold, MO 63010  
636/282-2386



## 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](mailto:livable@aarpp.org).
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 3/17/2017**

### Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** City of Arnold

**STATE:** Missouri

**POPULATION SIZE:** 20,808 (2010 Census statistics)

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 14.4% (2010 Census statistics)

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** Ron Counts- Mayor

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** 2101 Jeffco Blvd. Arnold, MO 63010

### 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.

**NAME:** Bill Knittig

**POSITION:** Arnold Commission on Aging & Disabilities- Chairperson

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** weknittig@jcddrb.org

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (314) 913-1063

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

Bill Knittig is the chairperson for the Arnold Commission on Aging and Disabilities. This commission has been active since 2002 and has provided guidance and recommendations to the city of Arnold; specific to needs for those aging or those with developmental disabilities. Bill along with the other members of the commission will be overseeing the completion of the five (5) step process identified for members of the AARP and World Health Organization network of age-friendly cities and communities. The commission's purpose includes: determining the needs of the citizens with disabilities or those aging, make recommendations in regards to state and federal changes, identify and make recommendations to the city council (could involve changes to city ordinances, the development of new ordinance, and / or the adoption of resolutions), and provide information or resources as needed to the city administrators and the community, specific to aging & disability services.

### 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.**

In respect to outdoor spaces and buildings, the city has several parks in which the walking trails are paved and have seating capacity at equally spaced intervals. The city recreation center hosts the “silver sneakers” program as well as the community Senior Center. Arnold is the only city in Jefferson County, Missouri that has a public transportation system specifically for our city. Through collaboration with a local developer and a state organized independent living center; 2 different senior housing complexes have opened within the city limits in the past 7 years. The city is in the process of developing a guide for contractors specific to “universal design” and these contractors will be encouraged to develop a percentage of homes using these methods, thus allowing a person to age in place. The city provides facilities for an annual Senior Expo and sponsors an annual All Ability Expo; which provides resources and supports to those who are aging as well as those with a disability. Annual utility rebates are provided to those who qualify due to age. Information is shared on a regular basis through the city website, newsletter, and newspaper letter (quarterly basis). City street signs are being replaced with signage that includes both upper and lower case lettering in front of a more reflective background, thus making it easier for those aging.

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

Current positions for the Commission on Aging and Disabilities include: (1) a representative for the aging community and (2) a representative from a provider agency who serves the aging population. In addition to this representation, the commission regularly seeks input from the population(s) identified to be served, through surveys, open meetings, brochures, etc. As a part of the planning process, the commission will host community meetings to gather information. These meetings will be held in collaboration with the Mideast Area Agency on Aging. We will also gather information by sponsoring a table / booth at the annual Senior Expo.

**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.**

Agencies which the city of Arnold is presently collaborating with or have collaborated with in past projects include: the Mideast Area Agency on Aging, Disability Resource Association, Jefferson County Developmental Disabilities Resource Board, Fox C-6 School District, Rock Community Fire Protection District, Rock Township Ambulance District, Jeffco Express Transportation System, COMTREA (area mental health provider), Jefferson County Health Department, University of Missouri Extension Center and the Arnold Food Pantry. This collaboration has resulted in some of the following actions: letter of support for state legislation for continuing the property tax credit for the elderly and those with disabilities, advised the city on their ADA plan, recommended the Smoking ordinance for the city, provided data which led to the funding of the city route for Jeffco Express (public transportation system), the passing of a city resolution to use “People First” language, and the development of 911 form for Arnold Police to utilize to identify special needs for those who are aging or have a disability.

#### 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?

It would be our intent to share the various activities that we have already accomplished (some examples were listed in Section 3, question 3 above) as well as new ideas that are discovered as we work through the process identified within the framework of the Age-Friendly 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?

It is the mission of the Arnold Commission on Aging and Disabilities to promote full participation in the community and in their homes, to our citizens who are aging or have a disability, without barriers. We value the belief that everyone regardless of age or disability should be treated with respect and dignity, that they have choices and are accepted and included to the best of their ability in the educational, employment, housing, and social opportunities of the community. We also hold true that everyone should have the opportunity for interpersonal relationships to be established and grown upon and that everyone is viewed as an individual, holistically; as a valued member of their family and the Arnold community and not as individuals with a diagnosis or need to be fixed / treated. As we examined our mission and values it became very apparent that we were very much aligned with the AARP and World Health Organization's mission.

#### 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 >



*Click here to add a link to where we can find your logo. Or, send us your logo by email attachment to [livable@aarp.org](mailto:livable@aarp.org).*

RESOLUTION NO: 17-20

A RESOLUTION FOR THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

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WHEREAS, A significant portion of the Arnold, Missouri's population is aging and aging population affects all- as individuals and as a civil society; and

WHEREAS, As residents stay healthier and active longer, Arnold, Missouri is committed to adapting to the needs or changing demographics to serve the interests of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, An age-friendly Arnold, Missouri's commitment encourages active aging by optimizing opportunities for health for residents of all ages; and

WHEREAS, Where we choose to live, our physical, social, and cultural environment, greatly impacts how we live and in addition to Arnold, all Jefferson county communities play a critical role in helping residents live longer and better; and

WHEREAS, Arnold, Missouri is taking the lead on addressing the question on how businesses, governments, nonprofits, and individuals will respond to changing needs for health care, housing, transportation, food, and other essentials; and


WHEREAS, The world health organization (who) has developed a global network of age-friendly cities and communities to encourage and promote public policies to increase the number of cities and communities that support healthy ageing and thereby improve the health, well-being, satisfaction, and quality of life for older Americans; and

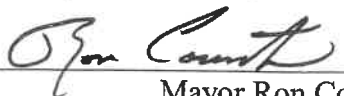
WHEREAS, The who organization recognizes that cities and communities have different needs, resources, and varying capacities to engage their resources to take action to facilitate active ageing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARNOLD, MISSOURI:

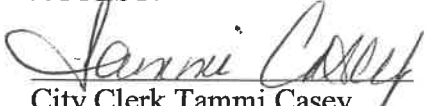
SECTION 1. The City of Arnold supports initiatives and opportunities to engage in the world health organization age-friendly cities and communities network. the Mayor and/or City Administrator are authorized to take the action necessary for the city of Arnold to join the AARP network of age friendly communities and the world health organization of age friendly cities and communities.

**SIGNATURES OF FOLLOWING PAGE**

  
Presiding Officer of the City Council

  
Mayor Ron Counts

ATTEST:

  
City Clerk Tammi Casey

DATE: 5/18/17



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May 18, 2017