



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

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 9/27/2017

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: City of Albuquerque

STATE: New Mexico

POPULATION SIZE: 556,092 (United States Census Bureau)

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 18.8% (104,545)

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor Richard J. Berry

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: Office of the Mayor, PO Box 1293, Albuquerque, NM 87103

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]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

Ms. Armijo-Brasher leads a team of more than 200 employees and approximately 1,000 volunteers. The DSA offers quality of life services to people of all ages. Customers range from individuals who are six years old and participate in the two multigenerational centers to citizens who are homebound and rely on the department's home delivered meal service. In addition to the two multigenerational centers, the department also operates six senior centers and five sports & fitness centers. The DSA works closely with the Area Agency on Aging and the NM Aging & Long-Term Services Department to offer services including home delivered meals, congregate meals, care coordination, home repair/retrofit, information & assistance, and transportation. In addition, the DSA receives funds from the Corporation for National & Community Service to operate three Senior Corps Volunteer Programs; the Foster Grandparent Program, the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, and the Senior Companion Program. Ms. Armijo-Brasher works with other city departments such as Transit, Cultural Services, & Police. As a community leader, the DSA works closely with a variety of external partners such as Blue Cross Blue Shield, Presbyterian Healthcare Services, Albuquerque Public Schools, and the University of New Mexico.

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 City of Albuquerque is one of the few municipalities that have a department dedicated to Senior Affairs. The six senior centers are available to those in Albuquerque who are 50 years and older. Seniors who wish to participate in a wide array of activities from Arts & Crafts to Zumba can do so for an affordable cost. Annual membership to both the senior and multigenerational centers is only \$15. There are two multigenerational centers that offer activities directed for seniors and youth. The multigenerational centers also offer a great amount of opportunities for intergenerational activities. Albuquerque plans to increase the amount of intergenerational opportunities that are offered to the public. The DSA and AARP hosted an initial Town Hall Meeting at the North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center focusing on an age-friendly initiative; a conversation occurred that incorporated the views of the youth and seniors (approximately 80 people attended the event). Since then, a pilot project that targets five specific neighborhoods has been initiated. *CONTINUED ON THE ADDITIONAL SHEET OF PAPER.*

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

The City of Albuquerque continues to engage the citizens by offering a myriad of activities, programs, services, and events to people of all ages. Albuquerque is committed to involving older people through cultural and wellness initiatives. Albuquerque was recently selected as the host site for the 2019 National Senior Games. The National Senior Games Association was pleased to see the commitment that the city has toward serving the senior population. A delegation of New Mexicans recently returned from the 2017 National Senior Games that were held in Birmingham, Alabama. The purpose of the trip was to promote the City of Albuquerque to approximately 10,600 senior athletes, their families, and friends. This past May, the Department of Senior Affairs hosted the fifth Annual Tarde de Oro (Afternoon of Gold) performance that is free to the public. "Tarde de Oro" is an exciting show that highlights music and dance while transporting the audience through the unique history of New Mexico. The show features "Ballet en Fuego," Shelley Morningsong & Fabian Fontenelle, Antonio Reyna, Amaya, "Los Bailadores de Oro," "Trio America," Earl Gleason, Van Ann Moore, Freddie Chavez, and Sal Garcia. "Los Bailadores de Oro" are a group of senior dancers who perform during this show. *CONTINUED ON THE ADDITIONAL SHEET OF PAPER.*

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.

The mechanism our community has put into place is the creation of ABQ Together – A Dialogue on the Future. The purpose of this initiative has been to bring key stakeholders together to develop a blueprint for the future. The action plan serves as guiding principles to be used by a variety of sectors to ensure that decisions that are made take into consideration the eight domains of livability that are the pillars for creating an age-friendly city. This guidance assists decision makers, policy makers, and constituents in ensuring that the needs of every citizen are considered in the decision making process. The Blueprint for the Future is a dynamic document that continues to be a work in progress and continually revised to meet the changing and unique needs of the City of Albuquerque. The City of Albuquerque continues to work closely with the Mayor's Office and Administration as well as the City Council to ensure that this initiative and the blueprint is adopted and implemented as a tool which ensures that the entire City of Albuquerque collaborates to add value to the lives of Albuquerque citizens.

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?

As the Mayor of Albuquerque, I have supported the idea of becoming designated as an age-friendly community by participating in numerous discussions regarding the eight domains of livability. The Department of Senior Affairs spearheaded this effort by creating ABQ Together. As a result, numerous conversations around the community have taken place to engage citizens in a discussion regarding what it means to be age-friendly. As my term as the Mayor of Albuquerque comes to a close, it is important to me that this initiative continue once the new administration begins work on December 1st, 2017. It is my hope that the City of Albuquerque continues this effort and is able to share both its successes and challenges with other cities around the world regarding this process. I also hope that this process allows the staff and citizens of the City of Albuquerque to network with other communities to learn best practices in a variety of areas to continue making Albuquerque a community that benefits people of all ages.

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?

Jorja Armijo-Brasher and her team had a goal to come up with a way to ensure that the City of Albuquerque would continue to be senior friendly. In March 2013, members of the Department of Senior Affairs attended the Aging in America Conference in Chicago, IL. At the conference, they participated in a session that discussed the age-friendly community initiative. The team realized quickly that the eight domains of livability were a perfect way to not only ensure that the City of Albuquerque would continue to benefit the senior population in the community, but people of all ages. Upon their return from the conference, they reached out to the NM AARP team and revised their goal from being senior-friendly to age-friendly. Shortly after that, the idea of ABQ Together was born. I believe that the City of Albuquerque does an outstanding job at offering citizens of all ages a great quality of life. The formal designation of being an age-friendly community will allow the city to continue to have the motivation to constantly improve the quality of life in our city.

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.

<http://www.abqtogether.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/ABQ-Together-Logo.jpg>