



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

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 6/29/2018

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Town of Miami Lakes

STATE: Florida

POPULATION SIZE: 30,000

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 10,200

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Manny Cid

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 6601 Main Street, Miami Lakes, FL 33014

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:

Daniel Waite is the Adult and Senior Program Coordinator for the Town. Daniel oversees and coordinates various adult and older active adult programs for the Liesure and Community Services department. Daniel is also working on designing and programming our future Senior Center.

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 Town of Miami Lakes offers many programs and services to the aging community. Since incorporating in 2000, the Town has partnered with the Miami Dade County Public Schools to offer free computer, tai chi, knitting, sewing, and arts and crafts classes to the senior citizens of Miami Lakes and surrounding areas. The Town created the Elderly Affairs Committee, an advisory board comprised of volunteers from the community, that meet once a month and provide recommendations to the Town Council on programs and initiatives that serve the senior residents. The committee offers programs and events for seniors such as an annual Health and Wellness Fair, nutrition and cooking seminars and demonstrations, senior softball games, forums and workshops, field trips, socials, and annual Olympic style games. The Committee also initiated a program "Jerry's Squad" to assist seniors with installing hurricane shutters during hurricane season. Over the past 3 years, the Town of Miami Lakes has partnered with Alliance for Aging to offer free health and wellness programs for senior citizens including Matter of Balance, Diabetes Prevention Management, and Living Healthy. In 2012, the Town installed Lifetrail® fitness stations in one of its largest community parks. These stations are specifically geared towards the aging population and individuals with special needs and are based on functional fitness. On any given day, you will see senior citizens using the stations. The Town is working with agencies and partners to solve transportation and mobility issues. In addition to offering free on-demand bus services, the Town obtained grant funding to purchase two busses that operate a fixed-route circulator providing connections to existing transit services with a terminal point at Town Center's Main Street. The Town of Miami Lakes officially announced its partnership and launch of Freebee ridesharing company in 2018. Freebee is an eco-friendly and electric ridesharing company that will provide free on-demand transportation services for residents and visitors in Miami Lakes. The majority of users are senior citizens and individuals with special needs, who use the service to go to doctor's appointments, grocery stores, and attend social and recreational programs. The Town of Miami Lakes is planning to become more age friendly. A senior center is planned for development in the next few years, which will offer additional educational, social, and health and wellness opportunities for the senior population. The proposed senior center would be built next to a new senior age-restricted living facility and an assisted living facility, providing opportunities for the senior population to age-in-place in the Miami Lakes community. The Town Council has also adopted a strategic plan for the next 10 years, which specifically outlines improving connectivity throughout the town for safe pedestrian access, improving the vitality and health of residents through wellness activities, and the creation of the senior center.

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

The Town of Miami Lakes is committed to engaging the senior residents through public input, surveys, face to face interaction, and needs assessments. The senior residents have participated in senior transportation forums and in Town strategic planning workshops in the past. The Town will continue to offer opportunities for the senior residents to become engaged. The Town will survey the senior residents about existing and new programs, events, workshops and forums and also plans to present the senior center proposed design to the Town's Elderly Affairs Committee to gather feedback.

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.

Through the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, the Town has been named a Community for a Lifetime, which shows the Town's commitment to improving the lives of seniors. The Town has also received several grants from the Department for senior programs such as an intergenerational computer class and an intergenerational art collaborative. The Town plans to continue the relationship and continue to apply for future grants to be able to offer quality and innovative services and programs to the senior community. The Town currently partners with Alliance for Aging for its living healthy programs and plans to continue to do so. The Town and its Elderly Affairs Committee have pursued public-private partnerships and currently partners with local health agencies, hospitals, doctor's offices, and other businesses on events and workshops for the seniors. The Town works closely with its local County Commissioners Office to promote services and programs and to identify needs in the community. Once the Senior Center is built, the Town will aim to pursue funding available through the Older Americans Act, United Way, FRPA, NRPA and USDA for programs and services for the senior community. To enhance mobility and improve connectivity around town, the Town would continue to pursue funding opportunities such as for its greenways and trails master plan.

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?

The Town hopes to be able to carry out the mission of both organizations and to be able to share information and best practices with other communities through workshops and summits. The Town is committed to making Miami Lakes a great place to live for people of all ages and working towards that goal by committing to improve in the areas of the 8 domains of livability. The Town will recognize its efforts through promotional materials and marketing strategies.

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?

Since incorporation, the Town of Miami Lakes has been committed to improving the lives of people of all ages, including seniors, through the variety of services and programs offered to the community. With the new senior center coming down the road and the Town Council's recent adoption of the strategic plan to improve mobility, transportation, and health and wellness, the Town feels that it is more important now than ever to commit to improving in the areas of livability and to ensure that Miami Lakes is a great place to live for all ages. Another motivating factor is being able to provide services and amenities that improve the quality of life for all including those that choose to age in place. The Town of Miami Lakes has an estimated 30,000+ residents in which about 30% are over the age of 50 and 13% are over the age of 65.

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.