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: Click here to enter a date.

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Miami Shores Village

STATE: Florida

POPULATION SIZE: 10,772

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 17.4%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor MacAdam Glinn

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 10050 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Miami Shores, Florida 33138

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.

Mr. Daniel Brady is an active member of the Miami Shores Village community. He has served on the Recreation Advisory Committee and currently serves on the Planning and Zoning Board, whereby he spearheaded the inclusion of age-friendly elements in the Village’s proposed Comprehensive Master Plan. Daniel Brady has also been an active participant in South Florida’s efforts to meet the needs of older adults, the mentally ill and homeless populations for over a 30-year span. During that period of time he has served as the Executive Director of the Dade County Mental Health Board and since 1980 as the Executive Director of the Douglas Gardens Community Mental Health Center, an affiliate of the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged. During his tenure, the Center developed a full range of community mental health services for the Miami Beach Community and implemented a regional “Geriatric Residential and Treatment System (GRTS)” for seriously and persistently mentally ill older adults. Dr. Brady also served as Executive Director of Florida PACE Center’s, Florida first and at this time only operational PACE Organization in Florida. In additions, as part his responsibility as a member of the Miami Jewish Home’s Senior Management Team (Chief Community Program and Government Affairs Officer) he has oversight and development responsibility for a variety of home and community based services for the elderly including: Channeling (a highylsuccessful Nursing Home Diversion Program), Project Independence at Home(the DOEA long term care
diversion program) and the State of Florida Local Community Care for the Elderly Lead Agency. Dr. Brady left the employment of the Douglas Gardens CMHC on December 31, 2015. Throughout his career Dr. Brady has served on a wide variety of community organizations of both a local, statewide and national basis. He has served on the Board of Directors of several local provider groups, the Florida Council for Community Mental Health, the South Florida Behavior Health Network, and the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association.

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 Village has developed a set of programs in its Recreation/Community Center program designed to assist older adults. These programs include: Silver Sneakers – low impact fitness; Ocher Lifelong Learning Institute and Florida International University, Biscayne Bay Campus will provide “classes” on domestic and foreign events; an 8-session cyber senior program has been developed; and a low impact ZUMBA fitness program is available. Water aerobics for seniors are also available at the Village Aquatic Center. In addition, the Village recently opened a dog park with highly accessible parking and wheelchair friendly use. The Village has a number of Community Advisory Boards that develop programming for the community which includes older adults. Such events include Green Day (sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce), Unity Day (a celebration of Miami Shores) and Winterfest (a holiday season event). Both the Brockway Memorial Library and the Miami Shores Fine Arts Commission do regular programming including programming for seniors. Two studies completed in 2015: Complete Streets and Multimodal Mobility Study addressed issues regarding older adults and local transportation. The Comprehensive Plan recommended to the Village Council to move forward with the Age Friendly Initiative. The Village’s Planning and Zoning Board has a “senior member” whose role includes assessing and suggesting seniors will be included as much as possible in infrastructure changes that are age-friendly. The Village will undertake a number of steps towards becoming “age friendly”. It will ensure that seniors are appointed to the Recreation Advisory Board, the Brockway Memorial Library Board, Code Enforcement, Historic Preservation Board, and Country Club Advisory Board. The Village plans to use to our Shores Shuttle Service (supported with County-wide transportation funds) as allowed in the future for door-door last mile service to our seniors. Public Works will continually monitor our public parks to ensure senior accessibility.

2) How will the community engage and involve older people in the process of becoming a more age-friendly?
The Village will build an email list comprised of older adults living in the Village. The list serve will be used to welcome seniors to the Village and inform them of events of interest in both the Village and the surrounding community. We plan to conduct a “community conversation” among older adults living in the Village; the purpose of the conversation is to elicit concerns of seniors and what efforts the Village can take to ameliorate those concerns. The Age Friendly Initiative volunteers will meet with existing community groups: The Rotary, Friendly Villagers, and Women’s Club, to talk about the initiative and invite them to join in the process. The Recreation program will explore adopting the Aging Mastery Program developed by the National Council on Aging. This program is currently offered in Coral Gables.

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 Age Friendly Initiative in Miami Dade County has a well-organized process for community coordination whose Partners/Lead Agencies includes AARP of Florida, the Alliance for Aging (Miami Dade AAA), the Health Foundation of South Florida, Miami Dade County, the Miami Dade Transportation Planning Organization, the United Way of Miami-Dade, and the Urban Health Partnership. By joining the Age Friendly Initiative, the Miami Shores Village effort will be included in this network. In addition, other local municipals including the City of Miami, Coral Gables, Cutler Bay, and Palmetto Bay, among others who will share lessons learned. Miami Shores Village itself is a small village. Coordination and communication among Village Departments is made through the Village Manager and his Department heads. Volunteers with the Age Friendly Initiative will meet with the Village Manager as needed. The email list serve that was identified earlier will also serve as a mechanism to develop both open communication and coordination of efforts. Miami Shores Village has several plans to guide us in collaborative planning and implementation of the Age Friendly Initiative. Each plan takes into account how they will affect all residents regardless of age and physical ability. Responsive small-town government is a hallmark of Miami Shores. For example, a resident wished to wheel his elderly father in a wheelchair closer to our Memorial Park fountain. Public Works built a sidewalk extension to allow for this. A sidewalk accident involving one of our long-term residents on a major street, led to an increase in the sidewalk repair allocation in our budget. Our comprehensive Village Wide Traffic Calming Study completed in 2016 has led to Complete Streets planning for road improvements, and in 2020 we will have grant funding for the first shared-use path along a busy section of Northeast 2nd Avenue in the heart of the Village. Further, elderly residents having difficulty with State road crossing will have a brand new pedestrian crossing on NE 6th Avenue scheduled for completion in late 2018, enabling easier transition to our Recreation Department buildings. This required close collaboration between Village Administration and FDOT. Our 2016 Downtown Architectural Design Manual outlines street plans for future Complete Streets design, as well as requirements for more accessible commercial buildings as our aging ones are renovated. Our Education Advisory Board works toward goals such as having seniors assist our schools with projects, reading readiness, and holiday celebrations. Open communication and coordination of efforts will be made easier through a list serve of interested seniors.
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?

Miami Shores Village is a small, bedroom community in a large urban setting. We believe that the Village provides a model for how to organize and communicate “age friendliness” that is low cost and based on extensive use of volunteers. We believe that we can demonstrate that the superstructure created in Miami Dade County can assist in the development of an age friendly environment without having to duplicate support systems already in use in this larger community.

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?

Miami Shores Village is bedroom community located just north of the City of Miami. It prides itself on being a community that is a great place for families to live, to raise their children and to age in place. The community encourages community involvement and has a number of active Advisory Boards to the Village Council as well as voluntary associations which promote civic engagement. During a 2014 study designed to assist the Village government in updating its community center, we found that one of the largest population cohorts in the Village was individuals between 50 and 64. When we combined the over 60 population with the 50 to 59, we find that the group represents nearly one-third of the Village’s population. That began a general discussion about how the Village can prepare to make Miami Shores a place where older adults will want and be able to continue to live. In discussion with the Urban Health Partnership, the Miami Dade Age Friendly Initiative lead agency, it was suggested that we speak with the Village Council and engage its support in moving forward. They authorized joining the initiative.

6) Please provide a digital (JPG, PNG or PDF) file of your community.

The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here’s ours >