



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: 12/12/2018

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Belmont

STATE: MA

POPULATION SIZE: 23,000

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 23%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Adam Dash, Chair Board of Selectment

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 450 Concord Avenue Belmont

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.

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

This director first learned of, communicated about and initiated steps to make Belmont Age Friendly. This effort began in 2015 and various activities on the part of this director to reach this point and apply to the network.

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 Council on Aging is the body in town whose mission it is help meet the needs of the older population. Policies related to any aspect of the Beech Street Center, the center that acts primarily as a senior center, and which is operated by the staff of the COA, are available through the COA. Policies related to anti-discrimination of any vulnerable population, including older adults, are made by the Town's Human Rights Commission. The Town's Housing Trust has made it a priority to consider the needs of older people in its Housing Production Plan. An appointed advisory council would be implemented once membership in Age Friendly Network is accomplished. That designation will provide the needed impetus to get various officials and stakeholders together to begin implementing plans and programs. The conceptual and informational basis for any such projects would come from the recently published report "Planning for an Age-Friendly Belmont" produced by the U.Mass. Gerontology Institute, which was financed generously by the Tufts Foundation. This report was enthusiastically received by Town Meeting this past June and has garnered support of the community for the Age Friendly Community project.

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

The Advisory Council will be composed of representatives and advocates for the older population. Regular updates of the Council's work will be presented at the senior center for feedback and input. For homebound seniors there will be opportunities to communicate back and forth and gain input through the monthly Senior Notes newsletter.

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 fore mentioned Advisory Council will be the mechanism for collaborative planning and implementation between different agencies and departments. With the support and backing of the Board of Selectmen such planning and implementation can succeed. Evaluation of the Advisory Council's progress will be provided to the Board of Selectmen on a quarterly basis and to the Council on Aging on a monthly basis.

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?

This Council on Aging has experienced particular success in developing programs for older adults and the process of obtaining a state of the art senior center. We would hope to contribute our expertise along these lines. We would be happy to engage with other members of the network and communicate regularly and effectively with them. We have already been involved in communicating with others and attended age friendly conferences in the area.

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?

Please see answer on additional page.



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.

6) Please provide a digital (JPG, PNG or PDF) file of your community. Membership Application: AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities – Page 3

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

