



## 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: 8/27/2018

### Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** Marshfield

**STATE:** MA

**POPULATION SIZE:** In the 2010 Census Report – population 25,132

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 20% of the population with projection of 30% by 2020

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** James Fitzgerald

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** Chairman of the Marshfield Board of Selectmen, Marshfield Town Hall 870 Moraine Street, Marshfield , MA 02050

### 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:**

Marilee is a COA employee (Activities Coordinator) and is involved in Council on Aging programs such as co-facilitator of 50+ Encore Group for mature job seekers and other programming at the COA. Marilee is interested in being part of the Age and Dementia Friendly movement in Marshfield and has been part of initiating the application process. She is actively working on the Dementia Friendly movement by spearheading the formation of a Memory Café at the Marshfield COA and arranging for Dementia Champion training to take place at the COA. In June 2018 she worked with the walking club at the COA to highlight Alzheimer and Brain Awareness month and in September of 2018 will be involved in an intergenerational community walk to highlight a walkable area in town with sponsorship of a grant from the NIH as an age friendly activity.

### **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 Marshfield supports, as a town department, the Council on Aging. The COA operates the Senior Center that houses administrative offices, health room, exercise room, activities rooms, dining room, function hall, arts and crafts room, kitchen, billard room, private meeting room and board room with ample parking and handicapped designated spots. The COA has a full-time social services coordinator who assists seniors with fuel assistance, housing applications, property tax abatement and referrals to other services. The COA has two trained SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Everyone on Medicare) counselors. Adjacent to the COA is a walking trail and plans are in the works for an outdoor recreation area. The Town of Marshfield also has paved walk ways along the harbor front and cleared pathway for wooded area walks and a walkable downtown. GATRA (a regional public transportation company) provides bus service on the main roads of town and the COA provides a shuttle bus service to take seniors to shopping and to the senior center. There are also volunteer drivers for doctor appointments outside of town. The sherriff department offers a safe home phone checking service and a tracking program for people with memory loss. The town recreation department works with the DPW and provided walkways for handicap access to the public beaches. The Town has programs that offer tax relief and a tax deferral available to senior citizens who own homes in town. The Senior Center is working toward an addition to the main building to provide additional space. The COA offers a Lifelong Learning program which provides enrichment programs to the area seniors as well as opportunities for subject matter experts of all ages from our community to teach and share their expertise, share resources and address the physical, emotional and financial needs of the older population.

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

An advisory committee will be formed of stakeholders in the community along with older adults to formulate a plan for increasing the Age Friendliness of the town. The COA recently commissioned a study by the Gerontology Institute at UMass Boston to survey the needs of various groups of people from age 50 years up so that the COA can clearly recognize and repond to the wants and needs of the future senior population. In Marshfield, the Chamber of Commerce is actively making the downtown area more accessible. In addition, the public schools in Marshfield are developing programs that provide intergenerational opportunities.

**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.**

In addition to the advisory committee, organizations such as TRIAD will be enlisted to discuss needs and improvements. TRIAD is comprised of the Marshfield COA, Marshfield Police and Fire, the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department and volunteer seniors. It is governed by a senior advisory council known as Seniors and Law Enforcement Together – SALT. The Town works closely with the COA including department head meetings with all town departments including Public Work, Public Health, School, planning board, housing commission, recreation department, public safety, police and fire. The school department offers creative ways for youth in our town to work with the senior population as seniors are welcomed as volunteers in the classroom, libraries and career centers and youth have the opportunity to perform service activities such as maintenance and home improvement projects for the elderly and assist with chores like lawn care and snow removal. The Recreation Department offers creative programs that involve senior and youth and the general population on trips, outings and sightseeing and also challenge the senior population and the physically challenged in physical activities such as outdoor recreation programs and safe walk friendly trails and beach access.

#### 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?

Marshfield will share best practices for increasing livability and becoming ever more age friendly. It is an early leader in the region and is hosting trainings such as Dementia Champion training session scheduled for September 2018 and open to neighboring communities. We anticipate that being part of the national and global network will increase our awareness of issues and concerns of becoming a more age friendly community and become aware of other mechanisms and resolutions to help us grow and improve as we all share our best practices

#### 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?

The Marshfield COA recognized that the projected increase in the community of 60+ year olds would be 36-38% of the population by 2030 and it is committed to improving the livability of the community for that population. Being proactive and taking a lead in being an Age Friendly community is a cost effective use of town resources to meet the needs of an aging community and improve the livability and increase the safety and health of our population.

#### 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).*