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: 10/29/2018

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Belgrade

STATE: Maine

POPULATION SIZE: 3200

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 18.4%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Dennis L. Keschl

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 990 Augusta Rd, Belgrade, ME 04917

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:

Chairs the Town Committee on Senior Resources. This committee is responsible for developing resources for Belgrade’s senior citizens. A listing of those efforts are enclosed.
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.

See enclosure.

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

The community plans to conduct a survey in January of 2019. The survey will be preceded by a media announcement. Media will include local newspaper, town website, various town newsletters, and word of mouth.

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 Senior Resources Committee is a broad group from many different organizations and with various backgrounds. This include town employees, medical managers, financial experts and more. This committee will be the fulcrum used to involve others. Belgrade has long been concerned about the elderly, and has plans (see enclosure) to implement a number of services that are not available. There are presently several services available, with some being multi-town sponsored. Neighbors Driving Neighbors is one, Neighbors Helping Neighbors is a second.
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?

We hope to contribute through letting others in the Age-Friendly Communities and Global Network what works for us, and what doesn’t. We plan on using those programs that are in place in our effort to support seniors. We suspect that there will be some that won’t work. We plan on letting others know what didn’t work and why they didn’t work.

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?

Last year two Belgrade seniors passed. They lived alone, and were not found for a number of days. Belgrade considers this unacceptable, so will form a senior’s community that is aware of senior’s needs, and provide answers to those needs. Whether it is morning calls, a senior center, senior functions, or a clearing house for information that senior’s need, Belgrade plans to provide answers to this community.

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.
November 9, 2018
Town Manager
Belgrade, ME 04917

The town of Belgrade, ME is an aging community, in an aging state. Belgrade is committed to supporting our aging citizens and promoting policies that supports those residents that are aging and need services not presently available.

Belgrade has recently formed an ad-hoc committee to move towards meeting the needs of aging citizens. This committee is made up of town officials, policy makers, medical managers, and non-profit providers. The committee is active and has developed an initial plan to help seniors meet their needs.

It is the intent of this committee to:

- Include older citizens on the committee.
- Keep the Select Board involved and ensure that board advocates for those planned steps to make Belgrade Age Friendly.
- Follow the plan of action presented in our application.
- Commit to measuring activities, reviewing the plan outcomes and reporting on them publicly.

Belgrade looks forward to working with AARP to help those citizens that are in need of services not presently available.

Sincerely,

Dennis L. Keschl
Town Manager