



Real Possibilities

Membership Application

To join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and

- 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: January 22, 2018

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: *Town of Eliot*

STATE: *Maine*

POPULATION SIZE: *6200*

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: *24%*

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: *Rebecca Davis, Chairman of the Select Board*

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: *1333 State Road, Eliot, ME 03903*

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]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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

Ellen Ceppetelli is the Chair of the Aging-In-Place Committee. The purpose of the Eliot Aging-In-Place Committee (AIP) is to serve as an advisory board to the Select Board, and to recommend strategies, services, programs and regulations to better enable Eliot residents to remain in the community as they age. The Select Board appointed five voting members and two alternates to the Eliot AIP that met for the first time on November 6, 2017. Ellen was elected chair at this first meeting and will lead the town's age friendly initiative. The AIP will begin the effort to identify the obstacles to aging through focus groups and a comprehensive community assessment survey.

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 Select Board, in the process of planning community development, determined that actions were needed to identify the key obstacles to being able to stay in the community as aging occurs. The AIP Committee was created to identify existing community resources that serve to assist with aging in place and to document these resources and how they could be enhanced. Once this stage is completed, the committee will propose potential solutions to overcome these obstacles. The Committee is aware of the following programs currently available to Eliot residents: 1) Community Service Department providing services that range from recreational, social activities and foot clinics; 2) VIPS offering educational services and daily telephone check-ins for isolated elders; and 3) the Baptist Church volunteer home maintenance services to its parishioners.

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

The Select Board expects the AIP to serve as a sounding board for older Eliot residents to voice their needs and preferences. The AIP has used its monthly meetings as an opportunity to encourage residents to attend by including public comment time on each of its monthly agendas that are published on the town website one week prior to each meeting. To date, all three AIP meetings have included Eliot residents. The committee has determined it will mail a community survey to all residents and conduct focus groups of elderly residents before it begins to create or enhance current resources in creating a more age friendly community. Ellen Ceppetelli has accepted an invitation to be a guest speaker at the next meeting of elders held monthly at the Eliot Congregational Church.

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 first mechanism the AIP has in place to facilitate collaborative planning and implementation is the inclusion of a member of the Select Board as a liaison to the committee. The Select Board offered one of its members to serve as a liaison and the committee unanimously approved. A member of the Eliot town office staff has been assigned to the committee to serve as the town expert and to assist the committee in achieving its goals. At its January meeting, the AIP gathered key representatives of agencies serving the Eliot community. The dialogue between committee members and these representatives provided an opportunity to share resources and to identify areas of need. This experience has set the stage for collaboration in the future. The representative from the Food Pantry urged the committee to assist them in reaching individuals who need the services that are currently unaware. The invited guests from the Baptist Church, the William Fogg Library, the Footprints Food Pantry, VIPS, and the Community Service Department agreed that the AIP should play a key role in coordinating efforts to enhance current efforts. Conducting focus groups and a community survey will lay the foundation for planning and implementation. Three members of the AIP have become members of the Tri-State Learning Collaborative (TSLC) and attended its November 28th Summit: Driving Community Home. The TSLCA is a valuable resource as it provides access to the TSLC website, age friendly community, and online resources that include an archive of past webinars and materials.

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 community of Eliot hopes to contribute to the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network by creating a more livable community here. We recognize that being part of the Network will allow us to learn from others in the region, nationally, and internationally. The Committee has chosen the eight domains of livability framework as a way of looking at our community and improving it. We cannot do this alone and will be happy to share our lessons learned and outcomes with the Network.

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 motivation to join the AARP and WHO networks began during the October Select Board meeting. During the process of interviewing potential AIP members, one Selectman referred to the AARP Maine Guide as an excellent resource. The Eliot Town Manager included a copy of the Guide in the welcoming materials sent to the appointed members. All members reviewed the Guide prior to its first meeting. This led to an informed discussion about the eight domains framework. The AIP agreed that the Guide was valuable and learning from other communities was essential. Patricia Oh's welcoming email to the AIP Chair and Patricia's enthusiasm in sharing her expertise and connections with the committee, sealed the deal.

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 >

