



TOWN OF GEORGETOWN

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June 12, 2018

Lori Parham
AARP Maine State Director
53 Baxter Blvd, Suite 202
Portland ME 04101

Dear Ms. Parham,

On behalf of the Town of Georgetown, I am pleased to submit our letter of interest and commitment in becoming a member of the AARP/World Health Organization Network of Age-Friendly Communities (NAFC).

Georgetown has become very interested in the AARP/WHO program as a result of our project to update our town's Comprehensive Plan. Many issues have been raised and addressed as part of this two-year process to envision a prosperous and supportive future for the residents of Georgetown over the next decades. The ability of elders to stay comfortably and safely in their homes as long as possible was identified as a high priority. Georgetown has a rapidly aging population, like many communities in Maine. Almost 35% of our residents are 65 and older, and the pace of growth in that number remains high.

Out of the Comprehensive Plan effort, we formed an Age-Friendly Georgetown team to tackle these issues. The team has over 15 active members and as many more providing support to the efforts. This team will be the starting point for the NAFC team should we be accepted into the program.

Much work has already been accomplished, addressing housing, transportation, recreation and socialization, communication, and health and safety. A website has been created, www.agefriendlygeorgetown.org, to share information and provide a forum for our work. A community survey is in preparation and that will be the precursor to the formal NAFC community assessment program. That will lead to the community action plan that is outlined in the NAFC program.

Our town is committed to this program and the Select Board will continue to monitor and guide the activity of the Age-Friendly team, leading to the implementation of the action plan.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey W. Birdsall
Chair, Georgetown Select Board