



## 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: 10/4/2018

### Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** Mount Vernon

**STATE:** Maine

**POPULATION SIZE:** 1642

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 32%

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** Paul Crockett, Chair,  
Board of Selectmen

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** 1997 North Road, Mount Vernon, Maine 04352

### 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:**

Ms. Jackson is a selectperson and acting chair of the town's Aging In Place committee.

### 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.**

As Mount Vernon began updating our thirty-year-old comprehensive plan, we learned the topic of aging in place was hugely important to our citizens. So we recruited a group of volunteers to look at the issue and come up with goals for the next decade. That group has grown into an official town committee, and was included in June's municipal budget. The committee has begun working on a variety of projects that fit seamlessly into the strong social network we already enjoy. A proposed home task assistance program will enhance our Neighbors Driving Neighbors program. Afternoon activities will run in conjunction with our Saturday breakfasts; a senior check-in system is planned in cooperation with our volunteer fire and emergency departments. We also hope to amend our housing ordinances to allow for accessory dwelling units tailored to older residents.

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

We intend to reach out to our older residents through the groups and activities in which so many are already involved. (We have already surveyed citizens and held public hearings in conjunction with our comprehensive planning process, but may do some more tailored surveys and meetings in the future.) Members of our aging committee represent the town library, community center, Community Partnership Corporation, fire and rescue, food pantry, recreation committee, churches, and select board. We plan to provide information and invitation to future projects through these entities and their programs, as well as via our monthly newsletter and local access tv station.

**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.**

As mentioned, above, our Aging In Place Committee is comprised of folks active in other groups. These members will bring ideas to the library and select board and community center, and vice versa. We will also hold joint meetings with other boards and committees to organize specific programs, and coordinate with additional town groups as required. Community cooperation and cross-pollination of ideas have a long tradition in Mount Vernon. As an example, the annual Halloween Extravaganza scheduled this month is being planned by the town Events Committee- but in coordination with the library, Fire Department, Global Girls, and Community Center. And our older residents are encouraged to set up for Trunk or Treat downtown!

**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?**

Mount Vernon looks forward to becoming an active member of the Age-Friendly Network. We hope to learn from other communities, and to share what we can with others. We have already been invited by Patricia Oh to talk about our weekly community breakfasts on a phone call with the local network. And we'll be sending representatives to the Kennebec County Meet-Up.

**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?**

Many of our committee members belong to AARP and were enthusiastic about the possibilities afforded by joining the Age-Friendly Network. We did some investigating and the group agreed membership are successful independent. *We don't have a logo. Maybe we should!* accomplish our goals of making Mount Vernon a place where older people the daily life of the community, while also remaining safely



**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 >