Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Dover

STATE: New Hampshire

POPULATION SIZE: 31,153

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 18.8%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Karen Weston, Mayor

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 288 Central Avenue, Dover, N.H. 03820

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:

Primary Contact.
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.

We currently have six elder-care facilities in Dover. The McConnell Community Center offers senior programs in fitness, adult learning, and senior events and gatherings. Dover includes and encourages senior participation in a myriad of committees, boards, and commissions; supporting a broad range of municipal activities and voluntary programs, as an integral part of city government. All new construction of multi-family and commercial buildings are ADA compliant.

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

We are improving building and park access, walking trails, access to bus routes, and have a safe and walkable downtown with access to services with older people involved in the process used in this development. We have an Annual Leadership Academy five-week course, heavily attended by older citizens that covers how our government works and encourages elder participation. Dover includes and encourages senior participation in a myriad of committees, boards, and commissions; supporting a broad range of municipal activities and voluntary programs, as an integral part of city government.

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.

We have a City Master Plan covering all aspects and activity areas in city government, contributed by all departments and inclusive of all Boards, Committees, and Committees operating in city government, including an army of senior volunteers.
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?

Dover is doing some unique things with its McConnell Community Center offering services and opportunities/activities to all ages in our community, including our seniors.

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?

While we have the youngest median age population in N.H., we are cognizant that our population has a growing senior segment that contributes in a wide variety of ways to the quality and sustainability of Dover. We also recognize that our citizens, often highly-skilled, are working longer and since our unemployment rate is 2.3 %, we need to make Dover a place they want to live in.

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 >

Attached