



Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities** and **WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 2/25/2015

1) COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Montclair

STATE: New Jersey

POPULATION SIZE: 37,699 as of 2010 Census

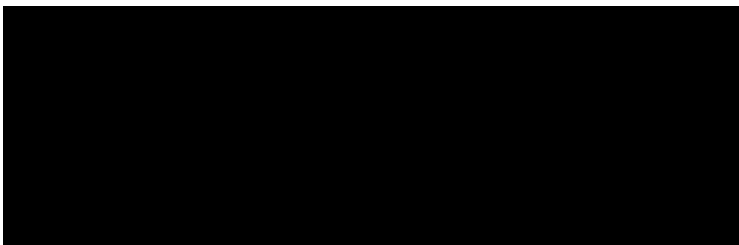
PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 17%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor Robert Jackson

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 205 Claremont Ave, Montclair, NJ 07042

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:

Katherine York heads Lifelong Montclair, which is Montclair's aging in place initiative. Lifelong Montclair is an initiative of the Partners for Health Foundation in collaboration with Montclair's Department for Health & Human Services. This position entails planning projects and coordinating community organizations' efforts to transform Montclair from a good place to live to a great place to grow older.

(You can add an additional sheet of paper if needed.)

3) THE COMMUNITY'S AGE-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES TO DATE

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.

To date, Lifelong Montclair, through support from the Partners for Health Foundation and the Township's Department of Health & Human Services, has accomplished the following: Conducted baseline surveys and research to assess the age-friendliness of Montclair. Collaboration with The New Jersey Travel Independence Program (NJTIP@Rutgers) to develop the Lifelong Montclair Guide to Transportation, which is currently in its second printing. Collaboration with NJTIP to host ride trainings in Montclair. Hosted a senior walkability conference funded by the New Jersey Department of Transportation, which resulted in a report that can be used to inform subsequent maintenance and improvements. HomeSharing has been awarded a grant by Partners for Health to provide services in Montclair to help improve affordable housing options for seniors in a creative way. Collaboration with the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC) to offer a comprehensive community calendar, currently with online presence, but with plans to improve its design and offer printed copies. Both SCAC and Lifelong Montclair have established websites. The Township of Montclair purchased and launched a new bus offering free rides for community seniors. Developed a directory of senior services that includes two appendices: a listing of businesses who have agreed to work toward becoming more senior-friendly and the aforementioned Lifelong Montclair Guide to Transportation. The Mental Health Association of Essex County has been awarded a grant from Partners for Health to provide assistance by a social worker to seniors facing life's transitions. The project represents a collaboration of multiple Lifelong Montclair Partners, including the SCAC, the Mental Health Association, Toni's Kitchen, the Montclair Public Library, and the YMCA. Formed an action team to develop the Montclair Institute for Lifelong Learning, consisting of the Adult School, the Library, the Montclair Art Museum, the Montclair Historical Society, Montclair State University, and seniors from the community. Future plans to become more age-friendly include the Township's Departments of Health & Human Services and Recreation & Cultural Affairs opening a community center with a focus on activities for seniors; beginning classes of the Montclair Institute for Lifelong Learning; developing a hard copy of the community calendar to be distributed at community sites; conducting ongoing evaluation of programs and services; and determining future directions based on input from community seniors.

4) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

The Township has a formal advisory committee called the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC). The SCAC assesses services and issues important to Township seniors, makes recommendations to the council and staff on programs and policies, and serves as a liaison to seniors throughout town. The SCAC is a partner of Lifelong Montclair. Additionally, Lifelong Montclair works with older adults when planning projects and will continue to involve older adults as members of action teams related to specific projects.

5) CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION

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.

Lifelong Montclair currently has 20 partner organizations spanning the community. These partners include: the West Essex 131 Chapter of AARP, The Adult School of Montclair, AngelaCARES, Bike&Walk Montclair, Care About You, Chrill Care, Clara Maass Medical Center, Eat Play Live...Better, HackensackUMC Mountainside, HOMECorp, Montclair Art Museum, Mental Health Association of Essex County, Montclair Community Farms, Montclair Public Library, Montclair Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Montclair Shared Housing Association/The Montclair Inn, Montclair State University, PineRidge of Montclair/United Methodist Homes, RSVP of Hudson and Essex Counties, Toni's Kitchen, and the YMCA of Montclair.