



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.
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 7/5/2018

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Reno

STATE: Nevada

POPULATION SIZE: Washoe County ACS Data for 2016: 425,834

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: Washoe County 2016: 87,977 or 21% of total population

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor Hillary Schieve

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: Mayor's Office, 1 East 1st Street, Reno, NV 89505

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:

Since 2013, I have been chair of the 9-member Reno Senior Citizen Advisory Committee which is appointed by the Reno City Council. Our mission is to advise the council and inform the community about the interests and needs of our senior citizens. We promote and support enriching events, services and programs to support senior citizens' interests and needs and serve as advocates on behalf of our community's senior citizens so that they can maintain a superior quality of life and independence. Our committee voted to pursue this application last year and is fully committed to following through with all the requirements of becoming an Age-Friendly/Livable Community. We met with all our council members and obtained their support to pass a council resolution to apply for the program on June 6, 2018. Our committee actively works jointly with the Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board (of which I am Vice Chair) which also voted to support this application. We hope to obtain the support of the Washoe County Commission and the City Council of Sparks in the near future for a county-wide age-friendly initiative. Once we're approved, we'll begin the community outreach to build a strong group of community members to assess current status, create an action plan and implement it.

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.

Washoe County, which includes the cities of Reno and Sparks, is one of the fastest aging communities in the nation. The Reno City Council strongly supports the senior community and the efforts of the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee. The City of Reno's Senior Services Division within its Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services provides a monthly menu of music, arts, lifelong learning, trips and outings, social activities, fitness classes and community resources to several thousand people aged 50+ in our area. They also produce the very successful Senior Summer and Winter Games with sports and games where folks aged 50+ compete for gold, silver and bronze medals in their age brackets. Please see www.reno.gov/seniors for more information. Washoe County Human Services Agency helps those 60+ and/or who are at risk of institutionalization to maintain their independence by providing home and community-based services. In 2017, they worked with almost 2300 seniors needing support, resources and referrals for services and case management. For more information, please see www.washoecounty.us/seniorsrv. Our Reno and Washoe County senior boards meet together every quarter to work on joint activities for seniors in the community. We host a month-long county-wide Older Americans Month in May every year with over 100 activities and events to do outreach, provide service information and introduce seniors and their family members to fun, healthy and helpful programs and service providers for older adults. For the past several years, the highest needs voiced by our senior community (and detailed in the 2016-18 Reno advisory committee's strategic plan) have been: 1. Improved transportation options, 2. Easier access to information about available services, and 3. Expanding resources for the growing senior population. This year, we worked with Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency to develop an online survey at www.tmrpa.org/seniorsurvey to ask residents their opinions about how to make our community more age-friendly. Surveys will be collected through the summer, but early results show that seniors are ranking Transportation, Housing, and Community Health & Services as their most important domains of livability. Additionally in Fall 2018, the Reno Sustainability Manager will task a UNR undergrad researcher to evaluate how Reno can improve conditions for successful aging in the community and provide written assessments and recommendations for our Initiative and to improve Reno's ranking as a certified 3-STAR Community and to meet goals in the Reimagine Reno Master Plan.

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

The Reno and Washoe County senior advisory boards have regular monthly public meetings where seniors can attend, raise issues and make public comments. A third senior board will be created by the City of Sparks on July 9, 2018. We also participate in the Washoe County Senior Coalition, a nonprofit advocacy organization of seniors and senior service providers that meets monthly to learn about senior programs and issues and advocates for solutions. Our plan is to have these four groups convene a town hall meeting inviting everyone interested in working on the Age-Friendly Initiative to attend. A facilitator will assist the group to identify what would make our community more age-friendly. From that town hall group, a steering committee of community members will be formed to take that input and lead the efforts in the assessment and planning stage, and to create an action plan and implement it. All meetings will be open to the public and held at our senior centers, at senior living communities and senior meal sites throughout the city to encourage participation by as many seniors as possible. Our Reno Senior Discovery TV group will create some PSAs which will be broadcast on our city website, local TV channels and YouTube keep the community posted on efforts so far and continue to solicit their input and ideas. We will create a website/webpage/social media presence to update the community on progress and solicit their advice and assistance. We will also publish articles in our local senior newspapers and blogs.

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.

Our senior advisory boards have excellent long-term working relationships with both cities' council members, mayors and county commissioners. We have regular meetings with the city managers' and county manager's staff as we work on senior programs, and we advocate for more and better services for our growing senior population. Our work on our annual Older Americans Month and StuffaBus fundraiser for seniors each year has developed a great deal of collaborative planning and implementation experience between the City of Reno, City of Sparks, Washoe County, State of Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division, Regional Transportation Commission, Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, University of Nevada Reno Sanford Center for Aging, Washoe County Library System, and many private service providers in the area. All these agencies are supportive of and looking forward to participating in our Age-Friendly Initiative. The Age Friendly Steering Committee will work alongside the senior advisory boards and will regularly report its activities and progress and seek input from them, from the Senior Coalition and from the Reno City Council, the Sparks City Council and the Washoe County Commission. If state legislation is needed for any part of the Initiative, we also have great working relationships with our state representatives and regularly attend hearings and testify in Carson City on senior issues.

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?

We will create a city-county collaborative model for improving the Age-Friendly Domains of Livability in our community and want to share any lessons we learn with other members of the network. We also have several years of experience teaching seniors how they can advocate with their elected representatives to get legislation passed for senior programs and services, to increase budgets for needed services and to create pilot projects to try out new ideas. We will be glad to share the process we have used successfully here in Northern Nevada. Additionally our City of Reno Sustainability Manager will have a UNR student researcher in Fall 2018 who will address the question of: What are the key indicators and/or characteristics that the City of Reno can influence to improve conditions for successful aging in the community? The student will prepare a written report of the assessment and recommendations for improving successful aging which we will be glad to share 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?

We live in one of the fastest growing states for seniors and in one of the fastest aging communities in the nation. This means we have to plan now to meet the needs of all those current and future residents. Reno's Senior Citizen Advisory Committee developed its own strategic plan in 2012 and has completed most of its goals and objectives and action plans. Joining the Age-Friendly Network is a natural transition from our current plan to a national platform that will guide our work going forward. In 2017, Reno was certified as a 3-STAR Community in STAR's national framework that measures and improves environmental stewardship, economic prosperity and social equity. One of the 44 STAR objectives is "Aging in Community" where Reno only earned 34% of the possible points. Becoming an Age-Friendly Community and mobilizing our residents to become involved in the assessment, planning and implementation of our Initiative will improve Reno's STAR rating. AARP's Network offers us the tools to find and implement research-based, best practices and programs that will improve the lives and health of our residents—of all ages—as we work on making age-friendliness part of everything we do. The resource guides, toolkits, books and workbooks, websites, newsletters and one-on-one mentoring from AARP staff or other members of the network will help us make better choices and recommendations to our policymakers and give us a greater chance at succeeding in our efforts to become a more age-friendly community.

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 >



See attached City of Reno logo.