



## 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: 5/1/2017

### Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** City of Salem

**STATE:** Oregon

**POPULATION SIZE:** 164,549

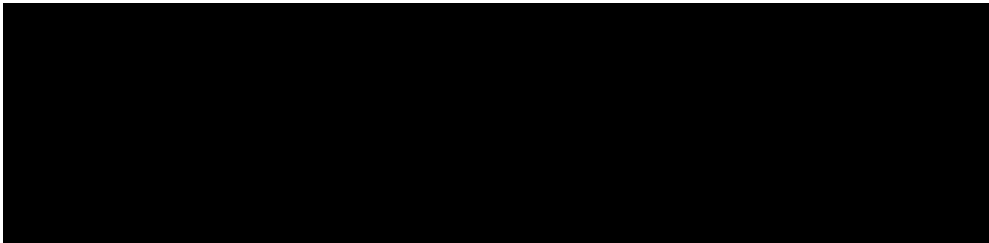
**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 16.4%

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** Chuck Bennett, Mayor

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** 555 Liberty St. NE Salem, Oregon 97301

### 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:**

Marilyn Daily, Director of Center 50+, is committed to advocating for older adults of Salem. Throughout her 25 year career her focus has been educating the Public, Community Leaders, and next generations on the value and crucial role older adults play in the health and well-being of society. She champions for services which support the "bookends of society" Older Adults and Children. Marilyn has a degree in Public Policy Administration with concentrated curriculum in aging and maturing. Her original plan was to be a Nursing Home Administrator but later decided to shift her focus to programming which focuses on helping seniors remain independent in their homes as long as possible. She advocates for preventive health and fitness programming. She believes that people who remain connected to the community and their neighborhoods, continue to explore new hobbies and learning opportunities, and have access to wrap around services will have a greater opportunity to live independently. In her tenure as the Director of Center 50+ she has lead a Future Planning Team made up of over 50 community members to create a 20 year vision and plan for Salem Senior Center which lead to a community-wide team and public focus groups that helped in the build and design of the now Center 50+ (2008). This same vision document guided the Center to be the first in the State of Oregon to achieve National Accreditation through the National Institute of Senior Centers/ National Council on Aging in 2006 and 2013. Daily will provide staff support to the formed group (Salem, A

City for all Ages) made up of Senior Center Advisory Commission members, community agency partners and general population to complete the Age Friendly Assessment Tool. Daily will schedule and coordinate expert presentations in each topic area and report all committee work and progress to Mayor and City Council at key points during the process. Staff will complete all documents and reports in a timely manner to complete the Age Friendly requirements. Daily will answer all public inquiries, provide community information, and publish an activity calendar, agendas and minutes. Staff will coordinate special committee assignments and work with AARP Oregon Liaison on progress and processes. The Center 50+ Advisory Commission have been tasked with taking the lead on this City-wide Initiative. As advocates for Senior Concerns it falls within their mission to advance this initiative. The Mayor has requested the Advisory Commission lead community forums and focus groups, invite input from community resources, and complete the assessment tool. In her position Daily will provide support for the group as they finalize a vision for Salem to become an Age Friendly Community—a community where people of all ages and disabilities can live for their lifetime.

### **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.**

The City of Salem is committed to creating a community that all persons shall fully experience the life of the city, this was further articulated in Chapter 97 of the Salem Revised Code. For over four decades the City utilizes an active Human Rights and Relations Advisory Commission to intentionally implement this vision. Commission members work both proactively and reactively to develop intergroup relations, examine sources of tension and recommend policy to help all persons in Salem. Age discrimination is prohibited in Salem; City staff and volunteers are on hand to receive concerns and complaints and to assist as appropriate. About two years ago, the Commission held two community forums aimed at learning about issues facing persons age 50+ in the community; Commissioners learned of concerns with consumer and telephonic fraud, employment desires and other topics. The particular support to the needs of older adults began prior to Chapter 97 when the City of Salem partnered with the older adult community members of Salem in 1976 to open a Senior Center. This multipurpose Senior Center has been identified as a Community Focal Point Center with the mission to offer programs, services, resources, information and assistance to the older adults of Salem and their families. While local transit currently does not offer Saturday, Sunday or Late Evening Service, there is an effective Para-Transit program which does offer door-to-door service weekdays. Salem has housing options such as assisted living and senior living facilities, adult foster homes, and low-income housing options through City Housing Authority, Polk and Marion County Housing Authorities, and Salem Habitat for Humanity. For social engagement Salem has an active Older Adult Community Center, Center 50+ partially funded by the City of Salem offers over 200 different programs, activities, services in addition to a home repair service, Friendly Caller Program, Home visitor program, Respite Day Program, congregate meal-site. Salem/Keizer also has two independent non-profit Senior Centers—membership required. The Library, Willamette University, Salem Health, Court House Athletic Club, a large Faith Community, and several 55+ housing/Mobile Home/Apartment developments, Marion Polk Foodshare/Meals-on-Wheels, Alzheimer's Association, Alz Net of Oregon, and Northwest Senior and Disabled Services all contribute to the wide variety of opportunities available in the community. The plan is to complete a community-wide assessment and involve key community leaders, stakeholders and relevant experts in the development and implementation of a work plan based on the livability findings.

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

The Age Friendly taskforce already includes older adults in the process, including members of the Center 50+ Advisory Commission who unanimously voted to support and participate in this initiative. All organizations, professionals, and disciplines that are willing to contribute to the purpose of becoming an Age-Friendly community will be encouraged to participate. Suggested members are: NW Senior and Disabled Services, South Salem and Keizer Senior Centers, Marion County and Polk County, Neighborhood Associations, Catholic Community Services, Faith Community, Chemeketa Community College, Salem Health, Willamette Hospice, City of Salem Public Works, City of Salem Housing Authority, Salem-Keizer Transit, WOU Gerontology Program, Salem-Keizer Schools, Chamber of Commerce, and Salem Library. This group will conduct focus groups and community forums which will invite participation from all-three Senior Centers in the community, variety of housing options, neighborhood associations, retired professional groups such as Retired Teachers and Federal Employees Associations, and Veterans Groups.

**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.**

The Age Friendly Task Force is a sub-committee of the Center 50+ Advisory Commission. The Task Force will include 25 members. The Taskforce as a subcommittee of the Center 50+ Advisory Commission will facilitate community input on older adult's issues. The Advisory Commission currently includes older adults and community agency partners (those with a shared mission) who will coordinate and lead the discussion, in which partners from other entities will be invited to monthly meetings and participate in community-wide conversations through forums and outreach efforts. This Action team comprised of a diverse make-up will report findings back to City Council and other Interested parties. For a period of one-year the group will follow this schedule: Each Month look at One Domain from the Self-Assessment Evaluation Tool, identify experts in each Domain, ask for the "State of the Domain" Address from Staff Experts, Invite community to answer questions of what is good and what needs work ( various formats and survey tools), Create a summary of the domain, complete the check list, report findings to Center 50+ Advisory Commission. In addition, we will select 4-6 locations to place a permanent Kiosk with information gathering tools that will follow the same schedule as Domain Discussions and will be rotated each month. Quarterly the group will provide a summary report to City Council. In addition, the taskforce will create additional opportunities for community members of all ages to provide input. The goal is to reach outside of the usual aging network. We have scheduled a National Night Out Block Party open to people of all ages, we will have a presence at fairs, festivals, and locate Kiosks at various locations such as Public Library, Center 50+, Roth's Market, and Salem Health. Center 50+ is a Division of Salem Public Works. We will request meetings with and include input from other Divisions such as Planning, Streets, Walk/Ped Planners, and more.

**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 plan on contributing our “successes” as well as “lessons learned” to the Network as we proceed through this process. We hope to be a model to other Oregon Cities and will be happy to share our experience and results with other communities considering becoming an Age Friendly Community**

**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?**

City of Salem is in the midst of long-term planning after a comprehensive Community Assessment. The timing is right. The focus of the Community Survey further reaffirmed that the community would like the City to continue working on the Economy, Quality of Life for All, Infrastructure, and Development. As the City moves forward with plans to fulfill these goals this Age Friendly Initiative and process will be an excellent reminder to all and a confirmation that Older Adults and Community Members of all Ages will be considered and included as future plans are made. The purpose of completing the Age Friendly Initiative is to provide the “lense” in which all people and organizations will use as they make future decisions for Salem-- by encouraging people to stop and consider how a plan or decision will impact the life of Older Adults and their ability to live in the community for their lifetime.

*Logo In process. Will submit Logo once Group Vision is completed*

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**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 >