



## Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities** and the **World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**  
CCCCcvvvCitieesCommunities

- 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:**

### Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:**

**STATE:** Tennessee

**POPULATION SIZE:** 175,462

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 21.2%

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** Andy Berke, Mayor

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** 101 E. 11th St. Chattanooga, TN 37402

### 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 Name]

[Redacted Address]

[Redacted Phone]

[Redacted Email]

**Please describe the named person’s role in the city or community’s age-friendly initiative:**

James McKissic serves as the Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, a role he has held for the past five years. James works to promote diversity and inclusion internal to City Government, as well as throughout the City. His work for the City includes linking diverse businesses to City of Chattanooga contracting opportunities, tracking the City’s supplier diversity and working to promote goodwill among the employees and citizenry of Chattanooga. He is a native of Cleveland, TN and has worked in the nonprofit and public sectors for more than 25 years.

### **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 Chattanooga is currently in the process of soliciting proposals from qualified firms to undertake the development of an ADA Self-Assessment and Transition Plan to bring the City into compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This will further the City’s mission of breaking down barriers to accessibility and help ensure that all Chattanoogaans, including those with disabilities and the aging population, have the resources to build an equitable, authentic, and inclusive community through prosperity and a high quality of life. Bringing the City into compliance with Title II of the ADA will make the city more livable and age-friendly. The City of Chattanooga currently has several councils that serve the purpose of informing and advising the Mayor and City Council, including the Women’s Council, Mayor’s Council on Disability, and Mayor’s Youth Council. However, Mayor Berke has plans to announce a new council, the Mayor’s Council for Seniors, at the upcoming Town Hall in April. The Mayor’s Council for Seniors will be an advisory group of citizens who can speak firsthand on issues the aging population faces in Chattanooga, in an effort to develop programs, practices, or policies that will better enable older people to live a successful life in our city.

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

As mentioned above, in an effort to seek information directly from the community members, Mayor Berke will hold a Town Hall event in April in order to announce the City’s participation in AARP Livable Communities, announce the new Mayor’s Council for Seniors, and to gather feedback (both positive and negative) about the current level of livability of the city and the needs and concerns of seniors living in Chattanooga.

**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.**

On April 20th, City of Chattanooga Government is partnering with AARP to host a Town Hall focused on the AARP Livable Communities 8 Domains.

Mayor Andy Berke is establishing a Mayor's Council for Senior Citizens. The Council will work with the Mayor's Office to make program and policy recommendations to City Government, which will support Chattanooga seniors and make our city a great place for all ages to live, work, and play.

#### 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?

The City of Chattanooga would like to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities because we are currently striving towards creating a more age-friendly, livable city by learning from citizen input as well as other cities in the nation. In the same way, we hope to contribute to the network of age-friendly communities by influencing more surrounding cities to commit to becoming a more livable city.

#### 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?

The City of Chattanooga aims to be a city where every citizen can live comfortably regardless of age, race, economic status, etc., so we'd like to join the network in order to learn, grow, and better our city.

*Click here to add a link to where we can find your logo. Or, send us your logo by email attachment to [livable@aarp.org](mailto:livable@aarp.org).*

#### 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 >