Membership Application

To join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and 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@aarp.org
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS
APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 5/14/2019

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: City of Hermosa Beach

STATE: California

POPULATION SIZE: 20,000

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: Approximately 18%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Stacey Armato, Mayor

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 1315 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254

Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT for the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and 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.

Kambria Vint with the Community Resources Department is responsible for the city’s senior programming including the Hermosa Five-O Senior Activity Center, which is provided for those aged 50 and over. Currently, it has over 600 members. The Hermosa Five-O provides activities including fitness classes for all skill and age levels; various social clubs; ping pong; art classes; educational discussions; and resources from outside agencies. For several years, Kambria worked with the Access Hermosa Working Group with the goal of improving accessibility of all City facilities and programs. She also attends the South Bay Cities Council of Governments Senior Services Working Group meetings, which brings together various service providers to address issues that affect quality of life for older adults in the South Bay. Lastly, she is a member of the Beach Cities Health District (BCHD) Healthy Living Campus Working Group, which brings together local stakeholders to discuss improvements to the BCHD Campus that will affect the lives of older adults, help them to better age in place, and obtain necessary services.

The person named above agrees to be subscribed to the AARP Livable Communities Weekly e-Newsletter, which is one of the primary ways we share useful news and resources. To add additional subscribers, type their names and email addresses into below. Once this application is processed, a subscription confirmation message will be sent so the individual can confirm that they want to subscribe. To subscribe today, follow the link above or visit AARP.org/Livable-Subscribe.

Click here to enter text.
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’s Senior Activity Center, Hermosa Five-O, provides activities including fitness classes for all skill and age levels; various social clubs; ping pong; art classes; educational discussions; and resources from outside agencies. The City provides access for a variety of senior transportation options including a Dial-A-Taxi Program and bus passes for those over age 62. The Hermosa Beach Police Department (HBPD), as part of the Homeward Bound Program, is able to serve seniors with Alzheimer’s if they are lost or located away from their home or care facility through contacting registered family members. Through the HBPD’s You are Not Alone Program, family members can request an in-home check on their senior citizen family member who live alone in Hermosa Beach. HBPD Volunteers (VIPS) and/or Police Officers, upon request, can conduct weekly visits with identified senior citizens. During the visit, the Volunteer and/or Police Officer will document: medications taken by the senior, doctor contact information, physical condition of the senior, and general living conditions (available food, cleanliness, etc.). Additionally, there are property-related rebates for seniors including a Street Lighting Tax rebate, Sewer Service Fee rebate, and Utility Users Tax exemption program. Lastly, the City of Hermosa Beach is part of the Beach Cities Health District, which provides many supplemental services to improve the quality of life and maintain the independence of older and disabled beach cities residents. These include confidential home visits and assessments; links to health and community services and advocacy; ongoing contact and care plans; fitness and wellness programs; support services including peer counseling; errand volunteers; general support groups; and educational programs on age-related issues.

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

As a very small, tight-knit community, the City of Hermosa Beach has traditionally been a very engagement-oriented organization that provides many opportunities for the community to participate in the process for development of a variety of projects, programs, and policies. Engagement strategies include: surveys shared through social media and email; regular contact with community stakeholders; open workshops; Commission meetings with dedicated time for public comment; Council meetings and Study Sessions with dedicated time for public comment; and the creation of working groups and task forces for specific projects. For projects that specifically affect the older adult community, information is dispersed through the Hermosa Five-O Senior Activity Center contact list as well as the usual channels. The City of Hermosa Beach currently has an Access Hermosa Working Group composed of accessibility-related stakeholders including residents, City officials, City staff and outside agency representatives, which has promoted improvements to overall accessibility for all City facilities, streets, events, and programs for all residents and visitors with mobility limitations. This working group has recently been tasked with assisting the Public Works Department with the development of the City’s ADA Transition Plan, which will further the City’s overall accessibility. Additionally, the Beach Cities Health District is a vital resource by which the older adult community is engaged via outreach, educational resources, and in-home services.

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 City of Hermosa Beach is a small organization with a team of collaborative staff that meets regularly to discuss projects, programs, and policies such as those that may be included as part of an Age-Friendly Initiative. Interdepartmental meetings occur weekly and intercity planning is commonplace. As part of our current Senior Living Action Plan, the Parks, Recreation and Community Resources Advisory Commission has been tasked with creating additional resources, groups, and programs to provide quality services to the City’s older residents. Additionally, as a small city, we also rely on strong partnerships with outside agencies to provide useful resources and funding in order to accomplish common goals. The City works in collaboration with Beach Cities Health District, which offers various resources related to health and wellness, in-home services and care management to Hermosa Beach residents.
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 States and Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

The City of Hermosa Beach hopes to both contribute to and learn from the exchange of knowledge facilitated by the AARP and WHO Networks of Age-Friendly Communities by sharing our own experiences and understanding other community’s experiences. The City of Hermosa Beach strives to create an accessible and livable community that is safe and inclusive for every age. Sharing our experiences in creating a walkable community, a senior activity center, and accessible outdoor public spaces while learning from the experiences of other similar communities will be beneficial for all.

5) What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

The mission of the Hermosa Beach government is to govern with community engagement and collaborative sentiment; to be financially and environmentally responsible; and to provide first class municipal services in a customer friendly manner through valued employees and volunteers. We, as a city, value residents’ feeling confident in and connected to our community. We also strive to make our community walkable and accessible for people of all ages. Joining the Network of Age-Friendly Communities only furthers our commitment to the City’s Strategic Plan goals set by elected officials in 2016. Hermosa Beach has a growing senior population with changing needs and service requirements, the City strives to develop new programs, projects and policies to better meet those needs.

6) Provide a digital file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community and for which you have reprint rights. The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here’s ours:

Click here to add a link to where we can find your logo. Or, send a JPEG, PDF or PNG of your logo by email attachment to livable@aarp.org.