



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: 3/1/2019

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Town of San Anselmo

STATE: California

POPULATION SIZE: 12,580

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 24%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: John Wright, Council Member

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 525 San Anselmo Avenue, San Anselmo, CA 94960

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.

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

Dannielle Mauk is the Community Services Director for the Town of San Anselmo. This position oversees the Recreation Department, including, a variety of community programs, sporting activities, events, contract classes, a childcare center and the recreation facilities. This position also supervises a Recreation Coordinator position that works with the Ross Valley Seniors program, as well as planning and developing adult/senior programming. She will be organizing task force meetings, working with all Town departments and overseeing the development of age-friendly programs and policies.

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.

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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 Town of San of San Anselmo is currently developing its agency work plan, which includes goals and objectives for each of the seven Town departments spanning the next 5 years. The Recreation Department's work plan will include the Town's 5-year plan to become a certified Age-Friendly Community. The goals and objectives will provide guidance, oversight and direction to help achieve this goal. As mentioned, the Recreation Department has a designated Recreation Coordinator position that will work to ensure that the aging population's needs and concerns are addressed. This position, along with the Director, will work closely with the San Anselmo Age Friendly Task Force. The Town is also working on a project known as the Memorial Park Restoration Project. Between fall of 2016 and spring of 2018, the Town conducted a master planning process for the park that allowed for significant community input as to what changes were wanted and/or needed. The senior community was included in this process. The renovated park would include several amenities for older adults including safe walking paths, seating with arm rests, picnic areas, an extra restroom, bocce ball courts, tennis courts, convenient parking, shaded areas, and ADA compliance. The park improvements would allow the Recreation Department to increase outdoor activities for seniors. The Town currently offers adult and senior programming for each day of the week. The programs offer a variety of choices to seniors and older adults. Our programs include basketry, computer classes, weekly Mah Jongg and more. We also partner with Fairfax to host the monthly Ross Valley Senior lunches.

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

The Town of San Anselmo has a large senior population. We have had an initial meeting to begin the formation of the San Anselmo Age-Friendly Task Force. We included representatives elected officials, staff, representatives from the community and from the Ross Valley Seniors group, two representatives from the Commission on Aging and two representatives from the Tam House Board, a local non-profit that provides low-cost senior housing. The group will be working on outreach through a series of community meetings, focus groups and a community survey. We believe these meetings and our survey will provide opportunities for assessing and prioritizing needs, sharing information and connecting to older residents. We are advertising this outreach effort utilizing the well-read weekly Town Manager's Newsletter, the Recreation Department's extensive email database, as well as, through local service organizations, faith-based organizations and civic groups. The County of Marin's Commission on Aging plays an active role in the development of Age-Friendly Communities across the County, and San Anselmo's representative on the Commission of Aging plays a key leadership role on the San Anselmo Age-Friendly Task Force. She will provide open communication with seniors and help assess local needs. Through task force meetings, community meetings, focus groups and surveys we will develop an age-friendly community that addresses the interest and issues of residents of all ages.

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 Town Council was presented with the background and information on the application process for the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The eight (8) Domains of Livability were highlighted, along with the 5-year process. The Council unanimously supported applying to join the Age-Friendly Network. To ensure a wide network and collaborative process the following steps have been taken. The first meeting on the Age-Friendly task force was held in January 2019 and the second meeting is scheduled for the first week in March. This group has met with Town stakeholders and government representatives to generate support and coordinate the Age-Friendly planning. The Town Council representative on the task force regularly meets with the Town Manager. Updates and specific requests will be discussed at bi-monthly department head meetings. Staff plans to collaborate with neighboring towns and cities in Marin to make our programs diverse and user-friendly. The San Anselmo Age-Friendly Task force will work closely with the County Division on Aging and our Commission on Aging representative to promote education, advocacy, resource sharing and services for seniors and older adults. The Town Council, Parks and Recreation Commission, Town departments and Age-Friendly Task Force have agreed to work collaboratively to ensure that San Anselmo becomes a successful member of the AARP and World Health Organization's (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

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 Town of San Anselmo is committed to creating an environment in our community that allows older adults to remain active and healthy participants in society. WHO and AARP define an age-friendly community as inclusive and respectful to residents of every age and ability. With a population of 12,580 and of that population 24% are over the age of 60 we are prepared to promote active aging, good health and quality of life by looking at adequate outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation, housing, social participation, respect and social inclusion, civic participation and employment, open communication and information, and community and health services. As we develop Age-Friendly San Anselmo we will research and share information and ideas with all Marin cities and towns who have official WHO Age-Friendly status or who are working on their Age-friendly status, including, Corte Madera, Fairfax, Novato, Mill Valley, San Rafael and Sausalito. We plan on working closely with the County to become an active member of the Network.

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 key motivational factor for San Anselmo to join the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities and the WHO Network of Age-Friendly Communities is the fact that we have a large and growing aging population. Marin County is already among the oldest counties in California in median age, and older residents will increase another 35% by 2030. San Anselmo's older adult's population will increase by over 40% over the next 12 years. Through the process of working on our Memorial Park Restoration Project and reaching out to our senior population, it became clear to us that San Anselmo seniors want to be active participants in our Town. It is also true that seniors, in general, are an under served population. Our neighboring cities and towns in Marin have made motivating progress through their Age-Friendly Task Forces. We are ready to become part of the Network and meet the needs of our seniors through affordable housing, viable job opportunities, accessible health system, accessible transportation and community programs.

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.

