



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

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 5/10/2019

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Chelmsford

STATE: Massachusetts

POPULATION SIZE: 32,814

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 28%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Kenneth LeFebvre,
Chairman, Chelmsford Select Board

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 50 Billerica Rd. Chelmsford, MA 01824

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:

Chelmsford is planning to create a new director-level position whose responsibilities will include providing assistance to Chelmsford individuals of all ages so that they may function as effectively as possible in the major domains of livability. When this person is in place (expected about July 2019), he/she will assume the responsibilities of our Community contact and his/her contact information will be provided. In the interim, Debi Siriani will be our Community contact.

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 Chelmsford Senior Center opened its doors in 1989. In the interim, it has established a well-earned, rich reputation for providing an enviable suite of programs/services designed to improve the quality of life, mobility and independence of seniors. These programs/services include: nutrition programs and Meals on Wheels, transportation services, companion services, inter-generational activities, social day program, a fitness room, various support groups, social programs and many more. The Town also has many senior housing options, a large senior tax worker program, home service agencies and nursing facilities. With enthusiastic and involved officials and department heads, Chelmsford looks forward to developing its age-friendly initiative to further improve and even expand the services we currently offer. The initial targeted areas that we will focus upon are: expanding senior transportation, increasing affordable housing options and working with area businesses to support dementia-friendly projects.

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

We realize that it is critical to seek and receive inputs from the aging population to become an even more successful and inclusive age-friendly Town. Council on Aging members and the Age-Friendly Core Group will conduct public listening sessions and workshops to engage the general population of seniors in Town. In addition, we intend to increase our use of social media, the local newspaper, local cable TV programs and related age-friendly links on various Town websites to reach out to the general population. Our objective will be to solicit their ideas and interests that will guide our future actions to become even more age-friendly.

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.

It has been very evident even in the early stages of our age-friendly initiative that the Town officials and department heads have come together in a collaborative manner. Our Age-friendly Core Group has representatives from more than eight Town departments. The Core Group also has representatives from local businesses who will be actively involved in the overall process. In preparing the action plan, the Core Group team leaders for each of the eight Domains of Livability will use open meetings and invite other agencies, stakeholders as partners in preparing a collaborative action plan.

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?

As a Town with widespread support of many departments, Chelmsford already offers an extensive variety of senior programs/services. We will undoubtedly learn even more from the experiences of current members. As our membership process evolves, we will expand our existing programs/services in an even greater collaborative fashion. We look forward to enriching the AARP experience base for current/future members to reference. We would also welcome the opportunity to present the results of our efforts at statewide conventions and other regional events.

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?

Chelmsford's population over the age of 60 is projected to be 30% by 2020. We realize that we need to better prepare to meet the future needs and interests of that increasing population with actual achievable outcomes. We intend to use our age friendly initiative to create an even more inclusive and expanded vision of what our already age-friendly Town can do. The framework provided by AARP to share best practices and proven tools has been very encouraging, insightful and inspirational. We will use the results of our initiative to build upon the programs/services we already have in place.

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 >



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.