



# Town of Sterling

June 12, 2019  
State Director Michael Festa  
AARP Massachusetts  
1 Beacon Street, Suite 2301  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. Festa,

On behalf of the Town of Sterling and the Sterling Council on Aging, we are pleased to submit this letter and application requesting membership in the AARP WHO Global Network of Age Friendly Communities.

Like many communities across Massachusetts, Sterling is working hard to advance policies and programs that support older residents, particularly as the population of Americans over the age of 65 continues to rise. Initiatives already in place include Young Adults Helping Out Others (Y.A.H.O.O.) where students ages 13-18 volunteer 5 Saturdays in the spring and 5 Saturdays in the fall to rake yards for senior residents. Other intergenerational programs include the Pen Pal Program, student art exhibits at the senior center and monthly meetings for Peer Leaders between 8th grade students and senior center members.

As we move forward with our community we are turning our attention towards the Master Plan. We are committing ourselves to looking at each aspect of this plan with an age-friendly lens to ensure we are meeting the needs of a diverse age population. By utilizing the concepts of age-friendly principles we can ensure that Sterling is a community to grow up and grow old in.

We are excited to become a part of this wonderful global community and hope you will look favorably on our application. Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

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Board of Selectmen