



# 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@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: 1/10/2019

## Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** Windham

**STATE:** Maine

**POPULATION SIZE:** 17,732

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 43%

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:** Clayton Haskell

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** 8 School Road, Windham, Maine. 04062

## 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:**

1. Volunteer on the Human Services Advisory Committee

2. Retired, June 2018, Windham High School Assistant Principal and Principal – 21 years as administrator in the Windham School District

3. Lead Advocate for Tony Hawk Foundation Grant to build a community park – including skatepark, and other outdoor recreation facilities – basketball courts, walking trails, playground and volleyball courts.

4. Board member Windham Neighbors Helping Neighbors organization who works to raise money for one time fuel assistance for residents on Windham.

### **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.**

We have several organizations in Windham who are serving the needs of older people but there is no umbrella under which all are connected. Town human services, the library, local churches, the adult education program and the parks and recreation program all offer support and programs for the 50+ community. There is also a regional senior program but it is housed in Gorham and transportation for some of our seniors to their activities is limited. There is programming at the senior housing units in our town but again are limited to those residents. We are in the process of planning a new community center and residents who have attended planning meetings have identified the need for a space for seniors and recreational opportunities. We feel there needs to be an overarching organization/committee that will help identify the needs of our aging population and plan/coordinate/advocate for those needs.

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

The needs of our senior residents have been identified in several surveys done by the town. In the Comprehensive Long Range Plan survey done in 2014, the needs of senior citizens was listed as 5th on the long list of community needs. At recent meetings on the new community center, a space for senior residents was identified along with recreational opportunities for the 50 + members of our community. The Human Services Advisory committee talked to several town officials about what they saw as needs in our community and most identified the needs of senior citizens as an issue that had not been addressed so that is why we looked to AARP and the age friendly community programs to see if we could better identify needs for our community and make recommendations to the town council and the greater community. We also hope to see the Human Services Advisory Committee changed to an official town committee with a town council representative once we have established a clear purpose and have data to support the need through a community survey.

**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.**

We have watched our neighboring community of Raymond, Maine go through the process of forming the partnership with AARP and developing a survey of its residents to identify the needs of the 50+ community members. We have worked with them to advise us on the process. As identified in questions 1 and 2, we have several organizations working on programs and needs for senior citizens but there is no central place for easy access to what is offered. We hope by conducting a survey and forming an age friendly official town committee, there will be direction and process to address the needs identified in the survey and a forum through which residents can approach the town on future needs.

#### 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 we looked at the eight Domains of Livability, we saw opportunities to partner with neighboring communities to provide services that will benefit older adults in our communities. Raymond and Cumberland, Maine border us and both have associations along with common issues as Windham, such as transportation, outdoor spaces, social participation and communication to look at top issues. With all of us having data on our community needs, it can also lend itself to access grant monies to address our common needs or access common workshops, programs or facilities we may all need.

#### 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?

Our advisory committee identified the needs of our senior community as a project we could work on and then saw the publicity that Raymond was generating on its connection to AARP. We had looked to survey our senior community but after talking to members of the Raymond committee and watching their process, we decided that they had the right connections and resources to accomplish their goals.

#### 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 >



*See attachment*