



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

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: *Click here to enter a date.*

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: City of Jackson

STATE: Michigan

POPULATION SIZE: 32875

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 15.2%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Mayor Derek Dobies

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 161 W Michigan Ave 14th Floor City Hall

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:

Our municipality is managed through a City Manager form of government with a 7 member City council comprised of a Mayor and 6 Council members each representing one ward. City Manager Patrick Burtch oversees the administration of the City of Jackson to support additional development and inclusion of various groups within our City limits. Beyond implementing the Non Discrimination Ordinance to support traditionally excluded and targeted groups like our aging populations, the City Manager provides training for City staff to better engage with various demographics including our aging populations.

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 of Jackson implemented a Non Discrimination ordinance which specifically prohibits prejudice and bias against residents based on age. The City fully supports Economic development projects to provide additional housing options for this targeted group. Within the past twelve months we have begun development on two senior/ low to moderate income housing projects that are less than 1 mile of primary resources for aging populations. These resources include Family health services, transit options, local shopping, close proximity to a public park, connection to inner city trail systems, and inclusion to City wide events and festivals. The City of Jackson's current five year plan also projects the full interconnection of inner city trails which will make Jackson a fully walkable community and provide more options for pedestrian mobility. We have committed to installing additional playground equipment that supports our aging populations in order to ensure that all residents are able to enjoy our recreational facilities. With each construction project ADA accessibility is a priority in our planning process.

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

The City of Jackson is in the process of creating an Age Friendly committee as an advisory board to City Council to assist in future planning to ensure that the aging population is included when considering making changes to planning and zoning requirements, economic development, city policies etc.

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.

Currently the City of Jackson department heads meet prior to each City Council meeting to discuss agenda items and any other topics related to the administration of the City. We will continue to utilize these meetings as opportunities to bring up issues regarding our aging population across departments and what each team can do to assist. The City of Jackson is also in the process of creating an advisory board comprised of members in the community that support or are affiliated with the aging population in order to assist City Council members in making better informed decisions to support the older members.

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?

Becoming a member of the Global Network of Age-Friendly communities will allow Jackson to be exposed to different strategies and tactics which would allow us to further improve the services that we currently provide. In so doing we will also assist other communities in Michigan looking to join the Global Network of Age Friendly communities and inspire a trend of age friendly communities. We hope the AARP Network of Age Friendly communities will expand and that our creative options to support this population will help others and encourage them to join us in building a more inclusive society.

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?

Conversations with AARP Associate State Director Kimberly Bishop led us to determine that becoming a member of the Global Age Friendly Network would help us establish additional goals and metrics to support our aging population.

Click here to enter text.

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 >