



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: 8/29/2019

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Oswego County

STATE: New York

POPULATION SIZE: 122,109

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 18.3% (22,299)

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: James Weatherup

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: Chairman, Oswego County Legislature, 46 East Bridge St, Oswego, NY 13126

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.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

Sara Sunday is the Aging Services Administrator for the Oswego County Office for the Aging. In her role as Aging Services Administrator Ms. Sunday oversees programs and services offered to County seniors, conducts surveys and public hearings to collect comments regarding existing services and programs and identify areas of additional need, uses collected data and analysis to prepare the Office for the Aging Needs Assessment (which is prepared every four years), and works collaboratively with public and private partners to ensure the efficacy of existing programs and service offerings and identify areas of additional need.

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.

Click here to enter text.

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.

Oswego County, through its administrative offices including the Office for the Aging and the County Public Health Department, offers a variety of programs and services aimed at senior county residents including, but not limited to: evidence based health promotion programs – Stepping On, Diabetes Prevention Program, Diabetes Self Management Program, Healthy Living Every Day, and Smoking Cessation; transportation programs – Call-n-Ride and transportation services through Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.; legal – up to five hours of legal support are available to seniors; home care services through Licensed Homecare Providers for personal care, light household chores, laundry, errands, and meal preparation services; emergency – Lifeline Personal Emergency Response System links seniors with 24 hour emergency assistance and GPS locator service through Project Lifesaver; caregiver respite – provides support to families/caregivers of seniors; case management – comprehensive process to assist seniors in accessing and coordinating available service offerings; NY Connects – this “No Wrong Door” program provides long term supports and services to anyone of any age; outreach – the Office for the Aging staff identifies, seeks out, and encourages hard to reach or homebound seniors for assistance accessing available programs and services. In an effort to become more age-friendly the County intends to complete the AARP membership process, including completion of the required assessments and Community Action Plan. The County intends to use the planning phase to identify additional areas for improvement in its efforts to be an Age-Friendly Community.

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

In addition to the engagement efforts already in place, the County intends to conduct surveys and listening sessions in preparation for the creation of the Community Action Plan. Surveys will be offered in a variety of mediums to ensure accessibility and positive return rates. Listening Sessions will be scheduled in a variety of locations throughout the County and at a variety of times in order to ensure maximum attendance. Further, Listening Sessions will be advertised by the Office for the Aging as well as public and private partners, including local senior groups and senior centers. Finally, the County’s Office for the Aging will continue to reach out to isolated/hard to reach seniors to offer services and will also note the availability of listening sessions and assessment surveys during these times.

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.

Presently, the County collaborates regarding age-friendly policies through the Rural Health Network and the Long Term Care Counsel. The County is also in the process of applying for New York State Office for the Aging grant funds in order to further develop its Age-Friendly services and policies. If the project is funded the County intends to form a separate collaborative group, made up of County officials as well as public and private partners, that will, in relevant part: assist in the preparation and adoption of a countywide Resolution that incorporates age-friendly concepts into planning, development of policies, regulations, and proposed legislation; establish additional mechanisms to engage senior County residents; assist with conducting assessment surveys and listening sessions; and use the information gathered from assessment surveys and listening sessions to assist with the developmt of a Community Action Plan. It is the County's intention that the collaborative group will remain in place to ensure implementation of the Community Action Plan, as well provide additional support in ensuring the efficacy of existing service offerings, programs, and policies, and identifying areas of additional need.

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?

Through outreach, strategic planning, and implementation efforts Oswego County hopes to develop itself as a model for other urban/rural mixed County's throughout the nation who hope to become Age-Friendly Communities. Further, the County hopes to provide feedback to interested parties regarding the efficacy of AARP's Age-Friendly initiative components.

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?

Oswego County has worked diligently in recent years to become an Age-Friendly Community. Recently enacted policies and infrastructure improvements at the local municipal level, as well as service offerings by the County Office for the Aging and its partners, have pushed the County further toward this goal. However, joining the AARP Network is the next step in ensuring that Oswego County is an Age-Friendly community at all levels.

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 enter text.



