



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: 7/24/2019

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Rockland County

STATE: New York

POPULATION SIZE: 360,000

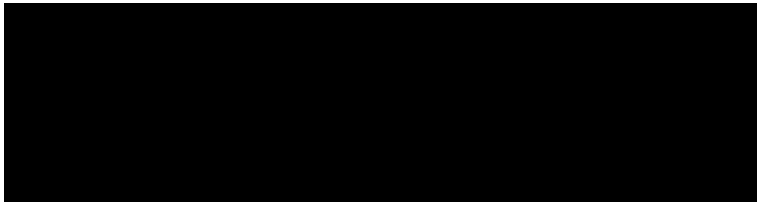
PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 19%

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Ed Day, County Executive,
Rockland County**

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 11 New Hempstead Road, New City, NY 10956

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.



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

As Director of the Office for the Aging, my main goal is to serve the older adult population of Rockland County by promoting a comprehensive and coordinated system of needed programs and services in a high quality, ethical, courteous, timely and effective manner. My vision is to foster an environment in which the older adult population of Rockland County maintains optimum health, well-being and maximum life satisfaction.

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](#).

Diane Ricottone- ricottod@co.rockland.ny.us

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 Office for the Aging offers the following programs and services to the older adult community: Caregiver Respite; Chore (minor home repairs); Home care services through the EISEP program (provides case management and non-medical in-home services); HEAP (heating subsidies); Information and counseling about Medicare and other health insurances to all Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers through the HIICAP program); Moving Forward newspaper (provides pertinent information on current issues relating to seniors); NY Connects, a preliminary telephone evaluation of long-term care needs; Satellite Offices, bringing services into the community; Training and employment opportunities to qualifying seniors through the SCSEP program; Taxi vouchers to provide residents over 60 transportation to medical appointments; Volunteer opportunities; assistance with voter registration; community events offered throughout the year at different locations within Rockland County. Within the next couple of months, we will offer a survey (Needs Assessment) to the older community to analyze what the greatest needs are of the aging population. With the information gathered, we will formulate policies and develop programs to address the needs of the community.

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

We will engage the senior population of Rockland County through our local AARP; with articles in our Moving Forward Newspaper, published bi-monthly with distribution exceeding 35,000 Rockland households; and through the Advisory Council to the Office for the Aging. The Office for the Aging is actively recruiting to expand the Advisory Council and most recently has accepted an additional 3 applications. The current Advisory Council has 24 members. In addition, the Office for the Aging will utilize the more than 35 scheduled yearly events to engage the community and bring seniors out of isolation.

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.

The Office for the Aging partners with over 54 contracted agencies throughout the County to provide necessary programs and services to the older adults in the community. In addition, Office for the Aging has representation on a number of advisory boards including Transportation Advisory Board, RSVP, Long-Term Care Council, Meals on Wheels just to name a few. Office for the Aging partners with for profit and not-for profit agencies in the mutual mission of assisting the older adults of the community. The Office for the Aging sits on the Western Ramapo Collaborative, Spring Valley Collaborative and the Haverstraw Collaborative. The Office for the Aging also participates on the REACH Council sponsored by Good Samaritan Hospital, the Professional Aging Network and United Way Committees. The Director for the Office for the Aging is a board member for the Association on Aging in New York which allows Rockland to have a front seat with prospective legislation and a voice at the State level, identifying the uniqueness of Rockland County.

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?

We hope to contribute to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities by attending national conferences; through caregiving coaching; meeting with regional and local entities to address concerns; by engaging not-for-profit agencies inter county and nationally.

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?

There are more than 65,000 people in Rockland County over the age of 60. Individuals are living longer and are aging in place. The Rockland County Office for the Aging strives to empower older adults to make informed decisions to maintain their health, well-being and maximum life satisfaction. Assuring caring professional staff are committed to the mission and vision of our department encourages a level of trust and confidence in our seniors. Based on the responsibility of gaining the trust of the community, the Office for the Aging has a fiduciary responsibility to make our county the most appropriate, age friendly community.

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 add a link to where we can find your logo. Or, send a JPEG, PDF or PNG of your logo by email attachment to livable@aarp.org.

