



Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities** and **WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 10/14/2015

1) COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Town of Southport

STATE: New York

POPULATION SIZE: 11,000

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 23%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: David Sheen

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 1139 Penna Ave. Elmira, NY 14904

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:

Director of the Chemung County Department of Aging. Oversee the daily operations of the Chemung County Department of Aging and Long Term Care.

(You can add an additional sheet of paper if needed.)

3) THE COMMUNITY'S AGE-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES TO DATE

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 Town offers a variety of programs and services for seniors. We have a community/senior center that hosts several senior clubs, groups, and organizations. Chair caning, exercise, cards, bone builders, and painting are some of the activities that take place here. These activities enhance health and wellness mentally and physically. We also offer 4 senior bus trips a year. AARP driver safety courses, Kiwanis club, coin club, and historical society meetings are all held here. Our parks continue to become more age friendly with paved walkways that are easily accessible. We have also recently added a pedestrian bridge to help connect our most popular park to the residents and people in our community. The Town has done a good job of bringing in age friendly businesses and affordable senior housing. The Town is also working on a new trail system that promotes walkability and accessibility. We plan to participate in the county-wide Chemung County Age-Friendly Community Action Plan, as appropriate for the needs and resources of our town.

4) COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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

The Town does a good job of offering public meetings which encourage commenting from the residents and community. We offer access to information in a variety of ways and we have an effective communication system that reaches residents of all ages. We will continue to adapt and evolve to make sure we reach our community effectively. The Town currently announces meetings in the local newspaper, town newsletter, facebook page, town website, and outdoor signs. The town has continued to offer new amenities and programs to the parks which promote intergenerational activities. For instance the new pickleball courts have brought in grandparents playing with and against their grandchildren. We also host after-school golf camps that introduce young children to the game of golf. This has also offered meaningful volunteering opportunities for Seniors.

5) CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION

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.

I think we do a great job working and partnering with other agencies and departments. AARP driver safety courses are held at our community/senior center. We partner with the First-Tee of Corning to offer an after-school program that introduces children to the game of Golf. This is not only a great volunteering opportunity for seniors but also a great intergenerational activity. The YWCA visits our Summer Parks Program offering a reading program with Seniors reading to children. We plan to participate in the county-wide Chemung County Age-Friendly Community Action Plan, as appropriate for the needs and resources of our town.