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Ms. Sarah Waddle
AARP Indiana State Director
1 N. Capital Ave., Suite 1275
Indianapolis, IN 46204

January 15, 2020

Dear Ms. Waddle:

On behalf of the County of St. Joseph, Indiana, I am pleased to offer this letter in recognition of our commitment to creating an age-friendly environment and respectfully request membership to the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. St. Joseph County recognizes the importance of encouraging and promoting age-friendly planning and policies to address changing demographics and to enhance independent living; and is committed to a process of continual improvement to support active and healthy aging and sustain economic and social viability.

The Board of Commissioners passed a resolution on November 6, 2019 supporting the initiatives of the WHO's Age-Friendly Cities and Communities network and to use AARP's Eight Domains of Livability as a framework for assessing the needs of our community and establishing our county as more "Age-Friendly." If accepted into the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities, we commit to the following:

- To pursue the active engagement of older adults in the planning process through outreach and inclusion by bringing events to where older people live and recreate;
- To pursue outreach through churches, civic organizations, AARP, providers of aging services and host events designed for older people;
- To establish a plan of action that responds to the needs identified by older people;
- To develop a means to measure our activities, reviewing action plan outcomes, and plans to determine we are meeting our goals; and
- To keep the public, especially older people, informed throughout the process.

Thank you for your consideration of our membership within your network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

Sincerely,



Deborah A. Fleming, DMD
Vice-President, Board of Commissioners