



State: Massachusetts

Community Name: Brockton

Population Size: 95708

Percentage of Residents Above Age 60: 19

Community Structure: City

Other:

Community Type: Mixed

Elected Official Signing the Letter of Commitment

Name: Robert F. Sullivan

Title: Mayor

Office Mailing Address: City Hall, 45 School Street Brockton, MA 02301

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[Redacted] will lead Brockton’s efforts to become an Age-Friendly community and will be responsible for creating the Age-Friendly Task Force. Janice will work closely with Brockton’s elected officials, city departments, community members, seniors and other stakeholders in the community. Her initial steps will be to enroll in the network, create a plan which will include the creation of a multi-sector team with an identified team leader, implement the plan making sure an assessment by way of a survey is done and conduct periodic evaluations. Mrs. Fitzgerald’s responsibilities and knowledge of senior issues makes her the ideal candidate. Her responsibilities at the Council on Aging (COA) include administering, directing and coordinating all activities at the COA that meet the needs and enhances the quality of life for the city’s elderly population. She serves as an advocate at the local, state and federal level to develop ways to better meet the needs of seniors. Janice advocates on behalf of our seniors with other agencies, health care providers and citizen groups. Represents the COA on various boards, task forces and planning groups. In addition, she is responsible for expanding relationships with older adults in the city, prepares budget, grants as well as oversees the maintenance of the building.

Older Adult Involvement:

We will engage seniors throughout the process of becoming an Age-Friendly community. Brockton seniors will be asked to participate in a needs survey, participate in listening sessions and be part of the Task Force. One of the responsibilities of the Task Force will be to develop strategies on how to engage seniors and advocates in our work towards our Age-Friendly goal. Brockton's older adults are a critical piece to the success of the city becoming Age-Friendly. We will work with LeighAnne Tylor, from Walk Boston, to conduct walk audits with our senior walking group. Collaborating with Brockton Housing Authority residents, Council on Aging Board of Directors, short term care facilities, Council on Aging members, Veterans and first responders will ensure that we will have good representation. In addition, Brockton has a strong relationship with Brockton Housing Authority. Brockton has roughly 12 senior housing locations that we would conduct most of our listening

Increasing Collaboration and Coordination:

Our efforts will increase collaborations and coordination by including agencies, businesses and city departments to the process. This is our opportunity to educate the community on the needs of our older adults especially when it comes to future planning that involves infrastructure, housing greenspaces, cultural diversity, transportation and communication. We will encourage our business owners to make their businesses Age Friendly with an incentive program. We will encourage frequent communication with our city departments and community agencies to keep abreast of projects happening in the city. A public campaign will be launched that will encourage all stakeholders to support our mission. So often we work with blinders on and don't consider the various and disparate communities that will be affected by our city's decisions. Our Age-Friendly policy will help guide future decisions with older adults in mind. Bridging and appreciating cultural differences via collaboration to improve quality of life is our goal.

AARP Team Member Contact Info:

James Fuccione, Senior Director MA Healthy Aging Collaborative
617-717-9493 James.Fuccione@mahealthyaging.org

Most Instructive Area of Work:

Brockton's Age-Friendly work would be useful to other communities in our region. Our partners, OCES and OCPC are regional agencies and we have already discussed how we will become a resource for other communities within this region to become Age-Friendly. OCES covers 24 cities and towns while OCPC covers 23. In addition, the Council on Aging is roughly 1 mile down the street from the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, which represents nearly 1,000-member businesses from virtually all industries in at least 18 communities. Brockton is and will continue to be the City of Champions as we hopefully lay the groundwork for our neighbors.

Optional Resolution:

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Logo or Image:

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Website:

Twitter 2:

Facebook 1:

City of Brockton

Facebook 2:
Additional Social
Media: