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YORK COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER
28 E. Market Street, York, PA 17401

February 3, 2020

Mr. William Armbruster
Senior Advisor, AARP Livable Communities

Dear Mr. Armbruster,

York County Community Foundation's Embracing Aging has been priming our community on changing attitudes on aging for years. They work collectively with a variety of community leaders and older adults, on solutions that help everyone thrive as they age. We're delighted they want to enter AARP's Livable Communities age-friendly network to help them further advance this work and look forward to York County earning its spot among other communities focusing on becoming great places to grow up and grow old.

Their Embracing Aging initiative helps all York Countians learn about the importance of creating a community that works for people age 8 – 80. Whether making presentations about ageism and its impact, convening the county's planners and municipal representatives around improving quality housing options, or hosting educational sessions to help people proactively plan for where and how they want to age within their community, Embracing Aging advocates for our community to be considerate of and accessible to the needs and wants of older adults.

The York County Commissioners recognizes the importance of assuring all ages can have the best quality of life in York County.

Thirty-six percent of York Countians are age 55 and older; 16% of them are age 65 and older. Those 55+ hold over 13,500 York County jobs and contribute almost 1 billion dollars to our local economy. They are the financial drivers behind local arts, cultural and social nonprofits, and offer years of valuable experiences as consumers, civic leaders, historians, employees, volunteers, parents/grandparents, all of which make York County a better community. It's important that York County, offers them options to help them continue to be engaged in our community.

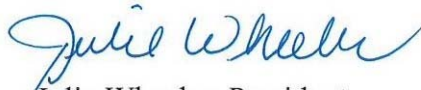
We also know some of our older residents face challenges. 36% of York Countians age 65+ struggle to meet their basic needs, meaning they are forced to make difficult choices among necessities such as nutritious foods, prescription medications, or adequate heating/cooling. Two-thirds of York County municipalities don't have ordinances to address senior housing that can help older people stay in their home/community, such as accessory dwelling units or home sharing. This is why we're excited about the

partnership between York County Planning Commission and Embracing Aging to increase quality housing options, whether modified or new, that align with what older York Countians want and need.

York County Community Foundation plays a key role in finding solutions for important community issues that include people of all ages and diversity across a variety of sectors in the work they do to create a vibrant York County.

Should you need any further information in support of York County Community Foundation, please feel free to contact me directly at JLWheeler@yorkcountypa.gov or 717-771-9301.

Yours in service,



Julie Wheeler, President