



Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly 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@aarpp.org.
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 2/3/2020

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Brownsville, Haywood County

STATE: TN

POPULATION SIZE: 9,444

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 1,677

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: William D. Rawls, Jr.

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 111 North Washington Avenue, Brownsville, TN 38012

Section 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:

Appointed Community Development & Engagement Liaison in February 2018. Overseeing Brownsville's \$4.1 million grant portfolio; directly responsible for the administration of all City special projects, initiatives, creating and implementing budgets and supervision and oversight of contractors and consultants. Special projects are related to economic & workforce development, health and wellness, early learning and education, senior living, and more. She is the bridge from local government to the community.

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.

Through no-step entries and other features that ensure safe mobility, visitable housing in Brownsville alleviates social and physical isolation among seniors and can also improve quality of life for people of all ages as well as improve access for children in strollers, bicyclists, and those with disabilities. With the long-term goals of connecting area seniors to community amenities, improving walkability, and fostering mixed-use development, the Brownsville on the Move Plan is the result of several community engagement activities conducted by the City of Brownsville. We have been soliciting input from across our city which is divided into four wards. Within each ward, we have sought the input of seniors across senior community service centers and neighborhood watch meetings. This is a comprehensive process that will cover all areas of importance to our citizens. We seek to collaborate with Habitat for Humanity and state agencies in sponsoring a housing repair program for seniors. The City of Brownsville with numerous partners and AARP to ensure our seniors may age in place and have the resources to remain healthy and independent.

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

To engage and involve older people in the process of Brownsville becoming age-friendly, we will engage seniors on city committees to establish a plan of action that responds to needs identified by older adults, and commit to metrics that measure our goals and review our outcomes. In all our efforts, we will be transparent in our accountability to our 50+ populations. Based on Brownsville on the Move plan, the city plans to initiate and facilitate mechanisms that will streamline the coordination of information and service delivery among the various agencies and city departments that work to improve the quality of life for our seniors. It has also been helpful to conduct these conversations casually at events like health fairs and community meetings.

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.

In addition to city government, there are a number of agencies like the Golden Age Center, Parks & Recreation, Housing Authority, and the Southwest Human Resource Agency that provide services to 50+ populations. We have sought input from faith-based congregations, senior living facilities, caregivers, and more as well as aging individuals in our community. The Mayor has a montly breakfast meeting where pastors, agency representatives, and department leads discuss topics such as aging.

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 Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

We are a rural community, so we have different issues and unique characteristics as opposed to metro areas that if shared could help other rural communities.

5) What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

Our population is aging and resources are few. Brownsville is in need of partners and a network for supports and resources to make our community livable and age-friendly.

6) Please provide a digital (JPG, PNG or PDF) file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community.

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 us your logo by email attachment to livable@aarp.org.