



Membership Application

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

Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS NAME APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: April 15, 2020

OF THE COMMUNITY: Weston

STATE: West Virginia

POPULATION SIZE: 4,044

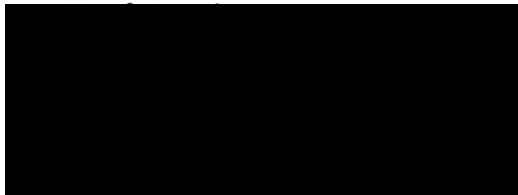
PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 45%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Kim Harrison, Mayor

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 102 W 2nd St. Weston WV 26452

Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT for the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and 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.



Please describe the named person's role in the city or community's age-friendly initiative:

Kim Harrison serves as Mayor of the City of Weston. Kim is also the Assistant Director of the Lewis County Senior Citizens Center, Inc., a member of Lewis County Economic Development Authority, President of Weston Sanitary Board, member of Regional VII Planning & Development Council, and a member of the Lewis-Upshur Emergency Planning Commission.

The person named above agrees to be subscribed to the [AARP Livable Communities Weekly e-Newsletter](#), which is one of the primary ways we share useful news and resources. To add additional subscribers, type their names and email addresses into below. Once this application is processed, a subscription confirmation message will be sent so the individual can confirm that they want to subscribe. To subscribe today, follow the link above or visit AARP.org/Livable-Subscribe.

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.

Our local Senior Center became the first Nationally Accredited Senior Center through NISC some years ago. The Senior Center is a community focal point providing nutrition, transportation, outreach, escort, and personal care services through several programs. The Senior Center is well respected and widely known and used by families in Weston and Lewis County. The City of Weston is providing a regular voice for issues and concerns from older citizens in the community about the drug epidemic, housing unavailability, and infrastructure issues. As the population continues to grow, the City of Weston will step up efforts to listen to and respond to older citizens concerns.

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

There are several opportunities that exist at the City of Weston for older persons to become actively involved in city government and the community. The City's opportunities include membership on The Planning Commission, Historic Landmarks Commission, Fairs & Festivals Committee, Fine Arts Committee, Cemetery Board, Parks & Recreation Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Municipal Appeals Board, and Weston Housing Authority. The City regularly announces vacancies on all Boards/Commissions through their Facebook page and the Mayor's monthly column in the local weekly newspaper, The Weston Democrat.

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.

Collaborations are being formed and already exist to a degree with the Lewis County Commission, Lewis County Health Department, Lewis County Senior Center, Weston Housing Authority. As soon as feasible, these agencies will be conducting a focus group study with the elderly on health care, transportation, emotional, and housing needs.

In addition, there are other agencies who regularly play a role in helping to plan and coordinate activities and services for older persons. Those include the Lewis County Family Resource Network, Lewis County First, Inc., and Minutemen Collaborate. The City of Weston is proud to continue to partner with these organizations to address the needs of older citizens.

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

We are a small rural area in Appalachia and citizens have a certain closely-knit bond with one another - especially during times of disaster. There are many things that we do right in order to take care of our older citizens. Aside from the respect they so rightly deserve, we place a high value on their knowledge and experience and welcome their input. Our initiatives could prove useful to other like communities.

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

I have been a proponent of many of the programs offered by AARP through the years. I was regularly involved with WV's AARP Program through the Retire WV, Inc. group. Weston and Lewis County became a Governor's Designated Retirement Community around 2007. Also, I have seen a preview of some of the helpful resources for the Age-Friendly Communities and I believe them to be very professionally done.

6) Provide a digital file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community and for which you have reprint rights. The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here's ours:



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE
AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

2019-0002

WHEREAS, the health and safety of residents of all ages is of highest concern to the citizens of Weston; and

WHEREAS, as the U.S. population ages and people stay healthy and active longer, communities must adapt; and

WHEREAS, planning processes including community revitalization and economic development plans should include the needs of all people regardless of age, income, physical ability, race, and other factors of older adults; and

WHEREAS, community decisions on land-use, housing, and transportation should be consistent with comprehensive plans that have been developed with public input; and

WHEREAS, members of the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities become part of a global network of communities that are committed to giving their older residents the opportunity to live rewarding, productive and safe lives; and

WHEREAS, membership in the Network of Age-Friendly Communities includes access to financial assistance and technical expertise; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in order to ensure Weston is a well-designed, livable community that promotes health and sustained economic growth for residents of all ages, the City of Weston supports the planning process and requests participation in the Network of Age-Friendly Communities.



Kim Harrison, Mayor

The Weston City Clerk certifies that the above is a true and correct copy of the resolution that was duly adopted at the April 6, 2020 meeting of the Weston City Council.



Kristin Droppelman Donaldson, City Clerk

4-6-2020

Date