OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL



EMBER LEE SHINN MANAGING DIRECTOR

GEORGETTE T. DEEMER
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March 20, 2013

Ms. Barbara Kim Stanton State Director AARP Hawaii 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1920 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Stanton:

On behalf of the people of the City & County of Honolulu, it is a great pleasure to express our interest in joining AARP and the World Health Organization's Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative. Honolulu's ideal climate and unsurpassed quality of life makes our island home a destination for the aging population and we are always looking for ways to encourage and promote policies that better serve our seniors.

Hawaii's senior population continues to rise, with approximately 206,000 people over 65 years of age in the state. That number is expected to rise to 331,000 in the next 20 years. The framework of AARP's network of Age-Friendly Communities will help the City be more responsive to our rapidly aging population. I will be appointing a top-level City official to spearhead the initiative.

The City & County of Honolulu intends to:

- establish an advisory citizens' committee that includes the active engagement of older adults:
- secure a local municipal council resolution to actively support, promote and work towards becoming more age-friendly;
- establish a robust and concrete plan of action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community; and
- commit to measuring activities, reviewing action plan outcomes and reporting on them publicly.

We look forward to working with AARP Hawaii to implement these intentions and become an AARP/WHO Age-Friendly Community.

Sincerely.

Kirk Caldwell Mayor