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AARP  
601 E Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20049

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of the City of Westerville, we are excited about the opportunity to join with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community. Along with other age-friendly communities in the nation, Westerville is committed to promoting policies to make American cities friendly to aging populations.

Westerville is the second largest suburban city in central Ohio with approximately 39,000 residents and a median age of 41.2; older than other comparable suburbs in the region. A growing number of our residents are now at, or approaching, retirement age. The fastest growing age cohort between 2000 and 2010 was 55 to 65 year olds, which increased more than 100% during this timeframe. Roughly 18% of our residents are 60 or older.

While the City of Westerville has exemplary facilities, services, programming and transportation for older adults; our community is in the process of convening an Age-Friendly Task Force to review how changing demographics impact city services and infrastructure. The task force will be comprised of a diverse group of residents, city staff, policy makers, non-profits, business leaders, and academia with the goal of ensuring our aging neighbors have the resources to be healthy, independent and integrated into the community.

As a participant in the national network of age-friendly communities, it is the intent of the City of Westerville to:

- Include older adults in the task force.
- Perform a baseline assessment of the age-friendliness of our community.
- Establish a community-wide action plan responding to the needs identified by older adults.
- Commit to measuring activities, reviewing action plan outcomes and reporting on them publicly.

We look forward to working with AARP and WHO to ensure our community has the appropriate services and infrastructure so everyone can age with dignity. Please see the attached Resolution and membership application for additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
David Collinsworth  
City Manager

attachments: Resolution No. 2018-12  
Age-Friendly Community Membership Application