

**OFFICES OF THE
SELECT BOARD AND
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

13 Ayer Road, Harvard, Massachusetts 01451
(978) 456-4100

www.harvard.ma.us
(978) 456-4107 fax



February 5, 2019

State Director Michael Festa
AARP Massachusetts
1 Beacon Street, Suite 2301
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. Festa,

On behalf of the Town of Harvard and the Harvard Select Board and with support from the Planning Board and Harvard Council on Aging, we are delighted to submit this letter and application requesting membership in the AARP WHO Global Network of Age Friendly Communities.

Harvard is a great place to live, work, play, raise a family, and grow old. We are committed to continuing to work toward making Harvard a model age-friendly community. We are also acutely aware that as an aging community, special consideration must be given to the needs and desires of the older population.

Like many communities across Massachusetts, Harvard works hard to advance policies and programs that support our older residents, particularly as the number of our residents over the age of 65 continues to rise. For example, Harvard's mobility efforts are carefully crafted with our older residents in mind, ensuring that all of our community members have equitable access to affordable, safe, and convenient modes of transportation. This includes an expansion of our sidewalk system, making connections to town services and other local institutions, and working with the Regional Transit Authority to provide more options to connect to medical facilities, shopping, and other desired services.

As we continue to focus on and address the many challenges that face our community and the entire region, we work on behalf of our older residents to ensure equal and affordable access to housing, social services, healthcare, and more. Harvard is committed to building upon our existing policies, improving our public infrastructure, creating strategic collaborations, and empowering our community members. I believe that becoming an Age Friendly Community will greatly increase the visibility of these efforts.

We are looking forward to become a part of this great initiative, and hope you will look favorably on our application. Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucy Wallace".

Lucy Wallace
Select Board Chair