

2019-06-27

World Health Organization  
Avenue Appia 20  
1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland

## **Application to join the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities**

The municipality of Gävle hereby wishes to apply for membership of the WHO Network Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

Gävle municipality's political leadership has adopted a political platform, that describes various activities that the political leadership wants to implement during the period 2019-2022. In the section "Security, cohesion and welfare to trust in the entire municipality" there is an activity which states that Gävle will become an age-friendly municipality. Gävle will be a place where everyone is given the opportunity to contribute to our common development. Gävle municipality has also adopted a program for social sustainability. We will be better at creating cohesion and trust between people and, not least, trust in the municipality's activities. Strategic preventive social work is important in order to cope with welfare ahead. All urban and municipal areas should be safe to live and stay in and offer good living environments throughout citizens lives.

For many years, Gävle municipality has been working on preventive measures for the elderly. There are a number of projects that are directly linked to developing an age-friendly city. We now want to take the next step to involve the elderly in a clearer way in our planning and implementation. The ambition is also to get more stakeholders involved in shaping the age-friendly city. Joining the network will give us the opportunity to learn from others, but also to share our experiences.

By making investments to become an age-friendly municipality, our goal is to improve the elderly's opportunities to live a healthy and independent life with increased participation in social issues. Gävle municipality share the values och principals of the WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and



Communities. We will use the four steps process that WHO has developed to become a more age-friendly municipality.

If you have any questions regarding our application, please contact Caroline Engberg, head of social sustainability, municipality of Gävle at +46730798134 or [caroline.engberg@gavle.se](mailto:caroline.engberg@gavle.se)

Best regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Åsa Wiklund Lång'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

*Åsa Wiklund Lång*

Chairman of the Executive Committee