



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 APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 11/5/2019

NAME OF THE COMMUNITY: Citrus County, Florida

STATE: Florida

POPULATION SIZE: 145,721

PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60: 44%

NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT: Jeff Kinnard D.C.

OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER: 110 N. Apopka Ave, Inverness FL 34450

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.

NAME: Joanne Granger

POSITION: Director, Citrus County Support Services

EMAIL ADDRESS: joanne.granger@citrusbocc.com

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 352-527-5954

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

Joanne Granger has been with Citrus County Support Services for over 11 years. Mrs. Granger has served in various functions involving the various senior programs (Community Care for the Elderly, Home Care for the Elderly, Alzheimer's Disease Initiative, Local Service Program, Older American's Act IIIB-C1-C2-IIIE programs and the Emergency Home Energy Assistance program) during that time. Granger is currently the Director for both the County Support Services Division and the Lead Agency in Citrus County for Elder Affairs.

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**.

Already subscribed.

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.

We have several Divisions within County Government that provide services that are age friendly. The Support Services Division provides congregate and home delivered meals, community centers, facility and in-home services to seniors, retired and senior volunteer program, outreach and nutrition education to seniors and holds an annual Healthy Living Fair. The Library Services Division has several activities geared toward senior citizens. They have multiple classes that foster Community Support and Health (including free physical movement classes, partnering with CHIPS and SHINE, partnering with "Coping With Dementia" and local medical professionals); provide access to communication and Information for seniors, holding regular classes and workshops on health, technology and safety for seniors, as well as social inclusion with various activities and volunteerism; foster civic participation and employment through multiple partnerships and social participation through various activities and are continually developing new programs. The Extension Services division provides a number of education outreach activities, including "A Matter of Balance" program that promotes physical activity as a means of preventing falls, particularly with the senior population. The County is a bicycle-friendly community and has consistently supported improvements that include sidewalks, multi-use trails and bike lanes, or a combination of each to be constructed along with the road and the County adopted a Trails Master Plan to augment the system. The Housing Division works closely with developers of affordable public housing units for Seniors, utilizing grant funding to assist and monitor for affordable rents, cleanliness, operable appliances and accessibility for the next 20 years. They also renovate / replace homes, including 3 recent that were for senior women that were heads of household with special needs / disability and give Section 8 priority to seniors and veterans. There has also been 3 new Independent / Assisted Living facilities just recently built within the County. Support Services, Veterans Services and Housing all make home visits to seniors that are not able to drive in order to provide assistance. The Transportation Division changed their criteria and now all citizens over the age of 60 are eligible for Transportation Disadvantaged. There are paratransit trips available to get them where they need to go as well as a Deviated Fixed Route system. The Parks and Recreation Division has multiple community centers that include pool tables, ping pong, gym equipment in a/c facility, modified tennis courts for pickleball, senior fitness swim, aerobics, paved walking trails that are pet friendly, boat ramps and fishing piers and indoor walking. The parks and buildings are ADA accessible and the swimming pool offers a ramp for wheel chair access. The Animal Services Division has volunteer opportunities for all ages, skill sets and physical abilities to include seniors. They are planning a seniors for seniors program that would include waiving adoption fees for seniors who adopt senior animals. The County Health Department completed a Community Health Assessment a couple of years ago and more recently an Age Friendly Survey. They have instituted several practices, including Immunizations, Environmental Public Health, Public Health Preparedness, Community Health & Outreach-Healthiest Weight, Birth & Death Certificates and Tobacco Free Florida Cessation Services. The County also works with the Health Department during disasters to assist special needs and seniors in our shelters. The Sheriff's office includes the Emergency Operations Center for Disasters. They most recently partnered with Duke, Friends of the Community Centers and County staff to provide Disaster Kits and presentations to our seniors at the community centers and materials for our homebound seniors. They also have a "Seniors vs Crime" program and encourage seniors to volunteer. The County also is involved with multiple outside agencies that support programs for seniors, including the YMCA for example. The YMCA has multiple programs that benefit seniors in our community.

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

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?

The County, as it continues to grow and change, will look to focus on continuing and new partnerships, and implementing best practices that can help drive positive change and create a more livable Citrus County for older adults and to share those best practices and success stories.

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?

Our County already has a significant amount of Age Friendly initiatives in place, but wants to expand those initiatives and bring everyone together for one goal.

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:

www.citrusbocc.com



We have developed a work group consisting of the County, The Department of Health, the YMCA and other Senior organizations that will be an integral part of engaging the community and involving older adults within Citrus County. This group will actively seek input and participation from other partners and seniors throughout all of the activities and process. We will work closely with other agencies and partners servicing seniors within the community.

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.

In order to apply for the County to join the network, the County contacted its divisions to learn about the ways they are already working to meet the needs of the older population. With the county having over 43% of the population over the age of 60, the county has had a significant focus on older adults, recognizing the needs of this growing and important population. The county will continue to encourage planning and implementation of programs that support the further enhancement of our seniors.



Board of County Commissioners Executive Office

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Our Vision

"We are a user-friendly and common sense organization dedicated to responsive citizen services."

November 5, 2019

Jeff Johnson, Director
AARP Florida
360 Central Ave #1750
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

On behalf of Citrus County, Florida, we are excited about the opportunity to join with AARP and the World Health Organization (WHO) to become an Age-Friendly Community. Along with other selected communities in the nation, Citrus County is committed to promoting policies to make American counties friendly to aging populations. On April 23, 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis announced that the State of Florida has joined the AARP Network of Age Friendly States and Communities, making Florida the fourth state in the nation to commit to pursuing age friendly policies.

Citrus County, Florida has one of the largest populations in the State of people age 60 and older. They currently make up 44% of our population and that demographic is continuing to grow in our community.

To address our changing demographics, our community has partnered with the Florida Department of Health, specifically the Citrus Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) and the Florida Department of Elder Affairs through the Aging Network. The Citrus County Health Department completed a "Community Health Assessment" survey and more recently an "Age Friendly Survey" in November 2018. Several committees currently exist, including the Citrus Community Health Improvement Partnership and Citrus2030 to address issues concerning our community and includes executives, profit and non-profit representatives, funding agencies, policy makers and community representatives as well as the interested public. Several people from those committees will also be a part of the Age-Friendly committee and will involve the community. Our goal is to ensure our community is livable for all ages and abilities and to help ensure everyone has the opportunity to live a long, healthy and full life.

As a participant in the national network of communities, it is the intent of Citrus County, Florida to:

- Include the active engagement of older adults on the Age Friendly committee
- Secure a Board of County Commissioners Resolution to work toward becoming age-friendly
- Establish a Plan of Action that responds to the needs identified by older adults in the community
- Commit to measuring activities, reviewing action plan outcomes and reporting on them publicly

We look forward to working with AARP Florida staff and volunteers to ensure our community has the appropriate infrastructure in place so we can all age with dignity.

Sincerely,



Jeff Kinnard, D.C.
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY
ANGELA VICK
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
AND COMPTROLLER



Resolution 2019-096

BY Angela Vick D.C.
THIS 6 DAY OF November 2019

Resolution Supporting Membership into the World Health Organization (WHO) and AARP's Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative.

WHEREAS, the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners supports the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, and the Citrus Community Health Improvement partnership's *Age Friendly Communities* initiative to promote healthy aging in Florida, which will improve the health, well-being, satisfaction and quality of life for older adults; and

WHEREAS, The State of Florida has the highest percentage of older adults of any state in the nation, with Citrus County having over 60,000 adult citizens age 60 and over, representing nearly 44% of its population; and

WHEREAS, with the population of older adults in Citrus County projected to continue to increase, our community should actively and continuously engage older adults in planning processes to assess barriers and determine priorities to build a community that is livable for all ages and abilities and help ensure everyone has the ability to live a long, healthy and full life; and

WHEREAS, Citrus County, the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, and the Citrus Community Health Improvement Partnership all share a vision and responsibility to improve the life of all citizens and collectively build a stronger community for all ages to live, learn, work and play.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners that the Chairman and 1st Vice Chairman, respectively, shall be authorized to sign the Membership Application to join the AARP's Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities, and authorize electronic submission of the Application to AARP.

THIS RESOLUTION was duly adopted and recorded in the minutes this 5th day of November 2019

CITRUS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jeff Kinnard D.C., Chairman

Attested:

for Angela Vick Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM FOR THE RELIANCE OF CITRUS COUNTY ONLY

[Signature]
COUNTY ATTORNEY

